

274 councils set to receive housing support for vulnerable people

- £91.5 million allocated to 274 councils in England to help vulnerable people housed during the pandemic
- £13.5 million fund to tackle new and emerging challenges
- Bids have also been submitted for £161 million support to help secure 3,300 longer-term homes

Thousands of vulnerable people who were housed during the pandemic will be helped to stay in accommodation this year thanks to the allocations of funding announced today (17 September 2020) by Housing Secretary Rt Hon Robert Jenrick.

274 local councils will share £91.5 million of government funding to ensure interim accommodation and support for the most vulnerable people, including by helping people into the private rented sector, secure interim accommodation such as supported housing, and assess the wider support these people need in order to rebuild their lives. An additional £13.5 million fund will be used to enable local authorities to tackle new or emerging challenges.

Separately, applications are now being considered for a further £161 million fund intended to provide over 3,300 additional supported homes this year for those sleeping rough or currently housed in emergency accommodation. The bidding has now closed and details on successful bids will be announced in due course. This is part of broader support to provide 6,000 such homes over four years.

The Next Steps Accommodation Programme is part of the government's landmark commitment to end rough sleeping for good.

Secretary of State for Housing, Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP said:

The incredible national effort to support rough sleepers during the pandemic has protected many lives and is widely regarded as one of the most successful programmes of its kind in the world. I'm hugely grateful to all those involved.

This funding will ensure that vulnerable people and rough sleepers continue to have safe accommodation and the care and support they need, to ensure as few as possible return to the streets.

Minister for Rough Sleeping and Housing, Kelly Tolhurst MP said:

This funding will make a difference to many thousands of vulnerable peoples' lives, continuing to help them address complex needs,

and to rebuild their lives, away from the streets in safer interim accommodation.

I want to commend the Rough Sleeping Taskforce, council, providers and partners for the support they've provided so far. Together, we're providing the support required to end rough sleeping and break the cycle of homelessness once and for all.

Chief Executive of St Mungo's Steve Douglas said:

We welcome the speed with which this funding has been allocated. It will be for both homes and support, and will build on the success of the 'Everyone In' initiative, which enabled us, and other homelessness charities and service providers, to help almost 15,000 people sleeping rough or at risk of homelessness to move into emergency accommodation during the pandemic, and to receive the support they needed. This undoubtedly saved lives.

We have seen what can be achieved when we work together. Going forward we want to work with government and partners on longer term solutions and hope that the homelessness review for a long term strategy will begin this autumn.

Through the government's Everyone In programme approximately 15,000 vulnerable people have been housed in hotels and other forms of emergency accommodation, since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes people coming in directly from the streets, people previously housed in shared night shelters and people who have become vulnerable to rough sleeping during the pandemic.

The [Next Steps Accommodation Programme](#) makes available the resources needed to support local authorities and their partners to ensure that the current provision that has been set up to safeguard people who were taken safely from the streets is able to continue for an appropriate length of time. Organisations who have put in successful bids have clearly demonstrated in their proposal how the funding will be used to rapidly support those in COVID-19 emergency accommodation. The funding is for use during 2020/21 only.

Regional allocations of Next Steps Accommodation Programme:

Region	Number of councils receiving funding	Amount of funding for region
East Midlands	32	£2,035,534.00
East of England	40	£5,834,303.00
London (includes City of London)	33	£43,157,926.92
North East	11	£719,733.00
North West	35	£7,609,240.00

Region	Number of councils receiving funding	Amount of funding for region
South East	59	£15,066,772.35
South West	23	£7,398,160.00
West Midlands	24	£4,730,301.00
Yorkshire and the Humber	17	£4,964,326.00

Further details of how much councils in England will receive can be found on the [Next Steps Accommodation Programme](#) page.