



## EXECUTIVE 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024

<b>Report Title</b>	<b>Single Homelessness Accommodation Programme (SHAP) Funding 2024/25 to 2026/27</b>
<b>Lead Member</b>	Councillor Mark Rowley, Executive Member for Housing, Communities and Levelling Up
<b>Report Author</b>	David Watts, Executive Director Adults, Health Partnerships and Housing (Senior Responsible Officer)

<b>Key Decision</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Is the decision eligible for call-in by Scrutiny?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Are there public sector equality duty implications?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Does the report contain confidential or exempt information (whether in appendices or not)?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Applicable paragraph number/s for exemption from publication under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972</b>	N/A
<b>Which Corporate Plan priority does the report most closely align with?</b>	Active, fulfilled lives

### List of Appendices

**Appendix A** – North Northamptonshire Council’s Supported Accommodation SHAP Bid

**Appendix B** – North Northamptonshire Council SHAP Strategic Gap analysis

**Appendix C** –Climate Change Impact Assessment tool

### **1. Purpose of Report**

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- 1.1 To brief the Executive on the Single Homelessness Accommodation Programme (SHAP) grant award by the Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities (DLUHC) for 2024/25 to 2026/27.
- 1.2 To seek approval to undertake procurement to deliver the supported accommodation provision as detailed in the funding bid attached as **Appendix A**.

## **2. Executive Summary**

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- 2.1 In September 2022, the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) announced over £200 million of grant funding available for local authorities to apply for to support the delivery of the Government's Rough Sleeping Strategy either through units of accommodation or support to help prevent future rough sleeping.
- 2.2 The Single Homelessness Accommodation Programme (SHAP) aims to address the rough sleeping needs within a local geographical area's individual pathway and the three-year programme provides funding to schemes which will support adults with a long history of cyclical rough sleeping, with the most complex needs, to recover from rough sleeping and its associated traumas.
- 2.3 North Northamptonshire Council were successful in a bid to secure an allocation of revenue funding to deliver supported accommodation for individuals experiencing rough sleeping with complex needs over a three-year period.
- 2.4 It is proposed that the Council commits to this programme to help address a current gap in the rough sleeping pathway to provide suitable supported accommodation for rough sleepers with high levels of complex needs, who are difficult to place in other provisions because of their complexities and/or presenting risks.
- 2.5 The delivery of the grant funding awarded will be through the procurement of a service provider to manage the accommodation on behalf of the Council.

## **3. Recommendations**

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- 3.1 It is recommended that the Executive:
  - a) Approves that the allocated spend of Single Homeless Accommodation Programme (SHAP) funding to deliver supported accommodation for adults experiencing rough sleeping with complex support needs as outlined in **Appendix A**.
  - b) Delegate authority to the Executive Member for Housing, Communities and Levelling Up in consultation with the Executive Director for Adults, Health Partnerships and Housing to undertake any decisions and actions required to enable the delivery of this funding.
- 3.2 Reason for Recommendations:
  - To ensure that the Council utilises the grant funding secured to effectively help deliver supported accommodation provision in North Northamptonshire for individuals with high levels of complex needs.

- To safeguard this vulnerable cohort of adults experiencing multiple exclusion homelessness by providing accommodation to help them move away and recover from a life on the streets.
- To enable a new contract to be established to deliver the required supported accommodation for the funding period 2024/25 to 2026/27.

### 3.3 Alternative Options Considered:

- To not utilise the grant funding to deliver supported accommodation provision resulting in a loss of the grant funding.

## 4 Report Background

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- 4.1 Rough sleeping is the most visible and acute form of homelessness, and many people who sleep rough have experienced trauma, have multiple complex needs, and may have presenting risks.
- 4.2 In 2018, the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) launched the Rough Sleeping Initiative Programme (RSI) which is a cross-government plan of action to significantly reduce the number of people sleeping rough through targeted funding.
- 4.3 North Northamptonshire Council were successful in the last round of RSI funding in securing £2,185,085 from the RSI programme for 2022-2025 which currently funds the whole of the Rough Sleeping Team and targeted interventions along with funding towards off street emergency and supported accommodation.
- 4.4 With the RSI funding only secured until March 2025 the Council had the opportunity to bid for funding via the Single Homelessness Accommodation Programme to help support the rough sleeping pathway. The bid submission included the requirement for the council to conduct a strategic gap analysis to identify the local need in the area which can be found at **Appendix B**.
- 4.5 The strategic gap analysis highlighted the need for supported accommodation for individuals experiencing rough sleeping who have high levels of support needs which cannot be met currently by local accommodation provisions and often resulting in placement failure and individuals returning to the streets.
- 4.6 In co-production with DLUHC advisers, North Northamptonshire Council submitted a bid for funding to cover a staffing model to provide supported accommodation suitable for those with the highest and most complex of needs from an existing RSI funded council owned property known as Dorking House in Corby which includes nine bedspaces.
- 4.7 The current provider at the premises receives time limited funding via RSI so a longer-term plan for this provision is required. The grant funding via SHAP will help to deliver a new supported accommodation provision at the premises to meet the needs identified in the gap analysis.

## 5 Issues and Choices

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5.1 The Executive therefore has the following choices:

- (a) Support the delivery of the SHAP grant funding to provide supported accommodation provision at the Dorking House premises for individuals experiencing rough sleeping with high levels of complex needs, who are difficult to place in other provisions because of their complexities and/or presenting risks.
- (b) Do nothing. If the Council fails to deliver against the grant funding, the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities would claw back the unspent grant resulting in a loss of targeted supported accommodation provision for rough sleepers in North Northamptonshire.

## 6 Next Steps

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- 6.1 Subject to approval from the Executive, the Council will start a procurement process to secure a service provider to manage the supported accommodation provision and provide the staffing model required to deliver the tailored housing support for residents of the accommodation.
- 6.2 After approval by the Executive, the procurement process takes an average of 8-10 weeks, with the contract opportunity to be advertised for 30 days on the Council's procurement portal, and therefore it is expected the new contract will commence in June/July 2024.

## 7 Implications (including financial implications)

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### 7.1 Resources, Financial and Transformation

- 7.1.1 Delivery of supported accommodation provision to meet rough sleepers' needs will help to break the cycle of repeat rough sleeping and create savings to the public purse.
- 7.1.2 The total grant funding secured via SHAP is £802,562 over a three-year period based on estimated costs calculated on the level of staffing required for this provision.
- 7.1.3 In addition, the Council have the remaining RSI funding of £100,000 for 2024/25 only. The following table provides a breakdown of the grant funding secured for this provision:

<b>Grant Funding</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2025/26</b>	<b>2026/27</b>
Rough Sleeping Initiative (RSI)	£100,000*	N/A	N/A
Single Homelessness Accommodation Programme (SHAP)	£201,270	£297,783	£303,509

<b>Total</b>	<b>£301,270</b>	<b>£297,783</b>	<b>£303,509</b>

\*This amount will be reduced as dependent on contract start date and funding required for current provider.

7.1.4 A requirement of the SHAP grant funding is for a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to be authorised by the Section 151 Officer on behalf of the Council which has already been completed.

7.1.5 The delivery of the grant funding will be through contract award to a service provider to manage the supported accommodation provision as part of North Northamptonshire Council's rough sleeping pathway.

7.1.6 The Council will therefore ensure appropriate contract monitoring arrangements are in place to ensure the delivery of the funding is in line with the requirements and report progress to DLUHC as required.

## 7.2 Legal and Governance

7.2.1 The procurement activity associated with this provision shall be subject to the Council's Contract Procedure Rules (CPRs). Therefore, support will be provided by Legal Services and the Procurement Team in relation to the conduct of the procurement process to ensure that it is compliant, and the risk of legal challenge is minimised.

7.2.2 The delivery of SHAP grant funding will help North Northamptonshire Council to support the most vulnerable members of our community to help them recover from rough sleeping and be supported to move on.

## 7.3 Relevant Policies and Plans

7.3.1 The delivery of this grant funding will provide nine bedspaces for individuals with high level complex needs, which will be managed by a third party on behalf of the Council which will support the Government and Council's ambition to reduce rough sleeping in North Northamptonshire.

7.3.2 The supported accommodation provision will help to meet the priority within the Corporate Plan 2021-2025 in ensuring homelessness is being tackled and our residents achieve 'Active, fulfilled lives' by ensuring the right services are available and help to address the root causes of complex issues.

7.3.3 The proposal also meets the corporate priority of 'Safe and Thriving Places' through tackling the causes of difficult issues such as rough sleeping, which can lead to nuisance, crime, and anti-social behaviour.

7.3.4 The council has a new Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy (2024-2029) that is currently out to consultation, but the delivery of this accommodation will meet the proposed priorities within this strategy.

## **7.4 Risk**

- 7.4.1 If the Executive do not support the delivery of SHAP grant funding this will significantly impact the rough sleeping service in terms of being able to support rough sleepers off the streets into appropriate accommodation and safeguard vulnerable homeless individuals and prevent harm caused by rough sleeping.
- 7.4.2 The main risk to delivery is securing a suitable service provider to manage the provision however an appropriate procurement process will be followed with the support of Legal and Procurement Teams to ensure every effort is made to award the contract within a timely manner.
- 7.4.3 The delay in mobilisation due to governance and procurement processes that need to be followed may reduce total grant received from DLUHC.

## **7.5 Consultation**

- 7.5.1 The Housing Team have been working with DLUHC advisers throughout the funding stage and co-produced the final bid to ensure it was fit for purpose.

## **7.6 Consideration by Executive Advisory Panel**

- 7.6.1 This item has not been considered by an Executive Advisory Panel due to the short timescales of notification of award from DLUHC to the required delivery and implementation of the programme.

## **7.7 Consideration by Scrutiny**

- 7.7.1 This funding award has not been considered by Scrutiny.

## **7.8 Equality Implications**

- 7.8.1 An Equalities Screening Assessment has been completed for the supported accommodation provision to be funded by SHAP which has identified no negative impacts to groups with protected characteristics.
- 7.8.2 The implementation of the grant funding is likely to have a positive impact by helping to protect the health of the rough sleeping cohort locally by offering supported accommodation tailored to meet their individual needs as part of the Council's rough sleeping pathway over the next three years.
- 7.8.3 Individuals experiencing rough sleeping who are accommodated within this provision will have wraparound support and dedicated support plans in place to help meet their support needs and be supported to achieve positive outcomes.

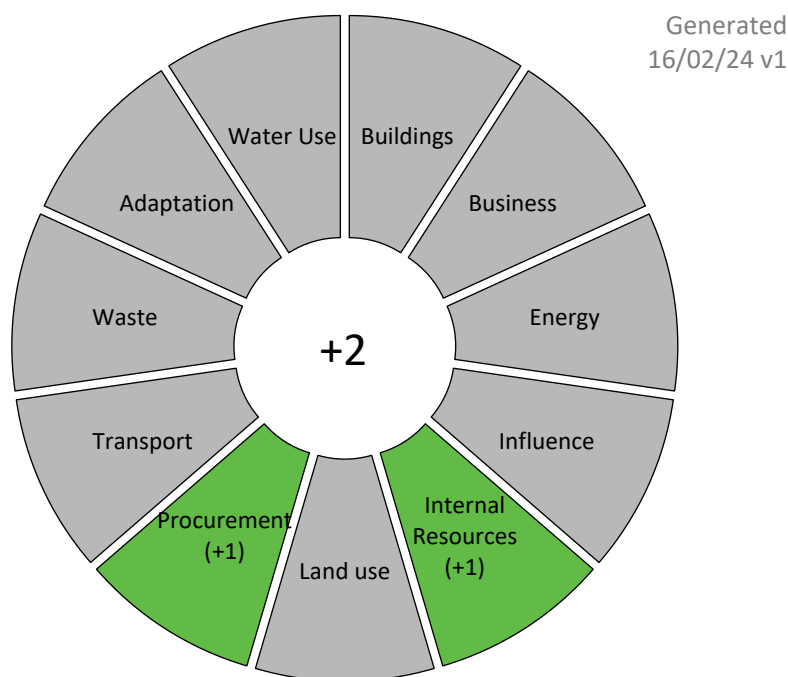
## 7.9 Climate Impact

7.9.1 North Northamptonshire Council declared a climate emergency in July 2021 and approved the Carbon Management Plan in December 2022, with the Council committed to working towards becoming a carbon neutral council by 2030.

7.9.2 A Climate Change Impact Assessment has been undertaken which has demonstrated a small positive impact for the delivery of the supported accommodation for rough sleepers through the external grant funding secured to cover the management costs of running the provision.

7.9.3 The Council will also use the procurement process as an opportunity to review service providers commitment to carbon management as part of the proposed delivery of the supported accommodation provision.

### 7.9.4 Figure 1 Carbon Climate Management Tool



North Northamptonshire Council has committed to being a carbon neutral organisation by 2030, 5 yrs & 10 mos away.

7.9.5 Please see **Appendix C** for a copy of the completed Climate Change Impact Assessment (CCIA).

## 7.10 Community Impact

7.10.1 The delivery of supported accommodation provision will ensure that North Northamptonshire Council is able to further enhance its rough sleeping offer locally and safeguard vulnerable individuals with high levels of complex needs.

7.10.2 The proposed project will ensure rough sleepers are supported to meet their needs through multi-agency wraparound support, improve their health and wellbeing, and reduce levels of rough sleeping locally.

## 7.11 **Crime and Disorder Impact**

7.11.1 There are wider positive impacts associated with a reduction in rough sleeping which, whilst fundamentally and most visibly is a housing issue, is also closely interlinked with begging and street drinking, as well as other antisocial and crime which impacts on local businesses and the local economy.

7.11.2 The proposed project through individual tailored support to meet complex needs will ensure more rough sleepers are able to sustain accommodation, access appropriate treatment and support and achieve positive outcomes. As well as an improvement in health outcomes for individuals accommodated and a reduction in deaths, it also seeks to reduce crime, harm, and lower cost to the health criminal justice systems.

## **8 Background Papers**

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8.1 [Single Homelessness Accommodation Programme Prospectus and Guidance \(DLUHC\)](#)

8.2 [Ending Rough Sleeping for Good \(DLUHC\)](#)

8.3 [Flow of rough sleeping – final report \(DLUHC\)](#)