

Report for: Cabinet, 11 November 2025

Item number: 22

Title: The Haringey Homelessness Strategy 2026 - 2027

Report

authorised by : Sara Sutton, Corporate Director of Adults, Housing, and Health

Lead Officer: Rachel Sharpe, Director of Housing

Ward(s) affected: All

Report for Key/

Non Key Decision: Key Decision

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1. The Homelessness Act 2002 requires local authorities to formulate and publish a homelessness strategy.
- 1.2. This report provides a brief summary of the process of producing the Haringey Homelessness Strategy, including initial engagement with a wide range of stakeholders to produce a Draft Homelessness Strategy and then formal consultation to test and refine that draft. The report then sets out the strategic objectives within that strategy.
- 1.3. The report also summarises the Government's new national Plan to End Homelessness and the requirements it places on Local Authorities now and in the future. It sets out that the new Homelessness Strategy was reviewed in light of that National Plan and confirms its alignment.
- 1.4. The report recommends Cabinet to approve the Haringey Homelessness Strategy attached at Appendix 1 for the period to December 2027.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

- 2.1 The driving mission of this Council is to build a fairer and greener borough.
- 2.2 The housing crisis in London is leaving more and more local residents unable to afford their rent, let alone ever afford to buy. We desperately need more affordable housing – genuinely affordable housing. We're building thousands of new council homes that we're letting at council rents. 1,300 are complete and another 2,000 are under construction – on track to complete by 2031.
- 2.3 We're one of the biggest council housebuilders in the country – and we're expanding into building affordable homes for key workers and other residents on lower incomes. The housing crisis is deep though and our residents are

still falling into homelessness as rents go up or landlords sell up – or of course for many other reasons.

- 2.4 Amid the crisis, Haringey has built a first-rate street homelessness service. Rough sleeping is down 46% in the borough since 2022. That bucks the wider trend both nationally and across London. We've made this a core priority in Haringey and we're seeing the results.
- 2.5 We set an ambitious target to end the use of hotels for temporary accommodation – and we've met it. Bar absolute emergencies, we no longer house anyone in B&Bs or hotels.
- 2.6 Following extensive consultation with residents and through our Homelessness Reduction Board – a board that regularly meets with local partners and is chaired by myself – this homelessness strategy sets out our strategic objectives and next steps. The objectives are:
 1. Prevent homelessness in Haringey through more effective partnerships
 2. Protect Haringey's population from the risk of homelessness – tackling the root causes of homelessness
 3. Provide specific support for people at higher risk of homelessness
 4. Improve the council's homelessness prevention services, preventing crisis and helping people stay in their homes
 5. Improve temporary accommodation and make people's experiences better if they do become homeless
 6. Reduce the number of people sleeping rough for long periods, and ensure that people do not experience homelessness more than once

3. Recommendations

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- 3.1. Note the Homelessness Review attached at Appendix 2
- 3.2. Note the outcome of formal consultation on the Draft Homelessness Strategy as set out in this report in paragraphs 6.20 – 6.30.
- 3.3. Adopt the Homelessness Strategy 2026-2027 attached at Appendix 1
- 3.4. Delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Adults and Housing in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing and the Director of Finance to approve an action plan for publication that sets out how the council and its partners will deliver this Homelessness Strategy.

4. Reasons for decision

- 4.1. The Homelessness Act 2002 ("the Act") requires local authorities to carry out a homelessness review and formulate and publish a homelessness strategy

informed by that review at least once every five years. The Strategy proposed here for adoption has been developed over the course of more than a year in response to a homelessness review and with considerable engagement from a wide range of stakeholders, including people with lived experience of homelessness and organisations working to support them, and through formal consultation.

5. Alternative options considered

- 5.1. Cabinet could decide not to adopt the Homelessness Strategy proposed here. This is not recommended because this strategy has been developed after a thorough review of evidence and engagement with a wide range of stakeholders. Additionally, the council is required to take its Homelessness Strategy into account in the exercise of its functions as a local housing authority, and it requires updating for this purpose.

6. Background information

What is a Homelessness Strategy?

- 6.1. The Act defines a homelessness strategy as a strategy for preventing homelessness, securing that sufficient accommodation (of a range of types) is available for people who are or may become homeless, and providing satisfactory support for people who are or may become homeless, or who need support to prevent them becoming homeless again.
- 6.2. The strategy must consider how the Council (both as local housing authority and as social services authority), any other public authority, voluntary organisation, or anyone else is expected to meet the objectives of the strategy. It may include specific actions or objectives to be undertaken by the Council, or, with its agreement, by any other public authority, voluntary organisation, or anyone else.
- 6.3. The local housing authority must keep the strategy under review. Before adopting or modifying the strategy the local housing authority must consult any public or voluntary organisations or other persons, as it considers appropriate.
- 6.4. Both the housing authority and the social services authority must take the homelessness strategy into account when carrying out their functions.
- 6.5. The Government's 2018 Rough Sleeping Strategy encourages local authorities to integrate rough sleeping and homelessness strategies to create a more cohesive approach to addressing homelessness in all its forms, including rough sleeping.

Haringey Homelessness Reduction Board

- 6.6. Homelessness Reduction Boards (HRB) were proposed in the Government's 2018 Rough Sleeping Strategy as a mechanism for improving local accountability for the delivery of homelessness services, from February – May 2019. In a number of Local Authority areas, HRBs have been established and play an effective role. The Local Government Association recommend that HRBs could be an

opportunity to increase the commitment of a variety of public bodies to the delivery of a local homelessness strategy.

- 6.7. The 2024 Housing Strategy commits to a partnership approach to homelessness and to “set up a Homelessness Reduction Board to drive that partnership work... and play a key role in developing a new Homelessness Strategy and Action Plan for the Council, and thereafter to overseeing its delivery.”
- 6.8. The Haringey Homelessness Reduction Board (HRB) was established in November 2023. It is chaired and led by Councillor Sarah Williams, Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning, and Deputy Leader of the Council.
- 6.9. The Haringey HRB is made up of senior officers from across the Council along with external partners including:
 - Citizens Advice Haringey
 - Metropolitan Thames Valley Housing
 - Depaul UK
 - Hestia Housing
 - National Probation Service (NPS)
 - NHS North Central London Integrated Care Board
 - Metropolitan Police
 - DWP
- 6.10. The HRB has generally met every eight weeks. Its key purpose, as agreed in its terms of Reference, is to oversee the development and implementation of the Haringey Homelessness Strategy 2025 so that through effective partnership work homelessness and rough sleeping are prevented and reduced in our part of London; and thereafter to keep the strategy under review.
- 6.11. The Board has decided that the 2025 Homelessness Strategy will cover the period to 2027 and that it will oversee the development of a joint homelessness and rough sleeping strategy from 2027.

Engagement and Codesign

- 6.12. Between October 2024 and April 2025, officers spoke to 38 people with experience of homelessness across 26 different organisations and venues.
- 6.13. At the same time the council ran a survey on our Commonplace site that received 136 responses. This first phase of engagement sought to understand the issues that people with lived experience wanted to see addressed in the homelessness strategy. Participants were also asked to suggest solutions.
- 6.14. Almost everyone asked the council to improve the way that it communicates with people experiencing homelessness - and with organisations supporting them.
- 6.15. Many people identified a need for the council to provide better support for people experiencing homelessness.

- 6.16. Many cited the need for in-person assessment and support. The most frequently raised area related to calls for more supportive, person-centred, and trauma-informed approaches.
- 6.17. A recurring theme was the shortage of social housing.
- 6.18. Many people asked for improvements in the quality and availability of local temporary accommodation. There were repeated concerns about families being placed far from support networks and schools, with suggestions that temporary accommodation should be local, family-friendly, and appropriately equipped.
- 6.19. We also facilitated a group of six people who have been placed in Temporary Accommodation by the council to design solutions to the most frequently-raised areas of concern, communication, and support. The group recommended that the Homelessness Strategy should include 25 commitments which have either directly or with amendments been incorporated into the draft strategy.

Consultation

- 6.20. In order to introduce any or all of the proposed changes to, and to adopt, the Homelessness Strategy, the council is required to consult such public or local authorities, voluntary organisations, or other persons they consider appropriate.
- 6.21. That consultation was carried out from 27 November 2025 until 18 January 2026 by using an online Commonplace page and questionnaire, and encouraging stakeholders, partners, and the wider community across the borough to comment through those means. This included social media posts and articles, e-bulletins to council subscribers and partners, and direct engagement with young people in the criminal justice system.
- 6.22. There were 684 visits to the Commonplace site during the consultation period but only 30 visitors left comments.
- 6.23. The following groups of people were over-represented in the formal consultation: women, older people, people with disabilities, people from Black or White British backgrounds, people with nationalities other than British, and people identifying as LGBTQ+.
- 6.24. Most responses supported the draft strategy by highlighting issues and calling for actions that it already addressed or proposed. Appendix 2 sets this out in more detail, but the strongest messages were as follows:
 - 6.24.1. Several responses praised the strategy as comprehensive and well structured. The “no wrong door” model was praised as a strong, inclusive approach. Respondents appreciate the ambition and the breadth of the strategy.
 - 6.24.2. There was strong support for the strategy’s articulation of existing commitments to build more council homes.

- 6.24.3. There were calls for the council to work more effectively with other organisations and to coordinate its own services. The draft strategy already addressed this with a range of commitments in its first strategic priority, *to prevent homelessness in Haringey through more effective partnership working*.
- 6.24.4. Several respondents believe the strategy is good but express concerns that it is unfunded or underfunded. The draft strategy addressed this point, setting out that the council is constrained by very challenging financial context. However, all commitments in the draft strategy were either contained in existing budgets or are subject to ongoing grant applications.
- 6.24.5. Several responses highlight that high rents and insecurity in the private rented sector are pushing people into homelessness. The draft strategy already addressed these concerns with a range of actions within its specific focus on preventing homelessness for private renters.
- 6.24.6. Several responses raised concerns that single people who are not statutorily vulnerable fall through gaps or that the council prioritises only vulnerable groups. This is a valid concern in financially constrained context, but it is addressed by the existing strategy, especially through its focus on measures to prevent homelessness in the wider population, which is explicitly aimed at reducing homelessness across all sectors of the population; and through the focus on private renters, which is aimed at preventing homelessness across a range of residents, many of whom are unlikely to be considered as vulnerable. Separately, the Housing Strategy commits the council to delivering the high quality and sustainable new homes Haringey needs, including the right mix of homes for our communities.
- 6.25. Several respondents raised issues that were not addressed by the draft strategy. The council has amended the strategy in response as follows:
- 6.25.1. There were calls to bring empty homes into use. The strategy has been amended to address this issue by reflecting the existing Housing Strategy commitment on bringing empty homes back into use
- 6.25.2. One response highlighted the need for interpreters. The strategy has been amended to reflect commitments in our Translation and Interpretation policy, making it clear that where it is requested, we will arrange for an interpreter.
- 6.26. One respondent asked for clear performance indicators and clear, measurable goals. We will publish a separate action plan with performance indicators that build on the strategic objectives and specific, measurable actions we have already committed to in the strategy.
- 6.27. One respondent asked the council to improve its own management of void properties. We have not amended the strategy in response to this, but the issue is directly addressed in our Housing Improvement Plan, and this is driving improved performance in this area.

- 6.28. Some suggestions for specific actions – such as organising home share schemes - were considered but are not within the council's capacity at present.
- 6.29. The council also sought to reconvene the codesign group that met during the engagement phase. Unfortunately, none of its members was available to consider the draft strategy.

The National Plan to End Homelessness

- 6.30. In December 2025, the Government published the National Plan to End Homelessness, a strategy for delivering its long-term vision to end homelessness and rough sleeping and make sure that everyone has access to a safe, decent and secure home: “this means that, where homelessness does occur, these experiences should be rare – because homelessness is prevented wherever possible, brief – in that people should have access to support quickly, and non-recurring – because no-one should have to experience homelessness more than once in their life.”
- 6.31. The National Plan to End Homelessness requires local authorities in England to produce action plans to end homelessness, end the use of B&Bs for families, and collaborate with health/social services to prevent discharges to the streets.
- 6.32. Alongside responses from the consultation, the council reviewed its draft Homelessness Strategy in light of the new National Plan and its requirements.
- 6.33. The draft strategy's strategic objectives and commitments to meet those objectives already aligned with the National Plan, but the council has re-worded the strategic objectives to emphasise that alignment.
- 6.34. A number of new commitments have been included in the strategy to ensure that the council begins working towards national targets and priorities immediately and preparing for national interventions that the national Plan commits the government to make.

The Homelessness Review

- 6.35. A thorough review of evidence has been carried out to guide the strategy and attached as Appendix 2.

The Equalities Impact Assessment

- 6.36. The council has conducted an Equalities Impact Assessment on the strategy attached as Appendix 3.

The Haringey Homelessness Strategy

- 6.37. The Haringey Homelessness Strategy forms part of the council's work towards the Borough Vision: making Haringey a place where we can all belong and thrive.

- 6.38. The Haringey Homelessness Strategy is structured around six strategic objectives. Each objective is supported by a series of commitments and directly supports the *National Plan to End Homelessness*. The strategy sets out the actions that the council will take over the next two years to meet each commitment.
- 6.39. **The first strategic objective: Prevent homelessness in Haringey through more effective partnerships**
- 6.40. Any serious response to homelessness in Haringey requires shared commitment and co-ordination between many different organisations - including the council, housing associations, charities, community and faith groups, NHS services, and probation and police services - as well as people with lived experience. A new Homelessness Reduction Partnership will build new partnerships across Haringey, drawing on and coordinating the strengths of a wide range of organisations to prevent homelessness and rough sleeping. The council will take a 'no wrong door approach to homelessness so that and ensure nobody is turned away without the help they need.
- 6.41. **The second strategic objective: Protect Haringey's population from the risk of homelessness – tackling the root causes of homelessness**
- 6.42. The council aim to make homelessness rare by reducing risk across the whole population through early action. This section sets out how the council will tackle the root causes of homelessness such as housing affordability and poverty. At the heart of this is a commitment to doing all the council can to create a housing sector that works for everyone in Haringey. The council is committed to delivering 3,000 new council homes by 2031. The council will make better use of affordable housing, support older people and disabled residents to live independently, and bring empty homes back into use. For those facing financial hardship, the council will provide financial advice and employment support, emergency financial help, and clear online information to help residents stay secure in their homes.
- 6.43. **The third strategic objective: Provide specific support for people at higher risk of homelessness**
- 6.44. The council will protect private renters by enforcing stronger rights under the Renters' Rights Act, including action against illegal evictions. The council will aim to prevent youth homelessness and strengthen support for care leavers, so they never leave care into homelessness. The council will provide specialist help for women facing hidden homelessness, those affected by domestic abuse or exploitation, women engaged in street-based sex work, people leaving prison, refugees and migrants, veterans, people with complex needs, and victims of cuckooing.
- 6.45. **The fourth strategic objective: Improve the council's homelessness prevention services, preventing crisis and helping people stay in their homes**
- 6.46. The council's homelessness prevention services will offer trauma-informed, person-centred assessments and support for those at risk of homelessness, along

with clearer communication for every applicant. The council will improve the online services, ensure quicker decisions, and strengthen work to prevent unlawful evictions. Digital improvements will mean better case updates and faster responses.

6.47. The fifth strategic objective: Improve Temporary Accommodation and make people's experiences better if they do become homeless

6.48. The council aim to ensure that, if people do become homeless, they receive high-quality support. By providing high-quality support the council will deliver the vision that where homelessness does occur, it is brief. The council will end the use of B&Bs for families, improve the quality of temporary accommodation and reduce the cost. The council is committed to expanding the number of good-quality homes the council can use for temporary accommodation. The council will acquire more homes, build new family lodges, and work with landlords to ensure properties are safe, stable, and affordable. For families in temporary accommodation, the council will improve support for health, schooling and move-on into settled homes.

6.49. The sixth strategic objective: Reduce the number of people sleeping rough for long periods, and ensure that people do not experience homelessness more than once

6.50. The council will continue working to prevent rough sleeping wherever possible and ensure that when it does occur it is rare, brief, and never repeated. The council is committed to halving long-term rough sleeping by 2029. The council will offer specialist support with health, employment, and housing, and collaborate closely with partners and people with lived experience to build a new combined Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy by 2027.

6.51. Foundations for delivery

6.52. The council will publish a detailed Delivery Action Plan by September 2026. We will track progress using clear targets, including reducing the use of B&Bs, halving long-term rough sleeping, and increasing the number of people helped to stay in their homes. Residents will be able to see regular updates on progress.

7. Contribution to the Corporate Delivery Plan 2024-2026

7.1. The Corporate Delivery Plan commits to adopting a Homelessness Strategy.

8. Carbon and Climate Change

8.1. The proposed Homelessness Strategy does not directly support the Council's commitments to Carbon reduction, though key commitments within it do support the Action Plan.

9. Statutory Officers comments

Finance

- 9.1. The relevant services that will be affected by the impact of delivering these strategic objectives have been consulted and will make the resources available. Budgetary provisions will come from existing general fund and HRA service budgets as well as utilising some external grants such the homelessness prevention grant etc. Services must reflect the budgetary impact of delivering these objectives in their annual medium term financial strategies.

Procurement

- 9.2. Procurement has been consulted on and notes the content of this report . There are no immediate procurement implications arising from the recommendation to adopt the homelessness strategy 2026-7.
- 9.3. However, the strategy contains a wide range of commitments and potential service improvements which may, in due course, require the commissioning of goods, works, or services. Strategic Procurement will support service teams and lead procurements where appropriate.

Director of Legal & Governance

- 9.4. The Director of Legal & Governance has been consulted in the preparation of this report and comments as follows. Legal implications are otherwise set out in the body of the report.
- 9.5. By s1 Homelessness Act 2002 the Council was required to carry out a homelessness review for its district and formulate a Homelessness Strategy informed by that review by 31 July 2003. It must keep that strategy under review and publish a new strategy at intervals of no more than 5 years thereafter.
- 9.6. The Homelessness Strategy is by s3(1), “a strategy formulated by a local housing authority for:
- (a) preventing homelessness in their district;
 - (b) securing that sufficient accommodation is and will be available for people in their district who are or may become homeless
 - (c) securing the satisfactory provision of support for people in their district
 - (i) who are or may become homeless; or
 - (ii) who have been homeless and need support to prevent them becoming homeless again.”
- 9.7. The Council is required (also by s1) to take its Homelessness Strategy into account in the exercise of its functions.
- 9.8. In formulating its Homelessness Strategy, the Council (s3(7A)) must have regard to its current Allocation Scheme, Tenancy Strategy, and the current London Housing Strategy and of course the outcome of its Homelessness Review.
- 9.9. By s3(8), “Before adopting or modifying a homelessness strategy the authority shall consult such public or local authorities, voluntary organisations or other persons as they consider appropriate.” The Council has a practice of consulting

service users and providers, housing staff, and other stakeholders, as well as more general public consultation to capture ideas, views, and feedback. Those groups have a legitimate expectation of consultation.

- 9.10. Cabinet, in considering this draft strategy must conscientiously consider, the consultation outcome. Although not bound by the outcome, Cabinet must be satisfied that the feedback has been properly considered as part of the decision making process.
- 9.11. The Homelessness Review appears at Appendix 2, and the body of the report sets out the consultation carried out and summarises the outcome of the consultation, and amendments to the Strategy informed by that consultation.
- 9.12. The Director of Legal & Governance sees no legal reason Cabinet should not adopt the recommendations in this report.

Equality

- 9.13. The Council has a Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:
 - Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act.
 - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share protected characteristics and people who do not
 - Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not
- 9.14. The three parts of the duty apply to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex, and sexual orientation. Marriage/civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty.
- 9.15. Although it is not enforced in legislation as a protected characteristic, Haringey Council treats socioeconomic status as a local protected
- 9.16. An Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) attached as Appendix 3 evaluates the potential effects of Haringey's Homelessness Strategy on individuals with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010.
- 9.17. As set out above, extensive engagement was undertaken between October 2024 and April 2025, including a Commonplace survey and a working group of service users. Respondents included a high proportion of older people, disabled people, women, ethnic minorities, and individuals on low incomes.
- 9.18. As set out above, formal consultation was carried out between 27 November 2025 until 18 January 2026 by using an online Commonplace page and questionnaire, and encouraging stakeholders, partners, and the wider community across the borough to comment through those means. There were 684 visits to the Commonplace site during the consultation period with 30 visitors leaving comments.

- 9.19. The following groups of people were over-represented in the formal consultation: women, older people, people with disabilities, people from Black or White British backgrounds, people with nationalities other than British, and people identifying as LGBTQ+:
- 9.19.1. 57.7% of respondents to the consultation were female. 34.6% identified as male with 7.7% preferring not to identify their sex. 92% stated they were not trans; 8% preferred not to say.
 - 9.19.2. 18.5% of respondents identified as disabled, a higher proportion than the 13.7% of Haringey's wider population identified as disabled in the 2021 census.
 - 9.19.3. Respondents were more likely than the wider population to identify as either White British or Black. 55% of respondents identified as White British compared to 32% of Haringey's wider population. 10% of respondents identified as Black Caribbean and 10% as Black African where 17% of Haringey's population is Black. Significantly fewer respondents were from other White backgrounds - 10% of respondents compared to 22.1% of the wider population. Respondents were slightly less likely to be Asian: 5% identified as Asian or Asian British compared to 8.7% of the wider population. 5% were from mixed heritage compared to 7% of the wider Haringey population.
 - 9.19.4. Respondents to the consultation were disproportionately from national backgrounds other than British. 43.1% of respondents identified their national identity as British, 15.6% as English, 6.3% as Irish, 3.1% as Kosovan, 3.1% as Italian, 3.1% as Polish, 3.1% as Somali, and 3.1% as North American. 18.8% defined their national identity as other than any of the options listed. Census data shows that 27% of Haringey residents identified with no UK national identity.
 - 9.19.5. Comments were left by people who were disproportionately in older age groups: 20% were aged 50-59 and 40% were aged over 60. Respondents broadly reflected the socioeconomic profile of the borough: 54% were qualified to university degree level or above, broadly in line with the borough-wide figure of 52%. 73.9% said they did not receive means-tested benefits of any kind.
 - 9.19.6. Respondents to the consultation were much more likely to be LGBTQ+ than wider the wider population. 68.2% of respondents identified as Straight or heterosexual, a lower proportion than in the wider population (83.4%). Respondents were more likely to be Gay/Lesbian or bisexual than the wider population: 4.5% identified as Gay or Lesbian and 9.1% as bisexual compared respectively to 2.7% and 2.1% in the wider population. 4.5% of respondents said they used another term to define their sexuality, and 13.6% preferred not to say.
- 9.20. All consultation responses have been considered. As a result, the strategy has been amended as set out above to add commitments to tackling empty homes and to translation and interpretation for those who do not speak English, are blind

or have a visual impairment, or are Deaf or have a hearing impairment. This enhances the accessibility of homelessness and related services to those with protected characteristics of disability of race (which includes nationality, and ethnic or national origins).

- 9.21. Data analysis confirms that people with protected characteristics are overrepresented among those experiencing homelessness in Haringey. Black, disabled, and young people are particularly affected. National research also highlights elevated risks for LGBTQ+ and trans individuals.
- 9.22. Socioeconomic status is identified as a key determinant of homelessness. Individuals in poverty, those with low educational attainment, and those in insecure housing are at heightened risk. Only 13.2% of those affected by homelessness are in full-time work, and just 1.6% are homeowners, compared to 37% of the wider borough population.
- 9.23. Children and young adults (18–34) are disproportionately represented among homeless applicants. Disabled people, particularly those with learning disabilities and mental health conditions, are also significantly overrepresented. The strategy includes specific actions to improve support and accommodation for these groups.
- 9.24. Black residents are nearly twice as likely to experience homelessness compared to their proportion in the general population. The strategy acknowledges the role of structural racism and proposes improved data collection and partnership working with specialist organisations to address the needs of marginalised racialised communities.
- 9.25. Disabled people—particularly those with learning disabilities and mental health conditions—are significantly overrepresented among those experiencing or at risk of homelessness in Haringey. While 13.7% of the borough’s population report a disability, 23.3% of lead homeless applicants have health conditions likely to constitute a disability. People with learning disabilities are especially affected, with 1.2% of lead applicants identifying as such—three times the rate in the general population.
- 9.26. Although local data on homelessness, Gender Reassignment, and sexual orientation is limited, national research indicates that LGBTQ+ and trans individuals face significantly higher risks of homelessness.
- 9.27. While local data on religion among homeless individuals is limited, London-wide figures show that Muslims, Sikhs, Buddhists, and people with no religion are overrepresented in the homeless population.
- 9.28. The strategy recognises that overlapping identities—such as being Black, disabled, and a lone parent—compound disadvantage. It commits to trauma-informed, person-centred approaches and improved data collection to better understand and respond to the needs of individuals facing multiple forms of inequality.

- 9.29. The draft homelessness strategy seeks to improve the way that the council and its partners prevent and respond to homelessness. It therefore aims broadly to have a positive impact on people with protected characteristics and people disadvantaged because of their socioeconomic status.
- 9.30. Within that, the draft strategy also makes specific provisions for the following groups with protected characteristics or disproportionately comprised of people with protected characteristics: young care leavers, communities experiencing racial inequality, the Gypsy and Traveller community, vulnerable single people and those with complex needs, and those who have been subjected to sexual and domestic violence and abuse.
- 9.31. The strategy is expected to have a broadly positive impact on all protected groups.
- 9.32. No negative impacts have been identified for any protected characteristic.
- 9.33. The strategy supports the council's duty to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations. It promotes inclusive service delivery, targeted support for high-risk groups, and engagement with diverse communities to ensure equitable outcomes.
- 9.34. The strategy includes a commitment to improve data collection and analysis over the next two years, with a view to informing a more targeted and inclusive approach.

10. Use of Appendices

Appendix 1 – The Haringey Homelessness Strategy

Appendix 2 – The Haringey Homelessness Evidence Review

Appendix 3 – Equalities Impact Assessment of the Draft Homelessness Strategy

11. Background papers

[Haringey Homelessness Strategy 2018 - 2023](#)

[Haringey Rough Sleeping Strategy 2023 - 2027](#)