

	<p>CHIEF OFFICER IN CONSULATION WITH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DELEGATED POWERS REPORT</p>
<p>Title</p>	<p>Releasing £357,333 of Rough Sleeper Initiative (RSI) and Rapid Rehousing Pathway (RPP) funding from the Government</p>
<p>Report of</p>	<p>Deputy Chief Executive</p>
<p>Wards</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>Status</p>	<p>Public</p>
<p>Enclosures</p>	
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Summary

The new funding for rough sleepers has been awarded after successful bids to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government ('the Ministry') and is ring fenced for the stated interventions as part of the government's plan to significantly reduce the number of rough sleepers. In line with the Rough Sleeping Initiative, the government aims to half the number of rough sleepers by 2022 and eliminate rough sleeping by 2027. The funding is sent to the local authority and needs to be forwarded to Barnet Homes to enable mobilisation of the interventions which are closely monitored by Minister Wheeler and advisers in the Ministry.

This report requests that the council releases the funding to enable Barnet Homes to deliver the outcomes agreed with the Ministry. Barnet Homes must provide monthly returns to the Ministry on the impact of the funding together with conducting bimonthly street counts and phone calls from Minister Wheeler.

Decisions

- 1. That the Council releases this funding to Barnet Homes' Housing Options Service.**

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1 The funding of £270,000 received from the Rough Sleeper Initiative (RSI) at the Ministry will enable a range of interventions to reduce rough sleeping in the borough in 2019/20.
- 1.2 Like many RSI funded areas, Barnet Homes was underspent due to delays in mobilisation with £98,000 being spent in 2018/19. The Ministry have now reduced the funding for 2019/20 to reflect the underspend in 2018/19. The table below highlights this.
- 1.3 Barnet – Annex A

Intervention	Funding
1. Rough Sleeper Coordinator	£43,800
2. Increased street outreach (1x FTE)	£28,642
3. Increased In-reach (1x FTE)	£28,642
4. Emergency accommodation (x6 beds) for eligible rough sleepers	£20,562
5. Emergency accommodation (x3 beds) for ineligible rough sleepers	£53,870
6. Specialist Mental Health Floating Support	£40,817
Underspend to be used in 2019/20	£20,000
Underspend to be taken off 2019/20 allocation	£54,063
Total to pay	£216,333
Total RSI funds to be used in 2019/20	£236,333

- 1.4 Barnet Homes also successfully bid for the Rapid Rehousing Pathway, and has been awarded £121,000 to deliver 2 Supported Lettings Officers and a Navigator officer with personal budgets to move entrenched rough sleepers off the streets. The table below is what has been approved for funding.

Supported Lettings	2x Supported Lettings Officers recruited and in post (salary for 12 months + 25% on	£72,500	Recruited within 8 weeks of decision on funding bid
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	costs)		
	Travel costs for 2x Officers	£2,400	Calculated at £100 per month over 12 months per Officer
Navigators	1x Navigator recruited and in post (salary for 12 months + 25% on costs)	£40,000	Recruited within 8 weeks of decision on funding bid
	Personalised budgets	£5,000	1x Navigators working with 10 clients @ £500 per client
	Travel costs for 1x Navigator	£1,200	Calculated at £100 per month over 12 months

1.5 A condition attached to the £216,333 RSI funding is that it will be paid in two tranches with the second paid subject to the satisfactory performance and reporting of plans and expenditure to MHCLG by The Barnet Group. Subsequently, the release of this funding will be based on the actual amount of grant received.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 This funding from the Ministry is essential to continue to deliver rough sleeper services in Barnet and mitigate the impact of delays in mobilisation.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

3.1 The alternative option entails the council not releasing the money which the Ministry has provided for the purpose of delivering additional homelessness outcomes and rough sleeper support services. If the money is not released, the outcomes agreed with the Ministry will not be delivered.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 Once the funded is released, Barnet Homes will put the measures in place and recruit for the additional roles as soon as possible. Prompt recruitment should result in outcomes being achieved in a shorter timeframe.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

5.1.1 The Council's Corporate Plan 2019 to 2024 is based on three main outcomes, one of which is "our residents live happy, healthy, independent lives with the most vulnerable protected." By enabling the recruitment of additional rough sleeper support resources, Barnet Homes will relieve more residents' homelessness, and will process housing applications in a shorter timeframe – to give residents greater time to obtain favourable outcomes to their housing issues.

5.2 **Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)**

5.2.1 This decision is to enable a reduction in rough sleepers in Barnet. The funding is provided by the Ministry, and does not impact on any other budgets.

5.3 **Social Value**

5.3.1 Longer term better outcomes for homeless households are accumulated through a number of economic, social and health initiatives whilst reducing longer term costs to public services.

5.4 **Legal and Constitutional References**

5.4.1 Under the Council's Constitution, Article 10 (Decision Making), "Chief Officers in consultation with Theme Committee Chairmen have delegated authority to make decisions which are not key decisions and which have a value between £181,302 and £500,000. A written report will be prepared for every decision."

5.5 **Risk Management**

5.5.1 Risks are outlined in section 3.1 above.

5.6 **Equalities and Diversity**

5.6.1 The Equality Act 2010 outlines the provisions of the Public Sector Equality Duty which requires Public Bodies **to have due regard** to the need to:

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010
- advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not share it; and
- foster good relations between people from who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

5.6.2 The relevant protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation.

5.6.3 No update to the Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) was required because this did not represent a policy change.

5.7 **Corporate Parenting**

5.7.1 None

5.8 **Consultation and Engagement**

5.8.1 The proposals underpinning this funding allocation have been agreed with Rough Sleeper Adviser at the Ministry.

5.8 **Insight**

5.8.1 None

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 None

Chairman: Cllr Rozenberg
Has been consulted

Signed:



Date: 17/06/2019

Chief Officer:
Decision maker having taken into account the views of the Chairman

Signed

: Cath Shaw

Date : 17/06/2019
