

## **FINANCIAL COMMENTS**

The decision requires approval to:

1. Spend an additional £0.777m in accordance with the COVID 19 guidance provided to Local Authorities (LA's). This is in addition to the budget allocation captured in the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP);
2. Approve the grant of £0.023m for Rough Sleeping;
3. To seek dispensation from Contract Procedure Rule 4.1.2 in accordance with Financial Regulation 3.29 (Emergency Action) due to the direct award of the contracts.

Due to COVID 19 Nottingham City Council has had to enact decisions quickly in response to the Governments instruction to provide support and accommodation for Rough Sleepers and also to appropriately support those who are in emergency accommodation due to presenting as homeless.

The dispensation from Financial Regulations for contract procedure rules is required due to the emergency situation, seeking alternative quotes was not possible and the availability of alternative accommodation was extremely limited. It was also necessary to provide appropriate security arrangements in response to keeping the hotel accommodation staff safe and resolve this at short notice.

The breakdown in the costs are outlined in **Appendix A** and cover a 12 week period only at this stage and are summarised as:

Covid-19 12 week costs:		£
Rough Sleepers	Accommodation	418,499
	Security	150,496
Homelessness	Accommodation	208,151
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>777,146</b>

The Rough Sleepers costs sit within the Commercial & Operations (C&O) department and the Homelessness costs sit within the Development & Growth department (D&G) currently. Spend will be recorded, monitored and reported on and form part of the organisations internal reports and MHCLG's submissions.

If spend increases above this level then further approval will be required.

In terms of funding these costs:

- MHCLG has confirmed an allocation of £22,500 for Nottingham for Rough Sleeping Contingency
- MHCLG have allocated Nottingham City Council 10.6m of funding – the majority of which is to support social care but provision for homelessness and rough sleepers was also mentioned in the letter. A further allocation has been announced for LA's but Nottingham's allocation is not known at the time of these comments.

The grant awarded from MHCLG is not for services to bid against but is a grant to support organisational specific COVID 19 costs. Any gap in funding will impact on the organisations MTFP and the size of the budget gap going forward

It is assumed that any expenditure being undertaken aligns to value for money principles.

**Authors**

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