

APPENDIX 1

Haringey Council Household Support Fund Scheme Policy: October 2024

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 from 1 October 2024 to 31 March 2025 (unless the policy is terminated on an earlier or later date).
- 1.2 The government has made funding available to enable local authorities to support households, particularly those including children, pensioners, unpaid carers, care leavers and disabled who would otherwise struggle with energy, food, and water bills. The fund can also be used to support households with other essential costs, and can be used further to fund preventative services, such as warm banks. However, the grant's primary purpose, to provide crisis support. 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 may 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 current phase of the Council's plan to administer the Fund by describing how the Council will provide support to households in line with agreed spending, up to the total allocation of £2,406,672 to cover the six-month period to 31 March 2025.

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 provide additional support to residents where they have lost entitlement to the Winter Fuel Payment.
- 2.3 To support households and prevent households from escalating into crisis.
- 2.4 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

- 3.1. The maximum spend from the extension of the Household Support Fund for the period 1 October 2024 to 31 March 2025 is £2,406,672. All funds must be spent by 31st March 2025.
- 3.2. Funds can now be used to provide advisory services that complement the fund's primary purpose, being to provide crisis support to households although this policy does not include any allocation to this purpose.

- 3.3. Funds may also be used for preventative services, such as cold weather provision. This policy does not include any allocation to this purpose because the provision is already funded separately for 2024-25.
- 3.4. All support will be available to households with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) in line with government guidance.
- 3.5. The Council will continue to use a data-driven approach to distribute the majority of funds; minimising administration costs and ensuring those most in need are supported without having to make a claim.
- 3.6. A proportion of the funding is made available to claim through the Haringey Support Fund so that all residents in hardship have the opportunity to claim additional support.
- 3.7. The intention is to continue to use a data-driven approach to distribute the majority of funds; minimising administration costs and ensuring those most in need are proactively supported.
- 3.8. All support will be available to households with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) in line with government guidance e.g. if there is a genuine care need that does not arise solely from destitution, for example if:
- there are community care needs
 - they have serious health problems
 - there is a risk to a child's wellbeing
- 3.9. In Haringey, the Household Support Fund Scheme Policy October 2024 will allow for:
1. Additional holiday support for households in receipt of Free School Meals up to the end of March 2025
 2. A £100 payment to:
 - Families in financial stress with children ineligible for Free School Meals
 - Low-income households with children under 5
 - Pensioner households in financial stress
 - Care leavers
 - Households with no recourse to public funds in line with relevant guidance
 3. A £200 payment to:
 - Households in financial stress with a disabled claimant or partner
 - Families in financial stress with a disabled child
 - Pensioners in receipt of Housing Benefit or Council Tax Reduction who are not in receipt of Pension Credit
 4. Applications to the local welfare assistance scheme (Haringey Support Fund) for assistance with day-to-day living costs and household items which would reduce bills in the long-term
- 3.10 Households may be eligible for more than one payment.
- 3.11 The table below sets out the proposed allocations. This includes an upper estimate, which will allow officers a small amount of discretion, in consultation with the Lead

Member, to move funding between different projects, or to identify new projects. This is designed to ensure the council can remain agile and respond to emerging needs as this fund is delivered.

3.12 Application based support is available through the Haringey Support Fund. There is an allocation of £220,000 to this fund to support those most in need who apply or are referred to the fund.

3.13 Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations are encouraged to promote the Haringey Support Fund to residents most in need of extra support. These residents may be from minority and marginalised communities and/or those identified as living in 'hidden households', including:

- Households living with people with a disability
- Households from minority and marginalised communities
- Homeless people or people at risk of homelessness
- No recourse to public funds with a community care need (as per guidance)
- Households with large families to support
- Survivors of domestic abuse
- Individuals living in households of multiple occupancy
- Family carers

This list is not exhaustive, and organisations can promote applications from people in accordance with the guidance. Eligibility will be determined in accordance with the Haringey Support Fund scheme.

Project	Description	Proposed allocation (estimate)
Holiday free school meal vouchers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Free School Meal vouchers for school-aged children during holidays 	£640k
Direct cash payments of £100 without an application process targeted to those identified through our data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Families in financial stress with children ineligible for Free School Meals Pensioner households in financial stress Low-income households with children under 5 Payments to care leavers Households with No Recourse to Public Funds in line with relevant guidance 	£840k
Direct cash payments of £200 without an application process targeted to those identified through our data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pension-age households in receipt of Housing Benefit (HB) and/or Council Tax Support (CTS) who do not receive Winter Fuel Payment. Households in financial stress with a disabled family member (including a disabled child) 	£505k
Funding Administered by the Council via the Haringey Support fund - application based process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Households most in need of extra support in line with eligibility criteria for the scheme 	£220k
Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The costs of administering all of the above projects including, officers time, systems and supplies and services costs. 	£200k

4 Policy implementation and review

4.10 This Policy will be applied from 1 October 2024 to 31 March 2025.

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