



Report to Finance Sub-Committee

Author/Lead Officer of Report:

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Report of: Janet Sharpe, Director of Housing Services

Report to: Finance Sub Committee

Date of Decision: 10/11/2022

Subject: Rough sleeper Initiative Programme 5

Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given?	No	1280		
Has appropriate consultation taken place?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has a Climate Impact Assessment (CIA) been undertaken? <small>Not required please see comments 4.4</small>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If YES, give details as to whether the exemption applies to the full report / part of the report and/or appendices and complete below:-				
<i>"The (report/appendix) is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (insert relevant paragraph number) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)."</i>				

Purpose of Report:

The purpose of this report sets out a proposal to accept the funding for the Rough Sleeper Initiative 5 Programme which will allow the Council to progress and build on the current Rough Sleeper Initiatives programme of works and to support the Government's aim to end rough sleeping.

A total of £4,259,194 has been awarded for the proposal for a 3-year period.

Recommendations:

1. That the Council accepts the grant funding of £4,259,194 from The Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) for the Rough Sleeper Initiative Programme, as detailed and set out in this report, and in doing so agrees to be the Accountable Body for the funding.

Background Papers:

[Councils given further £200 million in next stage of successful rough sleeping programme - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/councils-given-further-200-million-in-next-stage-of-successful-rough-sleeping-programme)

Lead Officer to complete:-		
1	I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed, where required.	Finance: <i>(Insert name of officer consulted)</i> Sonya Oates
		Legal: <i>(Insert name of officer consulted)</i> Henry Watmough-Cownie
		Equalities & Consultation: Louise Nunn
		Climate: <i>(Insert name of officer consulted)</i> Jessica Rick
<i>Legal, financial/commercial and equalities implications must be included within the report and the name of the officer consulted must be included above.</i>		
2	SLB member who approved submission:	<i>Executive Director Operational Services</i>
3	Committee Chair consulted:	<i>Cllr Bryan Lodge</i>
4	I confirm that all necessary approval has been obtained in respect of the implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist and that the report has been approved for submission to the Committee by the SLB member indicated at 2. In addition, any additional forms have been completed and signed off as required at 1.	
	Lead Officer Name: Suzanne Allen	Job Title: Head of Citywide Housing Services
	Date: <i>October 2022</i>	

1. PROPOSAL

- 1.1 The proposal is to accept a 3-year grant funding plan totalling £4,259,194 from the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) Rough Sleeper Initiative Programme.

This funding has been allocated to ensure that people sleeping rough are helped off the streets and into safe accommodation, working towards an ultimate aim to end rough sleeping. This programme will be delivered by Sheffield City Council working in partnership with a number of external agencies. These include Health Services, Framework Housing Association, Roundabout Homeless Charity and the Department for Work and Pensions.

- 1.2 The Government has an aim to end rough sleeping and has published a Policy paper, setting out a cross-government strategy.

[Ending rough sleeping for good - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/policies/ending-rough-sleeping-for-good)

As part of the overall strategy funding has been awarded to Sheffield City Council to deliver this work. The funding allows the Council to plan for a long-term strategic approach to end rough sleeping. The project will focus on prevention, intervention and recovery work, alongside improved joined-up systems.

The funding allows for a continuation of already successful initiatives such as the Council's Rough Sleeper Initiative team, the innovative Housing First team and a range of accommodation options for people who have slept rough. It also allows for an expansion of multi-agency work with colleagues in external agencies such as Salvation Army, Roundabout Homeless charity, NHS colleagues, and the Department for Work and Pensions. Further to this there will be a range of new initiatives that will focus on key areas of prevention and recovery.

- 1.3 Although the Council is not legally required to accept this funding, we strongly recommend that we continue to work towards the Governments vision to end rough sleeping. This funding will also allow the Council to continue its current Rough Sleeper Programme.

2. HOW DOES THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTE ?

- 2.1 The funding proposal will have a positive impact for our customers and the city, and will contribute to the ambitions within the one-year plan in the following ways;

Communities and Neighbourhoods

The funding will help to support our local communities and neighbourhoods by supporting people with routes out of homelessness, helping to reduce inequalities for this very vulnerable group of people. The funding will increase emergency and temporary accommodation options for people who sleep rough in Sheffield.

Education, Health and Care

The funding will contribute to a range of Education, Health and Care aims by reducing exclusion and working in a trauma informed way with people who are street homeless. One of the aims in the plan is to 'Enable adults to live the life that they want to live' and this is at the heart of working with people sleeping rough to support them to find appropriate housing solutions and sustain them.

Our Housing First and Rough Sleeper Initiative teams work with customers to help them access health care services, and our funding includes partnership work with NHS services including dedicated health roles within the teams.

We are working with the Department for Work and Pensions, and other related services to enable people who have slept rough to link into training and employment opportunities in a way that is meaningful to their unique needs, goals and aspirations.

Climate Change, Economy and Development

The funding contributes to the plans aims for Sheffield to be a flourishing, sustainable and inclusive city economy by working with the city's most vulnerable citizens and helping them to become fully integrated with their communities. We will work to help people to find sustainable homes contributing to safe and attractive neighbourhoods. Our funding allows for linking customers to training and employment opportunities, so that people can be part of a successful city economy.

3. HAS THERE BEEN ANY CONSULTATION?

- 3.1 The Council is not required to consult on this funding proposal, but as good practice, a small consultation exercise took place with external partner agencies to complete a self-assessment on our current Rough Sleeping Programme. This helped to inform the bid proposal that the Council submitted.
- The consultation was useful in highlighting the successes of our current rough sleeper programme, and the areas that will benefit from increased focus and funding.

4. RISK ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

4.1 Equality Implications

- 4.1.1 There are no direct equality impacts on any protected Characteristic groups.

4.2 Financial and Commercial Implications

- 4.2.1 The Rough Sleeping Initiative (RSI) grant 2022-25 is funded by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) and is for up to £4,259,194 over three years. Key features of the grant terms and conditions (not exclusive) are highlighted below.

The grant is ringfenced for providing services Rough Sleeping Initiative services to intervene in, prevent or reduce rough sleeping in 2022/23 to 2024/25 as approved by DLUHC.

Funding has been agreed for the following services as set out in Annex A of the grant letter:

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total	Staff Funded 22/23	Staff Funded 23/24	Staff Funded 24/25
Sheffield City Council	£1,476,626	£1,413,900	£1,368,668	£4,259,194	29.00	27.00	26.00
Employment Support	£18,377	£42,134	£42,777	£103,288	1.00	1.00	1.00
Year-round flexible Surge Accommodation	£323,591	£267,938	£238,564	£830,093	2.00	2.00	2.00
Health Interventions	£51,563	£0	£0	£51,563	1.00	0.00	0.00
Housing First	£484,816	£499,360	£514,341	£1,498,517	13.00	13.00	13.00
Non-UK National Support	£76,000	£76,000	£76,000	£228,000	0.00	0.00	0.00
Outreach and In-reach	£232,216	£232,216	£199,042	£663,474	7.00	7.00	6.00
Personalisation Fund & Assistive Technologies	£58,000	£108,000	£108,000	£274,000	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rapid Rehousing	£82,934	£84,593	£86,285	£253,812	2.00	2.00	2.00
Strategic Leadership/Partnership Management and Coordination of Services	£149,129	£103,659	£103,659	£356,447	3.00	2.00	2.00

The year-round flexible surge accommodation funding from year 2 onwards is contingent on a review following the conclusion of the Local Authority's planned review of emergency accommodation. This is a potential reduction of £506,502 of the funding if not completed.

Any changes to the agreed services must be approved in writing by the funder.

The personalisation fund and assistive technologies funding is contingent on the review of plans and the impact of the intervention. This is a potential reduction of £216,000 of the funding.

RSI funding is governed on the principles of guidance issued in November 2021 and set out at Annex B of the grant letter.

Payment is to be made in six tranches; in Spring and Summer of 2022, 2023 and 2024. Any underspend declared from the 2021-22 tranche of funding (RSI4) will be deducted from tranche 1 of the 2022-23 fund. From tranche 2 onwards the amount of funding paid is dependent on delivery of services, engagement with monitoring processes as set out at Annex C of the grant letter, and a completed statement of expenditure.

The Chief Executive, Section 151 Officer or Chief Internal Auditor must sign and return a declaration in advance of tranche payments as per Annex D. condition 2 of the grant letter.

Where alternative funding is available that meets RSI outcomes, Local Authorities are expected to pursue these funding opportunities. DLUHC may review the RSI funding if more appropriate funding is available.

DLUHC may reduce, suspend, withhold or claw back RSI funding if any of the conditions

are not met.

All public sector procurement is governed by UK national law. In addition, all procurement in Sheffield City Council must comply with its own Procurement Policy, and Contracts Standing Orders.

The Project Manager will need to read, understand and comply with all of the grant terms and conditions and the [Code of Conduct for Grant Recipients](#).

4.3 Legal Implications

4.3.1

The grant is subject to conditions determined by DLUHC. The Council has a duty under Part VII of the Housing Act 1996 to ensure that advice and information about homelessness and the prevention of homelessness is available to persons in its district. Utilising the grant money for the purposes as described in this report will be in accordance with these powers and allow the Council to develop and expand existing support where gaps in current service provision have been identified.

The Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 imposes additional duties on local authorities to provide new homelessness services to a wider homeless group than those who are protected under existing legislation, including providing assistance and support to eligible people to help them to secure accommodation. The grant will assist the Council in meeting these statutory duties.

4.4 Climate Implications

4.4.1 For the purpose of this programme, we have consulted Jessica Rick (SCC Sustainability Programme Officer) and the Climate Change Team for guidance on how to deliver the Rough Sleeper Initiative Programme that will have the least impact on the climate.

Our top priority is to eliminate rough sleeping in Sheffield, but we will endeavour to deliver this service in an eco-friendly way. Sheffield City Council actively encourage officers to use public transport and walk wherever possible.

The programme will fund a variety of accommodation options, this could be hotel accommodation, private rented or use of existing council properties. We will work with accommodation providers to work towards our commitments that properties are insulated well, furnished with sustainable furniture, and that heating sources within the accommodation are highly efficient.

Sheffield City Council works in partnership with a number of external services as part of this funding programme, and we have consulted with them to determine their commitment to zero impact on the climate.

Health services have provided the Council with the following information:

“ NHS South Yorkshire ICB have developed a sustainability and green plan with partners

and colleagues working in and with the NHS across South Yorkshire.

Our vision is: “To work with patients and partners to improve the health of our population and respond to the urgent threat of the climate crises by putting sustainability and net zero at the heart of everything we do and collaborating to deliver a greener and more sustainable NHS South Yorkshire”.

Our Principles are:

- To prioritise and promote prevention of illness through increasing awareness of the health impacts of climate change
- To embed sustainability and net zero into everyday actions, business planning and decision making
- To implement changes to reduce the environmental impact of current models of care within the healthcare organisations
- To avoid unintended consequences or inequalities arising out of actions to promote sustainability”

Framework Housing Association have provided the Council with the following information:

Framework have actually just started the process of looking at our emissions and how green we are as a charity overall. Luckily, Sheffield being a city makes this much easier. I would say 80% of our role is done on foot so the majority of our job is green and a number of staff use either bikes/walk or public transport. I would also add if we need to get clients to appointments/housing we provide bus passes over taxis – again being green”

Roundabout Limited have provided the Council with the following information:

Roundabout are committed to reducing emissions and working to be environmentally friendly. We encourage our staff to use public transport, walk or cycle wherever possible and ensure the properties are appropriately insulated. We are actively working with the young people we support to not waste energy for example introducing booster buttons on boilers so heating systems are not left on and using automatic lights in our properties. We have also taken steps to buy more sustainable furniture reducing disposable waste.

4.4 Other Implications

4.4.1 N/A

5. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

5.1 The alternative would be to not accept the funding. Without accepting the funding the programme would not be deliverable therefore this option has been discounted.

There are no other viable funding options from other agencies or from Council budgets. If the funding was not accepted it would mean that the council would need to cease the majority of targeted work with people who are rough sleeping or have previously been rough sleeping, and the risk of higher numbers of people sleeping

rough would be high.

The funding proposal allows the Council to continue its current work and expand further on this.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The preferred option is to accept the funding so that the Council can continue the current work and planned future work on the Rough Sleeper Initiative strategy.

The Housing Solutions service is well placed to accept and deliver the funding, as the existing teams are already in place to continue this work, and the service has the expertise to develop the future aims of the overall programme.

Rough sleeping is the most visible form of homelessness, and this cohort of customers in the city are the most vulnerable. Our Homelessness Prevention strategy lists 'tackling Rough Sleeping' as a key priority. The Council is committed to working towards an end to rough sleeping and this funding opportunity allows us to continue this work.