

Report to Community and Protective Services Committee

To: Chair and Members, Community and Protective Services Committee Meeting
From: Kevin Dickins, Deputy City Manager, Social and Health Development
Subject: Single Source Procurement - London Homeless Prevention Housing Allowance Program
Date: February 1, 2022

Recommendation

That, on the recommendation of the Deputy City Manager, Social and Health Development, the following action be taken with respect to Single Source Procurement - London Homeless Prevention Housing Allowance Program as per the City of London Procurement of Goods and Service Policy, section 8.5.a.iv, that committee and city council must approve single source awards greater than \$50,000.00:

- a) that single source procurements **BE ACCEPTED** at a total estimated cost of \$1,084,000 (excluding HST) for the period of April 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023, with the opportunity to extend for four (4) additional one (1) year terms, to administer Housing Stability Services Housing Allowance program, as per the Corporation of the City of London Procurement Policy Section 14.4 d); to the following providers:
 - Mission Services – Rotholme Family Shelter (SS-2022-029)
 - CMHA Thames Valley Addiction & Mental Health Services (Street Level Woman At Risk Program) (SS-2022-030)
 - CMHA Thames Valley Addiction & Mental Health Services (SS-2022-031)
 - Unity Project Emergency Shelter (SS-2022-033)
 - Youth Opportunities Unlimited (SS-2022-034)
 - London Cares Homeless Response Services (SS-2022-035)
 - St. Leonard’s Society of London (SS-2022-036)
- 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 Agreements with each program.

Executive Summary

Civic Administration is recommending acceptance to approve/amend municipal purchase of service agreement with agencies administering London’s Homeless Prevention Housing Allowances. Housing allowances support individuals and families experiencing homelessness to move towards housing stability.

Civic administration is recommending the agencies be funded a total amount of \$1,084,000 for the period of April 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023. This funding will support individuals and families in London who are experiencing homelessness to secure permanent housing, and over time reduce demand for emergency shelter services.

Linkage to the Corporate Strategic Plan

2019-2023 Strategic Plan for the City of London

The City of London identifies ‘Strengthening Our Community’ and ‘Building a Sustainable City’ as strategic areas of focus.

Londoners have access to the supports they need to be successful.

Londoners have access to the services and supports that promote well-being, health, and safety in their neighbourhoods and across the city.

Housing Stability for All: The Housing Stability Action Plan for the City of London (2019-2024)

London's Homeless Prevention and Housing Plan, Housing Stability for All: The Housing Stability Action Plan for the City of London (Housing Stability for All Plan), is the approved guiding document for homeless prevention and housing in the City of London and was developed in consultation with Londoners.

Council and staff continue to recognize the importance of actions to support the Core Area, and in the development of its 2019-2023 - Strategic Plan for the City of London. Specifically, the efforts described in this report address the following Areas of Focus, including:

- Strengthening Our Community
- Building a Sustainable City
- Safe City for Women and Girls
- Leading in Public Service

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 urgent housing for vulnerable Londoners, and supports recovery efforts by investing in long-term housing stability for individuals and families at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

Analysis

1.0 Background Information

1.1 Previous Reports Related to this Matter

- Proposed implementation of the roadmap to 3000 affordable units (Roadmap Action Plan – Part 1 (CPSC: November 23, 2021)
- 2020-2023 Multi-Year Budget Approval (Council: March 2, 2020)
- Municipal Council Approval of the Housing Stability Plan 2019 to 2024 as Required Under The Housing Services Act, 2011 (CPSC: December 3, 2019)
- London's Homeless Prevention System Contract Award Request for Proposal 17-39 London Homeless Prevention Allowance Program (CPSC: October 11, 2017)

2.0 Discussion and Considerations

2.1 Purpose

Civic Administration is recommending approval of new municipal purchase of service agreements with the agencies and allocations outlined in the attached as Schedule 1 of this report for administration of London's Homeless Prevention Housing Allowances.

Housing Allowances serve an important role in the spectrum of housing supports as it provides opportunity for direct rental relief and opens avenues for individuals to obtain and afford more market based rental units over a period of time to ensure housing stability, so that a person can also pursue gains in their social and economic stability.

2.2 Background

Housing Allowances

London Homeless Prevention Housing Allowances are flexible, temporary investments in long-term housing stability for individuals and families at risk of or experiencing homelessness. This portable housing benefit supports a housing first/stability approach by assisting with rapid access to permanent housing in the neighbourhood of the individual or family's choice while longer-term solutions to support the cost of rent are identified and secured.

London Homeless Prevention Housing Allowances are an effective tool in advancing London's Homeless Prevention System. In 2020, this program assisted more than 200 households to move from homelessness into permanent housing. In 2021, Housing Allowances supported approximately 400 households to move from homelessness into permanent housing.

Currently, there are seven (7) housing first programs that administer London's Homeless Prevention Housing Allowances.

Procurement

To align all current housing allowance programs, civic administration recommends that the 2022 Homeless Prevention Housing Allowance municipal funding agreements be approved under City of London Procurement of Goods and Services Policy, section 8.5.a.iv, that committee and city council must approval single source awards greater than \$50,000.

As per as the Corporation of the City of London Procurement Policy Section 14.4.d for Single Source approval, Civic Administration recommends Homeless Prevention Housing Allowance are renewed as there is a need for compatibility for goods and/or services previously acquired and being supplied under an existing contract.

3.0 Financial Impact/Considerations

3.1 Funding

Civic Administration advise that funding for the contracts to the agencies for the Housing Allowance Program in the amount of \$1,084,000 is accommodated within the existing 2022 approved budget for Housing Stability Services.

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Submitted by:	Craig Cooper, Director, Housing Stability Services, Social and Health Development
Recommended by:	Kevin Dickins, Deputy City Manager, Social and Health Development

Schedule 1

Housing Allowance
2022 Housing Allowance Allocations

Agency	Cost Estimate
Addiction Services Thames Valley (Street Level Women At Risk)	\$125,000
Canadian Mental Health Association Middlesex	\$125,000
St. Leonard's Society of London	\$525,000
London Cares	\$84,000
Unity Project	\$40,000
Youth Opportunities unlimited	\$70,000
Mission Services – Rotholme Family Shelter	\$115,000
Total	\$1,084,000