

Haringey Council

Household Support Fund Scheme Policy June 2022

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This document sets out Haringey Council's ('the Council's') approach to supporting people through use of the additional funding from the Department for Work and Pension's Household Support Fund April to September 2022, following initial decision making earlier in the year in the 'Household Support Fund Scheme Policy April 2022'.
- 1.2 The government has made funding available to enable local authorities to support households, particularly those including children and pensioners who would otherwise struggle with energy, food and water bills. The fund can also be used to support households with other essential costs. In administering the scheme local authorities are encouraged to use their discretion on how to identify and support those most in need.
- 1.3 Authorities can deliver the support through a variety of routes including providing vouchers to household, making direct provision of food or goods or through the issue of grants.
- 1.4 This document sets out the second and final phase of the Council's plan to administer the Fund by describing how the Council will provide support to a range of residents within the borough.

2 Objectives of this Policy

- 2.1 To provide support to vulnerable households recognising the profile and specific needs of residents in Haringey, in particular those who have been most adversely impacted by the significant rises in living costs and its economic consequences.
- 2.2 To support households and prevent households from escalating into crisis.
- 2.3 To support households with dignity and without stigma enabling residents to be as independent as possible and treated with dignity at all times.

3 Household Support Fund Spend Plan

- 3.1 The maximum additional spend from the extension of the Household Support Fund for the period 1/4/22 – 30/9/22 is £2,406,671.72. £150,000.00 was committed as part of the Household Support Fund Scheme Policy April 2022, leaving a further £2,256,671.72 to be committed which is done as part of this Policy document. All funds are to be spent by 30th September 2022.
- 3.2 All support will be available to households with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) in line with government guidance.
- 3.3 The table below sets out the proposed allocations. This includes an upper limit, which will allow officers a small amount of discretion, in consultation with the Lead Member, to move funding between different projects. This is designed to ensure the council can remain agile and respond to emerging needs as this fund is delivered over the next few months.

Project	Description	Proposed allocation (limit) £000
Holiday free school meal vouchers	Free School Meal vouchers for school-aged children during holidays totaling £100 per child over the period: £15 as allocated for the May half term, £85 for the summer holiday period.	£1,000k (up to £1,000k) This allocation includes £150k as allocated in the April policy document.
Direct cash payments of £100 without an application process targeted to those identified through our data as being financially vulnerable	Payments to those with under 5s in household as identified through Council Tax Reduction Scheme Data	£322k (up to £400k)
	Payments to those with pensioners in household as identified through Council Tax Reduction Scheme Data	£768k (up to £800k)
	Payments to those with children in household identified through Low Income Family Tracker data, who are ineligible for Free School Meals	£33k (up to £100k)
	Payments to those with disabled individuals in household identified through Low Income Family Tracker data	£94k (up to £100k)
	Payments to care leavers	£50k (up to £100k)
Funding Administered by the Council via the Haringey Support fund, or Connected Communities Services for those individuals who approach the Council requesting assistance.	This support will be tailored to the needs of the individual depending on their circumstances. We anticipate this will be split: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £10k NRPF (in line with government guidance) • £15k disabled households with additional needs or more than 1 disabled individual within their household • £25k all other groups 	£50k (up to £100k)
Administration	The costs of administering all of the above projects including, officers time, systems and supplies and services costs.	£100k (up to £100k)

4. Policy implementation and review

4.1 This Policy will be applied from 1st April 2022 until 30th September 2022.

4.2 In applying the Policy, the Council will have regard to relevant implementation guidance as issued.