

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: 2022-2023 Winter Response and Community Accountability
Working Group Funding Reallocation Request

Date: April 12, 2023

Recommendation

That, on the recommendation of the Deputy City Manager, Social and Health Development, the following actions be taken with respect to 2022-2023 Winter Response and Community Accountability Working Group Funding Reallocation Request report that;

- a) One-time contract amendment as per the Corporation of The City of London Procurement of Goods and Services Policy Section 20.3.e **BE APPROVED** for London Cares at a total estimated cost of up to \$92,500,
- b) One-time contract amendment as per the Corporation of The City of London Procurement of Goods and Services Policy Section 20.3.e **BE APPROVED** for Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) Thames Valley Addictions and Mental Health Services at a total estimated cost of up to \$85,750,
- c) One-time contract amendment as per the Corporation of The City of London Procurement of Goods and Services Policy Section 20.3.e **BE APPROVED** for The Salvation Army, Centre of Hope at a total estimated cost of up to \$131,000,
- d) That Civic Administration **BE AUTHORIZED** to undertake all administrative acts which are necessary in relation to this project.
- e) That the approval given herein **BE CONDITIONAL** upon the Corporation amending a Purchase of Service Agreement with the above noted programs.

Executive Summary

This report provides an update of the on-going actions taken to support the Action and Accountability Working Group proposals that included the identification of increased basic needs and drop-in spaces for those living unsheltered for the 2022-23 winter months and beyond. As a result of projected unspent funds from December 1, 2022, through March 31, 2023, the Action and Accountability working group has recommended 3 proposals receive a reallocation of these funds to maintain or enhance service levels for marginalized Londoners. These proposals will utilize the remaining unspent funds to assist in supporting those experiencing homelessness while helping to bridge supports while the Whole of Community System Response works to implement the first community hubs.

Linkages 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 neighborhoods 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.

Analysis

1.0 Background Information

1.1 Previous Reports Related to this Matter

- City of London 2021-22 Program for unsheltered individuals (April 12, 2022)
- City of London 2020-2021 Winter Response Program for Unsheltered Individuals (November 2, 2021)
- Homeless Prevention COVID-19 Response (SSRF Phase 3) – Single Source Procurement - #SS21-29 (June 22, 2021)
- Municipal Council Approval of The Housing Stability Plan 2019 to 2024 as Required Under the Housing Services Act, 2011 (CPSC: December 3, 2019)
- Core Area Action Plan (SPPC: October 28, 2019)
- 2022-2023 Winter Response Program and Action and Accountability Working Group Update (November 29, 2022)

2.0 Discussion and Considerations

Background:

The proposals submitted by the immediate action and accountability working group are in response to a continued need in our community for spaces for unsheltered individuals and to best utilize projected unspent funding tied to the temporary community led winter response.

Reasons for the reallocation request:

London Cares as lead agency on the community led winter response, has reported an anticipated underspending of approximately \$302,000 and have cited the following factors as contributors to the current expenditure projections:

- Delay in opening the Safe Space location as a result of the time it has taken to find operating space and to onboard staff.
- Delays and challenges with finding multiple additional locations and corresponding staffing levels to operate an expanded Ark Aid response which has resulted in significant underspending from the original proposal.
- Alignment of existing shower expansion costs to Salvation Army Centre of Hope.

London Cares was approved to receive up to \$3,132,175 in one-time funding to support the implementation and oversight of the initial action and accountability proposals including the 2022-2023 winter response.

The proposals for reallocated funds:

1. The Ark indoor day drop in space: The proposal looks to utilize up to \$92,500 of reallocated unspent funds in combination with up to \$85,000 in community donations to support up to 200 individuals daily out of their 696 Dundas St. Building from 2:30pm-9:00pm daily, providing dinner, socializing opportunities, showers, laundry, bathrooms, programming and resting space. These services would be offered for a 3-month period.
2. CMHA Coffee House extended operating hours: The recommendation looks to utilize up to \$85,750 of reallocated unspent funds to support up to 4 hours of additional service hours at the existing Coffee House location for an additional 3 months. This funding would allow the space to stay open from 6pm-10pm. An

extension of the current 10am-6pm hours of operations. The proposal would support up to 25 people at a time.

3. Centre of Hope additional Shelter beds, Showers and Security: The recommendation will utilize up to \$131,000 of reallocated unspent funds to support an additional 8 male and 8 female shelter beds and on-site 24/7 security for a period of up to 3 months. In addition, alignment of contracts to support the approved expansion of the shower program through Salvation Army Centre of Hope.

Procurement:

Civic Administration recommends that the one -time contract amendment for London Cares, CMHA and Salvation Army Centre of Hope be made under Section 20.3 e) of The Corporation of The City of London Procurement of Goods and Services Policy. As City Council must authorize contract amendments when:

- I. the total amended value of the contract will be greater than the administrative (Deputy City Manager) approval threshold; or
- II. the total amended value of the contract will exceed the Council approved source of financing by an amount greater than \$50,000 or 3% of contract value, whichever is greater, and there are funds available.

3.0 Financial Impact/Considerations

There is no impact to the overall costs of the community led winter response, as the funding reallocation requests fall within the original approval amount. The requests continue to utilize multiple sources of funding, within the parameters of those existing purchase of service agreements which have mechanisms in place to account for financial expenditures and operating outcomes.

Conclusion

This report seeks Council approval for contract amendments in the total amount of up to \$320,000 to support the reallocation of already spent funds to assist with the continued support of unsheltered individuals.

PREPARED & SUBMITTED BY: Craig Cooper, Director, Housing Stability Services

RECOMMENDED BY: Kevin Dickins, Deputy City Manager, Social and Health Development