

TO:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS COMMUNITY and PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 12, 2017
FROM:	LYNNE LIVINGSTONE MANAGING DIRECTOR NEIGHBOURHOOD, CHILDREN AND FIRE SERVICES
SUBJECT:	LONDON'S HOMELESS PREVENTION SYSTEM HOMELESSNESS PARTNERING STRATEGY HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES INFORMATION SYSTEM - DATA PROVISION AGREEMENT

RECOMMENDATION

That, on the recommendation of the Managing Director of Neighbourhood, Children and Fire Services, with concurrence of the Director of Information Technology Services, the attached proposed By-law (Appendix A) **BE INTRODUCED** at the Municipal Council meeting of September 19, 2017 to:

- (a) **APPROVE** the Data Provision Agreement between The Corporation of the City of London and Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, as represented by the Federal Minister of Employment and Social Development Canada, attached as Schedule A;
- (b) **DELEGATE** to the Managing Director of Neighbourhood, Children and Fire Services, or their designate, authority to undertake all the administrative acts that are necessary in connection with the Data Provision Agreement approved under section a) above on the condition that no additional funding is required, or if additional funding is required it is provide for in the City's current budget, and that there is no increase in indebtedness or contingent liabilities of The Corporation of the City of London; and,
- (c) **AUTHORIZE** the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the Data Provision Agreement approved under section a) above.

PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER
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- London's Homeless Prevention System Homeless Partnering Strategy Funding Agreement Amendment 3 (CPSC: January 24, 2017)
- London's Homeless Prevention System Contract Award Request for Proposal 16-56 Homeless Management Information System Implementation Consultant (CPSC: January 24, 2017)
- London's Homeless Prevention System Enumeration Results and London's Emergency Shelters Progress Report: 2011-2015 (CPSC: October 18, 2016)
- Homelessness Partnering Strategy Funding Agreement - Data Sharing Agreements (CPSC: February 17, 2016)
- London's Homeless Prevention System Progress Report and Update (CPSC: September 22, 2015)
- Homelessness Partnering Strategy – Designated Communities – Community Entity – Funding Agreement (CPSC: April 28, 2014)
- Homeless Prevention System for London Three Year Implementation Plan (CPSC: April 22, 2013)

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this report is to recommend that the City of London enter into a Data Provision Agreement with Employment and Social Development Canada for the purpose of using the Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS) software.

On March 1, 2016 Municipal Council resolved by By-law No. A-7359-75 to enter into a Data Provision Agreement with Employment and Social Development Canada. At this time, the HIFIS software is used for the annual enumeration event held in London to collect demographic information on individuals and families experiencing homelessness to better understand homelessness at both a local level and in Canada.

To access the current version of the HIFIS software, the City of London is required to enter into a new Data Provision Agreement with the Government of Canada. The Data Provision Agreement allows the use of the HIFIS software in exchange for reports of non-identifying aggregate information of homeless serving program participants.

Following an evaluation of available homeless information systems, the Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS) has been selected as the preferred information system for use at the City of London. A number of municipalities and service providers have been using HIFIS in some capacity since 1999 including: Waterloo Region, Ottawa, Chatham, Kingston, Hamilton, Windsor, Montreal, Saint John, Regina, Nova Scotia violence against women shelters, Winnipeg, and BC Housing.

The Homeless Individuals and Families Information System is a web based software developed by the Government of Canada, under the Homelessness Partnering Strategy and is available at no charge to participating communities across Canada.

Currently, the City of London and homeless serving programs operating in London use independent information systems. An information system, managed through informed consents by service users assists in the understanding of homelessness in London. HIFIS can assist in providing immediate information in a number of areas including: emergency shelter bed availability by location and overall occupancy; demographic information of participants and their use of services; and, aggregate reports of individuals and families in London experiencing homelessness. An information system supports a more detailed picture of homelessness in London to better track the progress on its strategies and programs, and more effectively plan and evaluate.

The City of London and its collection, use and distribution of data is governed and regulated by the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. The Data Provision Agreement has been reviewed by Information Technology Services, The Records and Information Office, Risk Management, and the City Solicitors Office.

The Data Provision Agreement contains an indemnity provision in section 10, which exposes the City of London to limitless liability. This clause cannot be changed. In the opinion of Corporate Insurance/Risk Management, this should not stop the City of London from moving forward with final approval of this Agreement as the benefits of this project outweigh the potential risks.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The right to use HIFIS is at no cost and made available by the Government of Canada and will have no net financial impact on the City's approved 2017-2019 Operating Budget. Any costs associated with the implementation, hosting and maintenance will be funded by the Province of Ontario through the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI).

CONCLUSION

Solving homelessness in London is a strategic priority identified in Council's 2015–2019 Strategic Plan for the City of London. In particular, the *Homeless Prevention and Housing Plan 2010-2024* contributes to how we will work together to achieve caring and compassionate services, and to reduce and prevent homelessness. Collaborative efforts with community organizations, through a housing stability response, help tenants to keep their existing housing and avoid homelessness, and find solutions regarding poverty, addictions, mental illness, and trauma. A Data Provision Agreement with the Government of Canada assists London in achieving its goals.

SUBMITTED BY:	REVIEWED AND CONCURRED BY:
JAN RICHARDSON MANAGER, HOMELESS PREVENTION NEIGHBOURHOOD, CHILDREN & FIRE SERVICES	MAT DALEY DIRECTOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES
RECOMMENDED BY:	
LYNNE LIVINGSTONE MANAGING DIRECTOR NEIGHBOURHOOD, CHILDREN & FIRE SERVICES	

APPENDIX A

Bill No.
2017

By-law No.

A By-law to approve The Data Provision Agreement between The Corporation of the City of London and Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada as represented by the Federal Minister of Employment and Social Development Canada, and to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute this Agreement.

WHEREAS section 2 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, S.O. 2001, c.25, as amended, provides that municipalities are created by the Province of Ontario to be responsible and accountable governments with respect to matters within their jurisdiction and each municipality is given powers and duties under this Act and many other Acts for the purpose of providing good government with respect to those matters;

AND WHEREAS section 3.1 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* states that the Province acknowledges that a municipality has the authority to enter into agreements with the Crown in right of Canada with respect to matters within the municipality's jurisdiction;

AND WHEREAS section 10 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* provides that the City may provide any service or thing that the City considers necessary or desirable for the public, and may pass by-laws respecting same, and respecting economic, social and environmental well-being of the City, and the health, safety and well-being of persons;

AND WHEREAS under the *Housing Services Act, 2011*, S.O. 2011, c. 6, Sched. 1, the City of London is designated as the service manager for the service area 'City of London and County of Middlesex';

AND WHEREAS section 6 of the *Housing Services Act, 2011* requires the service manager to have a plan to address housing and homelessness;

AND WHEREAS under the *Housing Services Act, 2011*, the service manager has prepared a *Homeless Prevention and Housing 2010-2024 Plan*;

AND WHEREAS subsection 5(3) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* provides that a municipal power shall be exercised by by-law;

NOW THEREFORE the Municipal Council of The Corporation of the City of London enacts as follows:

1. The Data Provision Agreement between The Corporation of the City of London and Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada as represented by the Federal Minister of Employment and Social Development Canada, attached as Schedule A, is approved;
2. The Managing Director of Neighbourhood, Children and Fire Services, or designate, is delegated authority to undertake all the administrative acts that are necessary in connection with the Data Provision Agreement approved under section 1) above on the condition that no additional funding is required, or if funding is required it is provided for in the City's current budget, and that there is no increase in indebtedness or contingent liabilities of The Corporation of the City of London;
3. The Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to execute the Data Provision Agreement approved under section 1) above; and,
4. This by-law shall come into force and effect on the day it is passed.

PASSED in Open Council

, 2017

Matt Brown
Mayor

Catharine Saunders
City Clerk

First reading -
Second reading -
Third reading –

SCHEDULE A