

Questions from Councillors requiring a written response

CQ3

Question asked by Councillor Devontay Okure of the Portfolio Holder for Housing at the meeting of the City Council held on 4 March 2024

As of 20 February there were 208 households in bed and breakfast accommodation in Nottingham due to homelessness, and over 2,000 live homelessness cases reported to the City Council. Does the Portfolio Holder for Housing agree that sufficient support has not been forthcoming from the Government and can they inform Council of what actions are being taken to support those who are homeless and to reduce the council house waiting list?

As Councillor Okure was not present at the meeting to ask his question, it received a written response instead.

Councillor Jay Hayes replied as follows:

Homelessness is an increasing challenge both locally and nationally, and councils up and down the country are calling on central government to increase the support available to help alleviate the problem. Here in Nottingham, we have seen a dramatic increase in the use and cost of B&B as emergency accommodation for homeless households, including those with children. I can say the number of households in B&B is closer to 135, the remaining households of the 208 being in self-contained nightly-paid accommodation. Our Housing Solutions Service has been working on a programme of transformation and improvement which is designed to prevent homelessness and reduce the reliance on B&B over the coming period.

The programme includes several initiatives including:

- a restructure of the Housing Solutions Service, increasing capacity to ensure we have sufficient officers to effectively manage our caseload and enable more complex decisions such as discharge of duty;
- the development of new, value for money and fit for purpose, temporary accommodation such as Sutton House and Laura Chambers Lodge;
- the block booking of B&B and nightly-paid accommodation to reduce costs;
- the revision of the Allocation Policy to remove the local, non-statutory priority currently given to families with children living in apartments; and
- an increase in the resources of the NPRAS team, which sources private rented property, which is used to discharge our homelessness duties; breaking the link between homelessness and social housing.

WQ1

Written question asked by Councillor Andrew Rule of the Portfolio Holder for Housing at the meeting of the City Council held on 4 March 2024

Can the Portfolio Holder provide a breakdown of the grants the Council has received since 2019 toward tackling homelessness in City and detail how they have been utilised?

Councillor Jay Hayes replied as follows:

Since 2019, the Council has received £23,705,123 in grant funding to be used to tackle homelessness. This funding has been used to fund a variety of services ranging from off the street accommodation and shelter, outreach services, detox beds, vaccination coordinators and staffing with a range of roles and responsibilities.

A breakdown of the grants is provided below.

	New Burdens Funding	Flexible Homeless Support / Homelessness Prevention Grant	Rapid Rehousing Pathway Fund	Rough Sleeping Initiative & Cold weather	Private Rented Access Fund	Next Steps Accom Programme	Rough Sleeping Accom Programme	Accom for Ex Offenders	Out Of Hospital Shared Outcomes	Protect & Vaccinate	Respite Rooms
2019/20	£165,584.00	£592,258.00	£689,830.00	£552,049.00	£245,800.00						
2020/21		£969,035.00		£1,442,543.00		£458,200.00					
2021/22		£1,568,289.00		£2,135,270.00		£66,480.00	£1,443,898.00	£213,833.00	£41,458.00	£335,592.00	
2022/23		£1,545,876.00		£2,550,061.00		£73,817.00	£1,144,336.00	£119,975.00	£245,000.00		£349,407.00
2023/24		£1,800,803.00		£3,671,193.00		£73,823.00	£921,433.00	£289,280.00			
	£165,584.00	£6,476,261.00	£689,830.00	£10,351,116.00	£245,800.00	£672,320.00	£3,509,667.00	£623,088.00	£286,458.00	£335,592.00	£349,407.00

The tables below provide a breakdown of services that have been funded through each grant allocation

2019/20

Grant	Value	Measures
New Burdens funding	£165,584	New IT system to enable statutory Homelessness Reduction Act monitoring requirements Housing Aid Staffing Private Sector Leasing

Grant	Value	Measures
Flexible Homeless Support Grant	£592,258	Housing Aid Staffing Homelessness Prevention Payments Temporary Accommodation for Families and Singles
Rapid Rehousing Pathway fund	£689,830	Accommodation hub Community Navigators Specialist Navigators Supported Lettings Workers NPRAS Rough Sleeping Specialists Personalised budgets
Cold Weather Fund	£90,200	Supported Accommodation for Rough Sleepers Move on Coordinator Extended Outreach Service
Rough Sleeper Initiative fund	£461,849	Housing First Accommodation Project Move On Accommodation Project Supported Accommodation for Rough Sleepers Night Shelter Rough Sleeping Coordinator Resettlement Workers Detox beds Emergency Accommodation for Rough Sleepers Volunteer Training
Private Rented Sector Access fund	£245,800	Social Lettings
TOTAL	£2,245,521	

2020/21

Grant	Value	Measures
Flexible Homeless Support Grant / Homelessness Prevention Grant	£969,035	IT system to enable statutory monitoring Housing Aid Staffing Private Sector Leasing

Grant	Value	Measures
		Homelessness Prevention Payments Temporary Accommodation for Families and Singles
Rough Sleeping Initiative / Cold Weather Fund	£1,442,543	Accommodation hub Community Navigators Specialist Navigators Supported Lettings Workers NPRAS Rough Sleeping Specialists Personalised budgets Supported Accommodation for Rough Sleepers Move on Coordinator Extended Outreach Service Housing First Accommodation Project Move On Accommodation Project Rough Sleeping Coordinator Resettlement Workers Detox beds Emergency Accommodation for Rough Sleepers Volunteer Training
Next Steps Accommodation Programme	£458,200	Emergency Accommodation for Rough Sleepers Move On Accommodation for Rough Sleepers
TOTAL	£2,869,778	

2021/22

Grant	Value	Measures
Homelessness Prevention Grant	£1,568,289	IT system to enable statutory monitoring Housing Aid Staffing Homelessness Data Insight Officer Financial Resilience Coordinator

Grant	Value	Measures
		Homelessness Prevention Payments Temporary Accommodation for Families and Singles
Rough Sleeping Initiative / Cold Weather Fund	£2,135,270	Accommodation hub Community Navigators Specialist Navigators Supported Lettings Workers NPRAS Rough Sleeping Specialists Personalised budgets Supported Accommodation for Rough Sleepers Specialist Accommodation for Rough Sleepers Move on Coordinator Extended Outreach Service Housing First Accommodation Project Move On Accommodation Project Night Shelter Rough Sleeping Coordinator Housing Aid Rough Sleeping Specialist Resettlement Workers Detox beds Emergency Accommodation for Rough Sleepers Volunteer Training
Next Steps Accommodation Programme	£66,480	Move On Accommodation Support Workers
Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme	£1,443,989	Move On Accommodation
Accommodation for Ex Offenders	£213,833	Specialist NPRAS team for Ex Offenders PRS landlord incentives
Out Of Hospital Shared Outcomes	£41,458	Specialist Community Nursing for Rough Sleepers Hospital Discharge Navigator
Protect and Vaccinate	£335,592	Emergency Accommodation for Rough Sleepers Covid-19 vaccination coordinator for Rough Sleepers
TOTAL	£5,804,911	

2022/23

Grant	Value	Measures
Homelessness Prevention Grant	£1,545,876	IT system to enable statutory monitoring Housing Aid Staffing Vulnerable Renters Project Homelessness Prevention Payments Temporary Accommodation for Families and Singles
Rough Sleeping Initiative	£2,550,061	Accommodation hub Community Navigators Specialist Navigators Resettlement Support Service NPRAS Rough Sleeping Specialists Personalised budgets Supported Accommodation for Rough Sleepers Specialist Accommodation for Rough Sleepers Move on Coordinator Extended Outreach Service Housing First Accommodation Project Move On Accommodation Project Night Shelter Rough Sleeping Coordinator Housing Aid Rough Sleeping Specialist Resettlement Workers Emergency Accommodation for Rough Sleepers
Next Steps Accommodation Programme	£73,817	Move On Accommodation Support Workers
Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme	£1,144,336	Move On Accommodation
Accommodation for Ex Offenders	£119,975	Specialist NPRAS team for Ex Offenders PRS landlord incentives
Out Of Hospital Shared Outcomes	£245,000	Specialist Community Nursing for Rough Sleepers Hospital Discharge Navigator

Grant	Value	Measures
		Supported Accommodation for rough sleepers following hospital discharge
Respite Rooms	£349,407	Specialist Accommodation and Support for female rough sleepers at risk of DV
TOTAL	£6,028,472	

2023/24

Grant	Value	Measures
Homelessness Prevention Grant	£1,800,803	IT system to enable statutory monitoring Housing Aid Staffing Homelessness Strategy Staffing Homelessness Prevention Payments Temporary Accommodation for Families and Singles
Rough Sleeping Initiative	£3,671,193	Accommodation hub Community Navigators Specialist Navigators Prevention and Resettlement Service Employment Placement and Support Service Targeted Engagement Worker NPRAS Rough Sleeping Specialists Personalised budgets Supported Accommodation for Rough Sleepers Accommodation with Support for Rough Sleepers Move On Accommodation for Rough Sleeper Move on Coordinator Extended Outreach Service Night Shelter Rough Sleeping Coordinator Housing Aid Rough Sleeping Specialist Emergency Accommodation for Rough Sleepers

Grant	Value	Measures
Next Steps Accommodation Programme	£73,823	Move On Accommodation Support Workers
Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme	£921,433	Move On Accommodation
Accommodation for Ex Offenders	£289,280	Specialist NPRAS team for Ex Offenders PRS landlord incentives
TOTAL	£6,756,532	