

## Report to Community and Protective Services Committee

**To:** Chair and Members, Community and Protective Services Committee  
**From:** Kevin Dickins, Deputy City Manager, Social and Health Development  
**Subject:** Interim Housing Assistance Program (IHAP) for costs incurred between April 1 and December 31, 2024  
**Date:** March 17, 2025

## Recommendation

That, on the recommendation of the Deputy City Manager, Social and Health Development, that the following Actions **BE TAKEN** with respect to the Interim Housing Assistance Program (IHAP) for costs incurred between April 1 and December 31, 2024, report and the *attached* proposed by-law (“Appendix A”) **BE INTRODUCED** at the Municipal Council meeting to be held on April 1, 2025 to:

1. **Ratify** the The Government of Canada as represented by the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration and the City of London agreement relating to Canada’s Grant under the Interim Housing Assistance Program (IHAP) to the City of London for cost incurred to provide interim Housing to Refugee Protection Claimants, executed by the City Manager, and;
2. **Delegate Authority** severally to the City Manager and Deputy City Manager, Social and Health Development, to approve and execute amending agreements with The Government of Canada as represented by the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration and the City of London agreement relating to Canada’s Grant under the Interim Housing Assistance Program (IHAP) to the City of London for cost incurred to provide interim Housing to Refugee Protection Claimants (Agreement”) attached as Schedule 1.

## Executive Summary

This report addresses the City of London’s request for financial support under the Interim Housing Assistance Program (IHAP) for costs incurred between April 1 and December 31, 2024, in providing interim housing for asylum claimants. Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) has worked closely with the City of London’s senior officials on this initiative, and we greatly appreciate the City’s ongoing commitment to assisting asylum claimants.

On March 13, 2025, the City of London received notice that its submission for reimbursement of costs associated with supporting asylum claimants for the time period noted above has been approved. The original submission requested \$817,623.81 with IRCC identifying an offer of payment in the amount of \$759,572.52. This offer equates to 93% of the City’s request.

Recognizing the acute pressures the City continues to face, particularly in providing interim housing for asylum claimants, IRCC is prepared to offer a reimbursement of eligible expenses incurred during the specified period. The attached IHAP grant agreement must be signed by March 14, 2025, to proceed with the disbursement.

Additionally, IRCC will collaborate with the City to process the IHAP proposal for the 2025-2027 period as soon as possible. The City of London remains a vital partner in supporting newcomers, and we are confident that our continued collaboration will yield positive outcomes for asylum claimants in the region.

## Linkage to the Corporate Strategic Plan

This report aligns with the strategic areas of focus in the 2023-2027 [City of London Strategic Plan](#). The City of London Strategic Plan (2023-2027) identifies housing and

homelessness as a key area of focus, and housing and homelessness work is identified throughout the Strategic Plan, impacting all areas of life for Londoners.

#### Housing and Homelessness

- Increased access to a range of quality, affordable, and supportive housing options that meet the unique needs of Londoners.
- Decreased number of Londoners at risk of or experiencing homelessness
- Improved safety in London's shelters system

#### Wellbeing and Safety

- Londoners have safe access to public spaces, services, and supports that increase wellbeing and quality of life
- Housing in London is affordable and attainable

#### *Links to Community Recovery*

The City of London is committed to working in partnership with the community to identify solutions that will drive a strong, deep, and inclusive community recovery for London as we move out of and beyond the global COVID-19 pandemic. This report, and the items within, are linked to supporting Londoners experiencing homelessness to attain and retain permanent housing. This work supports recovery efforts through a coordinated response that will support the transition of individuals and families experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness who have a variety of support needs into permanent housing.

## **Analysis**

### ● **1.0 Previous Reports Related to this Matter**

- Unsheltered Homelessness Encampment Initiative and Incremental Reaching Home Funding Allocations (CPSC: January 27, 2025)
- 2025 Annual Budget Update Administrative Matters (Budget Committee: October 29, 2024)
- SS-2024-237 Single Source Award for Year-Round Ark Aid Mission Strategy (CPSC: July 18, 2024)
- Community Cold Weather Response Update (SPPC: Nov 21, 2023)
- Community Cold Weather Response (SPPC: October 31, 2023)

### **2.0 Background Information**

### **3.0 Financial Impact**

The City of London had requested \$817,623.81 in financial support under the Interim Housing Assistance Program (IHAP) for costs incurred between April 1 and December 31, 2024, related to interim housing for asylum claimants. IRCC is prepared to reimburse a portion of these expenses upon the signing of the attached IHAP grant agreement by March 14, 2025.

This funding is proposed, as directed previously by council, to be applied to the Ark Aid business case submission from the 2025 annual budget update process. These funds will be in addition to other federal funds identified to support the additional services approved as part of Budget Amendment #P-13 - Shelter Expansion Funding (Ark Aid Street Mission).

**Recommended by:** Kevin Dickins, Deputy City Manager Social Health Development

**Cc:**  
**Sandra Datars Bere,** City Manager  
**Scott Mathers,** Deputy City Manager, Planning & Economic Development  
**Kelly Scherr,** Deputy City Manager, Environment, and Infrastructure  
**Anna Lisa Barbon,** Deputy City Manager, Finance Supports  
**Tara Pollitt,** Deputy City Manager, Legal Services  
**Cheryl Smith,** Deputy City Manager, Neighbourhood and Community-Wide Services  
**John Paradis,** Deputy City Manager, Enterprise Supports