

TO:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS COMMUNITY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING ON OCTOBER 11, 2017
FROM:	LYNNE LIVINGSTONE MANAGING DIRECTOR NEIGHBOURHOOD, CHILDREN AND FIRE SERVICES
SUBJECT:	LONDON'S HOMELESS PREVENTION SYSTEM CONTRACT AWARD REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL 17-39 LONDON HOMELESS PREVENTION ALLOWANCE PROGRAM

RECOMMENDATION

That, on the recommendation of the Managing Director of Neighbourhood, Children and Fire Services, with the concurrence of the Director, Financial Services, the following actions **BE TAKEN** with respect to the award of the contract for Request for Proposal (RFP) 17-39 London Homeless Prevention Allowance Program:

- (a) that Request for Proposal 17-39 **BE AWARDED** to each of the following five organizations, in accordance with Appendix "A" attached hereto: London CARES, Regional HIV/AIDS Connection; Street Level Women at Risk, Addiction Services of Thames Valley; Rotholme Women's and Family Shelter, Mission Services of London; Project Home, St. Leonard's Society of London; and, Housing First Program, Canadian Mental Health Association Middlesex for a combined total funding amount of \$400,000 in 2017, \$500,000 in 2018 and 2019 to provide London Homeless Prevention Allowances. The proposals submitted by all proponents meet the City's requirements and are in compliance with the Procurement of Goods and Services Policy;
- (b) that Civic Administration **BE AUTHORIZED** to undertake all administrative acts which are necessary in relation to this project;
- (c) that the approval given herein **BE CONDITIONAL** upon the Corporation entering into a Purchase of Service Agreement with Regional HIV/AIDS Connection; Addiction Services of Thames Valley; Mission Services of London, Rotholme Women's and Family Shelter; St. Leonard's Society of London; and, Canadian Mental Health Association Middlesex; and,
- (d) that the annual funding approval noted in a) above is **SUBJECT TO** the availability of funding through the City of London, and/or other funding sources.

PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER
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- Multi-Year Budget for The City of London 2016 – 2019, Investing In Our Future (March 10, 2016)
- London for All: A Roadmap to End Poverty (March 2016)
- Strategic Plan for the City of London 2015-2019 (March 10, 2015)
- Homeless Prevention and Housing Plan 2010 – 2024 (CHLC: November 18, 2013)
- 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 Purchase of Service Agreements with: London CARES, Regional HIV/AIDS Connection; Street Level Women at Risk, Addiction Services of Thames Valley; Rotholme Women's and Family Shelter, Mission Services of London; Project Home, St. Leonards Society of London; and, Housing First Program, Canadian Mental Health Association Middlesex to provide London Homeless Prevention Allowances (Allowances). The Managing Director, Neighbourhood, Children and Fire Services will execute the standard form Purchase of Service Agreement provided by By-law No. A-6955-156.

Request for Proposal 17-39 outlined the requirements for organizations to qualify for funding under this initiative. These requirements included, in part, operating a Housing First program funded by the City of London Homeless Prevention area and observing the following primary components: Intentional Connection; Housing Selection; Intensive In-Home Support; Emergency Shelter Diversion; and, Community Belonging.

The submissions from five organizations met all of the requirements outlined in RFP 17-39 with the exception of the Housing First Program, Canadian Mental Health Association Middlesex (CMHA). The Housing First program operated by CMHA is not currently funded by the City of London. CMHA has met all other requirements of this RFP and are recommended for funding. All five organizations and programs demonstrate both the organizational competency and capacity to undertake the Allowance Program.

London Homeless Prevention Allowances are intended to support up to 300 households over a three year period. In general, Allowances provide the difference between the cost of rent and the participant's ability to pay based on their income. The amount of the Allowance is determined based on unique circumstances, on-going income assessments and a housing stability plan for the individual or family, and generally does not exceed 40% of income.

The approved *2016 – 2019 City of London Multi-Year Budget* includes funding to provide Allowances to individuals and families experiencing chronic homelessness through approved Strategic Investment Business Case #16.

The report, *London for All, A Roadmap to End Poverty, March 2016*, recommends housing allowances as a pathway out of poverty and a solution to support housing stability for individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

Providing a flexible investment in housing stability through London Homeless Prevention Allowances directly supports Council directions and assists in solving homelessness in London.

PROCUREMENT PROCESS

Request for Proposal 17-39 was released on August 3, 2017 through Purchasing and Supply, Finance and Corporate Services, and was posted on Biddingo.com with a closing date of August 31, 2017. Submissions were invited from qualified London based Housing First programs currently funded by the City of London Homeless Prevention area interested in providing London Homeless Prevention Allowances for individuals and families experiencing chronic homelessness.

Promotion of the proposal met general advertising practices of Purchasing and Supply including posting on Biddingo.com, and also included the distribution to such groups as the London Homeless Coalition and homeless serving organizations. A public question and answer session was held on August 17, 2017.

The full Request for Proposal was downloaded by five (5) interested parties from the Biddingo website and five (5) bids were received. The combined total request for funding for the Allowance Program was over \$3,250,000.

An internal evaluation committee reviewed and evaluated the submissions against the terms and conditions outlined in RFP 17-39.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Council approved Strategic Investment Business Case #16, as part of the 2016-2019 City of London Multi Year Budget, includes funding for the administration of London Homeless Prevention Allowances in the amounts of \$200,000 for the first year (2016), \$400,000 for the second year (2017) and the full amount of \$500,000 for 2018 and 2019.

The City of London's contribution to this project will be limited to the amounts identified in this report. Any additional costs to administer Allowances will be funded under the Province of Ontario Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative and/or the Homelessness Partnering Strategy. This fiscal funding is confirmed until March 2020.

CONCLUSION

Solving homelessness in London is a strategic priority identified in Council's *Strategic Plan for the City of London 2015-2019*. 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 address, reduce and prevent homelessness. London's Homeless Prevention Allowance Program is an innovative program that assists in achieving this vision.

PREPARED BY:	REVIEWED AND CONCURRED BY:
JAN RICHARDSON MANAGER, HOMELESS PREVENTION, NEIGHBOURHOOD, CHILDREN AND FIRE SERVICES	IAN COLLINS DIRECTOR, FINANCIAL SERVICES
RECOMMENDED BY:	
LYNNE LIVINGSTONE MANAGING DIRECTOR, NEIGHBOURHOOD, CHILDREN AND FIRE SERVICES	

APPENDIX A

Chair and Members, Community and Protective Services Committee
October 11, 2017

Re: London's Homeless Prevention Allowance Program

The cost of this initiative can be accommodated through Council approved Strategic Investment Business Case #16 as part of the *2016 – 2019 City of London Multi-Year Budget* for the administration of London Homeless Prevention Allowances, subject to the adoption of the recommendations of the Managing Director, Neighbourhood, Children and Fire Services. The amounts listed below are up to the maximum values identified for each organization.

Organization - Homeless Prevention Program	Description	2017	2018 ¹
Regional HIV/AIDS Connection, London CARES	A Housing First service aimed at improving the health and housing outcomes of individuals experiencing chronic homelessness.	\$110,000	\$125,000
Addiction Services of Thames Valley, Street Level Women at Risk	The Street Level Women at Risk collaborative assists women who are experiencing homelessness and involved in survival sex work to secure permanent housing with supports.	\$110,000	\$125,000
Mission Services of London, Rotholme Women's and Family Shelter	An emergency shelter diversion program aimed at providing families with housing/non-emergency shelter alternatives.	\$65,000	\$75,000
St. Leonard's Society of London, Project Home	Project Home, a Housing First youth and justice collaboration aimed at transitioning youth and individuals involved with the justice system into permanent housing with intensive in-home supports and integrated case management.	\$85,000	\$100,000
Canadian Mental Health Association Middlesex, Housing First Program	CMHA Middlesex Housing First Program is a voluntary program provided within a framework of psychosocial rehabilitation and recovery. Housing First support staff assist individuals in securing housing in the community and provide support.	\$30,000	\$75,000
Total Funding Allocation		\$400,000	\$500,000

¹ The 2019 allocation will be based on the use and demand for the London Homeless Prevention Allowance Program for each organization up to a maximum of \$500,000 total funding.