Report for: Cabinet - 10 November 2026

Item number: 19

Title: Grant Acceptance – Housing Demand

Report authorised by: Maddie Watkins - Assistant Director of Housing Demand

Lead Officer: Terry Dragatis – Implementation Manager

Ward(s) affected: All

Report for Key/ Non-Key Decision: Key Decision

1. Describe the issue under consideration

1.1. The purpose of this report is to seek Cabinet approval to accept grant funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) for the Homelessness, Rough Sleeping and Domestic Abuse Grant 2026-2029, together with additional funding from the Ending Homelessness Accelerator Programme 2026-29 and the Emergency Accommodation Reduction Programme 2026-2027.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

2.1. As a Green administration, we believe everyone has the right to a safe and secure home. Yet, just as it is easy to become desensitised to the sight of rough sleepers on our streets, there is a risk of becoming desensitised to the structural inequalities that lead people into homelessness in the first place. We must resist that. Behind every homelessness statistic is a person facing hardship, insecurity and uncertainty, and behind every instance of rough sleeping is a political failure. These failures are rooted in decades of underinvestment in social housing, rising poverty, insecure work, domestic abuse and a welfare system that leaves people without the support they need.

2.2. It is our responsibility not simply to respond to homelessness, but to tackle its root causes and prevent people from reaching crisis point. Through sustained investment, strong partnerships and a relentless focus on prevention, Haringey Council has achieved a 71% reduction in rough sleeping since 2018, even as levels of homelessness and rough sleeping have increased elsewhere. Whether through our innovative work at Mulberry Junction, specialist support for women at risk of rough sleeping, or our wider homelessness prevention services, we have shown that early intervention, targeted support and treating people with dignity delivers results.

2.3. We are also clear that treating rough sleeping as criminal – or cooperating with immigration enforcement for those who are undocumented, not only encourages racism and discrimination against our most vulnerable residents but worsens outcomes for those in desperate need of support.

2.4. At a time when local government continues to face significant financial pressures after years of austerity, accepting this funding is both a responsible financial decision and a reaffirmation of our values. These grants will help protect and strengthen frontline services that prevent and relieve homelessness, support survivors of domestic abuse and reduce reliance on expensive emergency accommodation. Crucially, they will allow us to continue investing in the early-intervention and person-centred approaches that we know work, helping residents establish the security and stability they need.

2.5. We reject the notion that homelessness is inevitable. Just as we reject narratives that seek to blame individuals for circumstances created by wider systemic failures. A fairer Haringey is one where everyone has the dignity of a safe home, where support is available when people need it, and where no one is left behind. By accepting this funding, we are continuing our commitment to building that future and to ensuring that every resident has the opportunity not just to survive, but to flourish in Haringey.

3. Recommendations

It is recommended that Cabinet:

3.1. In accordance with Contract Standing Orders (CSOs) 21.01 and CSO 2.01(c) approves the acceptance of the grant from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local government (MHCLG) for Homelessness, Rough Sleeping and Domestic Abuse Grant for the funding period 2026-29.

3.2. In accordance with Contract Standing Orders (CSOs) 21.01 and CSO 2.01(c) approves the acceptance of the grant from the MHCLG for Emergency Accommodation Reduction Programme for the funding period 2026-27.

3.3. In accordance with Contract Standing Orders (CSOs) 21.01 and CSO 2.01(c) approves the acceptance of the grant from the MHCLG for Additional Rough Sleeping funding from the Ending Homelessness Accelerator Programme for the funding period 2026-27.

3.4. The total grant funding amount will be **£25,671,444.** A detailed breakdown of funding allocated is listed in the Background Information at **6.10**.

4. Reasons for decision

4.1. Haringey Council have been awarded grants totalling **£25,671,444** for the 2026-29 funding period. The funding is ringfenced for the purposes of preventing, reducing and ending homelessness, rough sleeping and domestic abuse.

4.2. The grants allow the Council to carry out its statutory responsibilities under a range of legislation including the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017, Care Act 2014, Domestic Abuse Act 2021 and the Equality Act 2010, by providing housing-related support to vulnerable people to ensure they are able to live independent, fulfilling and active lives in the community for as long as possible.

5. Alternative options considered

5.1. Do Nothing - The council could choose to not accept any of these grants but this would mean that it would be unlikely to meet its legal and statutory obligations as defined by the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 to prevent and relieve homelessness and to support and prevent domestic abuse under and Domestic Abuse Act 2021. Acceptance of this grant will help to meet our legal obligations under these pieces of legislation.

6. Background information

6.1. Haringey Council continues to address the challenges of homelessness and rough sleeping within the borough. The number of households in temporary accommodation has reached 2648, reflecting a significant demand for housing support.

6.2. Haringey has the third highest rate of emergency placements in London and the highest in the North Central London sub-region. The Council is also working in the context of a chronic shortage of social housing in the borough, with over 9,000 households on the Council's housing register and almost 3,000 households in temporary accommodation.

6.3. Successfully ending rough sleeping and homelessness is a systemic and long-term project and not something that can be tackled solely on an individual, local or even regional level to truly sustainable effect. Haringey Council and partners work collaboratively to reduce rough sleeping in the borough, and to provide suitable and sustainable settled accommodation for those who have experienced rough sleeping.

6.4. Despite these challenges, Haringey has achieved a notable 71% reduction in rough sleeping since July 2018. This success is attributed to significant investments in addressing rough sleeping, the development of innovative approaches for individuals facing multiple disadvantages, the opening of new supported housing accommodation provisions, and the creation of rent-free accommodations for those affected by immigration issues.

6.5. The Homelessness, Rough Sleeping, Domestic Abuse Grant is made up of three separate funding settlements. Funding for homelessness and rough sleeping; Funding for Renters Rights Act 2025 New Burdens and Funding for the Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Grant.

6.6. The Rough Sleeping funding includes the Rough Sleeping Prevention & Recovery Grant (RSPARG), additional funding through the Ending Homelessness Accelerator Programme (EHAP) and the Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme (RSAP) and will support the council to deliver homelessness and rough sleeping services.

6.7. The funding for Renters Rights Act new burdens provides support that will allow the council to manage increased workloads, inspect properties, and prepare for the broader tenancy overhauls provided for in the act.

6.8. The Domestic Abuse funding enables local authorities to fulfil their statutory duties and commission vital support in safe accommodation for those who need to flee their homes.

6.9. Collectively, these funding streams will support homelessness prevention, rough sleeping outreach and accommodation pathways, domestic abuse support services, implementation of new statutory housing duties, and initiatives to reduce the use of emergency and temporary accommodation. The funding will help improve housing stability, prevent crisis, support independent living and improve outcomes for some of the borough's most vulnerable residents.

6.10. The breakdown of the grants by year is:

	Funding for Homelessness and Rough Sleeping	Funding for Renters Rights Act 2025 New Burdens	Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Grant	Emergency Accommodation Reduction Programme	Additional Rough Sleeping Programme Funding	Total
FY						
2026/27	£ 8,395,541	£ 363,583	£ 38,965	£ 428,237	£ 1,080,719	£ 10,307,045
2027/28	£ 7,975,764	£ 171,192	£ 39,737	tbc	tbc	£ 8,186,693
2028/29	£ 7,137,171	£ -	£ 40,535	tbc	tbc	£ 7,177,706
						£ 25,671,444

7. Contribution to the Corporate Delivery Plan High Level Strategic outcomes

7.1. Contribution to the Corporate Delivery Plan (CDP) 2024-26 High level strategic outcomes. These grant supports the delivery of the Housing priority in the CDP (2024-26)

- Provide better support for single homeless households with complex needs. Identify suitable support for vulnerable adults placed in TA.
- Preventing and reducing homelessness and rough sleeping
- decreasing the number of homeless households and those presenting as homeless, including those who sleep rough.

7.2. The grants also support the delivery of the People Priority in the Plan, 'Strong families, strong networks and strong communities nurture all residents to live well and achieve their potential', in particular to;

- People will be supported to live independently at home for longer.
- Adults will feel physically and mentally healthy and well.
- Adults with multiple and complex needs will be supported to achieve improved outcomes through a coordinated partnership approach.

7.3. The grants will contribute to the strategic objectives of Adult Social Care and their partners to offer preventative interventions at individual and community levels, decreasing demand on supported housing, preventing escalation of need, and offering viable options to residential care.

7.4. The grants will contribute to the delivery of the Council's Rough Sleeping (2023-27) Strategy by helping to prevent and relieve homelessness, reduce the use of temporary accommodation, and provide rapid exit from street homelessness for those in need.

7.5. The grants contribute to the "Safer Haringey" outcome area in the Corporate Delivery Plan 2024-26, specifically to contribute to "A reduction in violence against women and girls"

7.6. The grants contribute to the "Successful Futures" outcome area in the Corporate Delivery Plan 2024-26.

8. Carbon and Climate Change

8.1. Haringey Climate Change Action Plan March 2021 outlines the council's route for net zero carbon in Haringey. All HRS services and provision contribute to the Community Actions Objective 1 – To increase education and awareness raising across the borough to residents and businesses.

8.2. Raising awareness of the impacts of climate change, and steps to mitigate, can encourage residents and businesses to engage with the issue and to enable behavioural change.

8.3. Housing Related Support team commission a wide variety of services which support vulnerable Haringey residents who have experience homelessness or are at risk of homelessness.

8.4. As a team we are committed to embedding educational awareness into the fabric of commissioning from the tender process to contract monitoring. We seek to deliver carbon literacy awareness training to our providers and stakeholder relating to carbon footprint within their own organisations

9. Statutory Officers comments Finance, Procurement, Legal and Equalities

9.1. **Finance**

9.1.1. There will be periodic monitoring and challenge on the use of this grant to ensure it is used in accordance with the conditions laid out in the MHCLG grant determination award for tackling homelessness prevention, rough sleeping, and domestic abuse.

9.1.2. Financial records will be kept ensuring we can comply with any monitoring or reporting requests from MHCLG or audit. These comments should only be completed by the authorised Finance Officer. Include name of the person completing the comments in this section.

9.2. **Procurement**

9.2.1. Strategic Procurement has been consulted in the preparation of this report and has no objections to the acceptance of the grant funding.

9.2.2. There are no immediate procurement implications arising from the decision to accept the grant. However, where grant funding is subsequently used to commission services, from external providers, Strategic procurement will, lead on competitive processes in accordance with the Council's Contract Standing Order and procurement legislation, if applicable.

9.3. **Legal**

9.3.1. The Director of Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer) was consulted in the preparation of the report.

9.3.2. Pursuant to the provisions of the Council's (CSO) 21.01 and CSO 2.01(c), Cabinet has power to approve receipt of grants where the value of the grant is £500,000 or more and such the recommendation in paragraph 3 of the report is line with the Council's CSO.

9.3.3. The Director of Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer) see no legal reasons preventing Cabinet approving the recommendations in this report.

9.4. **Equality**

9.4.1. The Council has a Public Sector Equality Duty 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 those protected characteristics and people who do not.

- Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.

9.4.2. The three parts of the duty applies to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status apply to the first part of the duty.

9.4.3. This decision will help the Council to meet its equalities duties and address known inequalities affecting individuals with protected characteristics, in particular relating to age, sex, sexuality, gender identity, race, and disability. Accordingly, the decision represents progress to eliminate discrimination and advance equality of opportunity.

9.4.4. The decision outlined in this report is to accept grant funding from multiple sources for housing-related support. This will help to fund the provision of housing-related support in Haringey for residents who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

9.4.5. Around 4,000 children are currently living in temporary accommodation (January 2026), with women and members from ethnic minority backgrounds (especially members of the Black community) being disproportionately represented. Similar disparities exist for families threatened with or currently experiencing homelessness; for example, 39% of main applicants that were owed a relief duty in 2025 identify as Black despite only comprising 16% of Haringey's population.

9.4.6. Given this overrepresentation, this decision will have a positive impact on children and their families from ethnic minority groups threatened with or experiencing homelessness.

9.4.7. This decision will also have a positive impact on those with additional housing needs which result from their protected characteristic including women, disabled people (particularly those with mental health needs), older people who need extra support, young people (particularly those considered to be at risk or leaving care), survivors and victims of domestic abuse (who are disproportionately female), LGBTQ+ people and people from ethnic minority backgrounds.

10. Use of Appendices

10.1. N/A

11. Background papers

11.1. N/A