

Title of Proposal:	Final Savings Care Leavers Accommodation		
Directorate	Children's Services	Responsible Director:	Dionne Thomas
Cabinet Member	Zena Brabazon	Scrutiny Committee	Children & Young People Scrutiny Panel
Affected Service:	Children's Services	Contact / Lead Officer:	Emma Cummergen

Value of the budget	
Type of Saving	Efficiency

-11 in-house units for Haringey care leavers.
 -Wraparound support and life-skills training delivered by a commissioned provider.
 -Affordable rent set at London Affordable Rent (£206.87/week), fully covered by housing benefit.

Financial Impact and Savings

Capital investment: £35,000 (furnishing, repairs, meters, office setup).
 Cost avoidance: £21,545 per placement annually.
 Total savings: Up to £267,944 assuming 80% occupancy.

Delivery Plan

Secure capital and refurbish flats.
 Match eligible care leavers through the Young Adults Service (YAS).
 Recruit staff or procure a single provider for support services.

Additional Benefits

Centralised support improves outcomes and stability.
 Reduces reliance on costly, fragmented external placements.
 Supports smoother transitions to independence, with Band A housing priority post-placement.
 Potential to expand into shared accommodation for post-training progression.

This "invest to save" model aligns with statutory duties to support care leavers and offers a sustainable, local solution to rising supported accommodation costs.

Financial Benefits Summary

Please complete sheet "Financial BenefitsDetail" outlining indicative financial benefits information plus any **initial one-off** investment costs.
 The summary information will automatically populate the tables below.

Revenue Impacts <i>All figures shown on an incremental basis</i>	2026/27 £000s	2027/28 £000s	2028/29 £000s	2029/30 £000	2030/31 £000	Total £000s
New net additional savings	(237)	(31)	0	0	0	(268)

Initial One-Off Investment Capital Costs	2026/27 £000s	2027/28 £000s	2028/29 £000s	2029/30 £000	2030/31 £000	Total £000s
Total						

Is this a change in Council policy (Y/N)	Yes
Does it require a Member decision in addition to	Yes

Add in FTE (post) number changes by year (both additions and deletions)	2026/27 £000s	2027/28 £000s	2028/29 £000s	2029/30 £000	2030/31 £000	Total FTEs
Nos (FTEs)						-

Interdependencies

Is there a Digital interdependency?	No	Details	
Is there a Property interdependency?	No	Details	
Is there a Procurement interdependency?	Yes	Details	Will be part of overall procurement to current providers if this option is pursued
Are there any other interdependencies?	Yes	Details	Refer to risks highlighted below.

Link to Capital Programme

Does this saving link to a scheme delivered within	No	Details	
-----------------------------------------------------------	----	----------------	--

Indicative timescale for implementation

Est. start date for consultation if relevant DD/MM/YY	n/a	Est. completion date for implementation DD/MM/YY	28/02/2026
Is there an opportunity for implementation before April			

Risks and Mitigation

What are the main risks associated with this option and how could they be mitigated?(Add rows if required)

Risk	Impact (H/M/L)	Probability (H/M/L)	Mitigation
Affordability for young people	H	L	
Cost of provision of support -			
Ability to move young people into permanent	M	M	

Has the EqIA Screening Tool been completed for this proposal?	No
EqIA Screening Tool	
What mitigations will be taken to minimise negative equity impacts (if relevant)?	TBC once EQIA is completed
Is a full EqIA required?	

Title of Proposal:	Introducing specialist foster carer allowances to attract more foster carers		
Directorate	Children's Services	Responsible	Dionne Thomas
Cabinet Member	Zena Brabazon	Scrutiny Committee	Children & Young People Scrutiny Panel
Affected Service:	Children's Services	Contact / Lead Officer:	Sandy Bansil

Value of the budget	
Type of Saving	Efficiency

This proposal is to introduce a structured, transparent, and equitable payment model for specialist foster carers within Haringey, aligned with the existing task-centred tier system, and supported by enhanced training and development opportunities.

Tier 1 – Enhanced Support For children with moderate emotional or behavioural needs. Requires consistent routines, some therapeutic input, and educational support. (£700 – £850)

Tier 2 – Intensive Support For children with significant trauma, attachment issues, or mild disabilities. Requires therapeutic parenting, regular multi-agency involvement, and tailored care plans. (£900 – £1,100)

Tier 3 – Complex Needs For children with high-level emotional, behavioural, or physical needs. Requires specialist training, 24/7 supervision, and intensive therapeutic support. Parent and child placements (£1,200 – £1,300)

The payment model is recommending that specialist carers receive between £700 and £1,300 per week, depending on the assessed needs of the child based on an agreed tier system which could be heard at Resource panel for payments over £1,000. This tiered approach ensures that payments are aligned with the complexity of care required, while also incentivising carers to develop the skills and capacity to support children with higher needs. This model aims to build a more resilient, skilled, and locally rooted fostering service that prioritises both carer wellbeing and child-centred outcomes.

Live Example of Cost Savings: Transfer from IFA to In-House Provision

In 2024, two foster carers chose to transfer from an Independent Fostering Agency (IFA) to our in-house fostering service. This transition resulted in significant cost savings for the local authority, while also ensuring continuity of care for the child.

Prior to the transfer, the weekly placement cost was £1,318.40, amounting to an annual cost of £68,556.80. Of this, the foster carers were receiving only £550 per week. Following the transfer to in-house provision, the weekly cost to for the care of this child with complex needs reduced to £700, resulting in an annual cost of £36,400.

This represents a weekly saving of £618.40 and an annual saving of £32,156.80—demonstrating the financial efficiency of investing in and retaining in-house foster carers. For the purposes of this business case the proposal is assuming £20K per saving per child per year and it is estimated that we could attract an additional 9 new foster carers over the next three years.

Financial Benefits Summary

Please complete sheet "Financial BenefitsDetail" outlining indicative financial benefits information plus any **initial one-off** investment costs. The summary information will automatically populate the tables below.

Revenue Impacts <i>All figures shown on an incremental basis</i>	2026/27 £000s	2027/28 £000s	2028/29 £000s	2029/30 £000	2030/31 £000	Total £000s
New net additional savings				0	0	(180)
	(90)	(70)	(20)			

Initial One-Off Investment Capital Costs	2026/27 £000s	2027/28 £000s	2028/29 £000s	2029/30 £000	2030/31 £000	Total £000s
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-

Is this a change in Council policy (Y/N)	Yes
Does it require a Member decision in addition to the budget report? (Y/N)	Yes

Add in FTE (post) number changes by year (both additions and deletions)	2026/27 £000s	2027/28 £000s	2028/29 £000s	2029/30 £000	2030/31 £000	Total FTEs
Nos (FTEs)						-

Interdependencies

Is there a Digital interdependency?	No	Details	
Is there a Property interdependency?	No	Details	
Is there a Procurement interdependency?	Yes	Details	
Are there any other interdependencies?	Yes	Details	

Link to Capital Programme

Does this saving link to a scheme delivered within the capital programme?	No	Details	
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----	----------------	--

Indicative timescale for implementation

Est. start date for consultation if relevant DD/MM/YY		Est. completion date for implementation DD/MM/YY	
Is there an opportunity for implementation before April 2026? Y/N ; any constraints?			

Risks and Mitigation

What are the main risks associated with this option and how could they be mitigated?(Add rows if required)

Risk	Impact (H/M/L)	Probability (H/M/L)	Mitigation

Has the EqIA Screening Tool been completed for this proposal? EqIA Screening Tool	No
What mitigations will be taken to minimise negative equity impacts (if relevant)?	TBC once EQIA is completed
Is a full EqIA required? Full EqIAs to be undertaken at Stage 2	

New Capital Project

Project Name request	School Estate Condition Surveys		
Sponsor	Ann Graham	Sponsoring Directorate	Children's Services
Total requested cost	£200,000 plus £30,000 contingency		

Project proposal	<p>The maintenance of sufficient school places in suitable, safe facilities is a statutory requirement. The Council is the responsible body for 51 sites (some SEN schools have satellite units at mainstream school sites). As either landlord (for community and voluntary controlled schools) or the holder of maintenance responsibilities (for Foundation school sites), the Council is charged with ensuring buildings are safe to occupy and capable of being used to deliver the national curriculum. The Department for Education (DfE) provides the council with an annual grant, the School Condition Allocation, to assist with meeting this responsibility. In the financial year 2025/26 this is £4,819,109.</p> <p>The Council completed condition surveys for all schools in the period 2016-2019. This has multiple implications:</p> <p>Issues may have emerged that were not identifiable when the surveys were last completed and some conditions may have deteriorated. The original surveys identified c. £300m of condition need.</p> <p>There is an urgent need to conduct an additional review and condition survey of schools to prioritise necessary works and ensure a consistent approach to recording and maintaining data</p> <p>The survey programme has been broken down into phases, based on estimated need. Agreement is sought to survey only the first tranche of schools at an estimated cost of £200,000 plus a contingency of £30,000.</p>
What are the impacts of this proposal not proceeding?	<p>These surveys will ensure that the Council meets its obligations to manage the schools' estate to ensure the safety of site users and the prudent use of public funds to address condition priorities. Failing to survey the estate may lead to health and safety and/or potential school closure risks not being identified prior to risks being realised.</p>

New Capital Project

Project Name request	Children's Capital Programme Funding Request		
Sponsoring Business Unit	Strategic Asset & Accommodation Management, CPP	Sponsoring Directorate	Children's Services
Total requested Cost	£13.867m additional new request (total programme £35.6m)		

Project Proposal	<p>Provision of sufficient school places in safe, suitable teaching environments, without risk of school closure due to insufficient weatherproofing and/or failure of key infrastructure, e.g. heating. The Council has a statutory duty to provide sufficient school places in borough, with the community schools it is the responsible body for key to achieving this. The last set of condition surveys in the late 2010s identified a capital need of c. £300m. Even with investment, a significant and growing shortfall remains. The request in this Statement of Need is to meet the costs of existing known issues identified in feasibility studies completed for 6 sites in FY 2024/25.</p> <p>Six schools were prioritised in Financial Year 2024/25 from scheme 102 for feasibility studies. If this request for additional funding was approved, the essential works identified in those studies would be fully funded. At present the budget for the period FY 2025/26 to FY 2029/30 inclusive is £21.922m for scheme 102. The feasibility schemes identified a budget need of £30.018m in the same period, on top of an existing contractual commitment of £2.284m in the same period. This represents a total shortfall of £10.637 in the period from April 2025 to March 2030 for scheme 102.</p> <p>This does not include any programme level contingency for unforeseen additional projects not already included in the programme, £1m p.a. for 26/27 to 28/29 inclusive has been included to provide a contingency that could, if not spent, be offset against the next year's spend</p> <p>Adding in that additional £3m takes the whole request for budget 102 to £13.367m</p> <p>For scheme 114 it at this stage only the existing contractual commitments on the Fortismere scheme and the estimated works at Hornsey School for Girls in FY 25/26 are included in 30, Statement of Need. The existing budget for this financial year is £1.629m, while the cost of delivering Fortismere's contracted works is £1.704m, and for Hornsey School for Girls a budget of £500k has been identified as needed to meet the significant costs of electrical works, including the replacement of all distribution boards in the main school building. The issues this investment will address issues 6 primary schools and 2 secondary schools as above.</p>
What are the impacts of this proposal not proceeding?	<p>The Council will be unable to fulfill its statutory duty.</p>