

## **Haringey Council**

### **Household Support Fund Scheme Policy October 2022 – Phase 2**

#### **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 October 2022 to March 2023 phase 2, following initial decision making earlier in the year in the 'Household Support Fund Scheme Policy June 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<sup>st</sup> October 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 is £2,406,671.72. £150,000.00 was committed as part of the Household Support Fund Scheme Policy October 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 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.
- 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 October half term, £85 for the remaining holiday period.	£1,000k (up to £1,000k)  This allocation includes £150k as allocated in the earlier policy document.
Direct cash payments of £100 without an application process targeted to those identified through our data	Families in financial stress with children ineligible for Free School Meals	£32k (up to £38k)
	Pensioner households in financial stress	£23k (up to £28k)
	Households in financial stress with a disabled family member	£76k (up to £91k)
	Households who did not qualify for the £650 Cost of Living Payment who are in financial stress	£135 (up to £159k)
	Low-income households with children under 5	£271k (up to £319k)
	Payments to care leavers	£34k (up to £40k)
	Households with No Recourse to Public Funds in line with relevant guidance	£9k (up to £11k)
	Other households identified in financial stress	£215 (up to 254)
Allocation to Voluntary and Community Sector Organisations	Households most in need of extra support from minority and marginalised communities and/or those identified as living in 'hidden households'	Up to £150k (plus admin costs)
Funding Administered by the Council via the Haringey Support fund - application based process.	Households most in need of extra support in line with eligibility criteria for the scheme	Up to £260k
Administration	The costs of administering all of the above projects including, officers time, systems and supplies and services costs.	Up to £200k

#### 4. Policy implementation and review

4.1 This Policy will be applied from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

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