

Enquiries to:
Democratic Services

Direct Dial: 024 7637 6204

Direct Email:
committee@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk

Date: 21st October 2026

**INDIVIDUAL CABINET
MEMBER DECISION**

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Cabinet Member for Housing (Councillor J. Bartlett) is to consider the following report and make a decision on **Monday 2nd November** at **2.00pm** in Council Chamber, Town Hall, Nuneaton.

Yours faithfully,

TOM SHARDLOW

Chief Executive

A G E N D A

PART 1

PUBLIC BUSINESS

1. EVACUATION PROCEDURE

A fire drill is not expected, so if the alarm sounds, please evacuate the building quickly and calmly. Please use the stairs and do not use the lifts. Once out of the building, please gather outside Lloyds Bank on the opposite side of the road.

Exit by the door by which you entered the room or by the fire exits which are clearly indicated by the standard green fire exit signs.

If you need any assistance in evacuating the building, please make yourself known to a member of staff.

Please also make sure all your mobile phones are turned off or set to silent.

2. PUBLIC CONSULTATION - Members of the public will be given the opportunity to speak on specific agenda items if notice has been received.

Members of the public will be given three minutes to speak on a particular item and this is strictly timed. The chair will inform all public speakers that: their comments must be limited to addressing issues raised in the agenda item under consideration: and that any departure from the item will not be tolerated.

The chair may interrupt the speaker if they start discussing other matters which are not related to the item, or the speaker uses threatening or inappropriate language towards Councillors or officers and if after a warning issued by the chair, the speaker persists, they will be asked to stop speaking by the chair. The chair will advise the speaker that, having ignored the warning, the speaker's opportunity to speak to the current or other items on the agenda may not be allowed. In this eventuality, the chair has discretion to exclude the speaker from speaking further on the item under consideration or other items of the agenda.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - To receive declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests, in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct.

Declaring interests at meetings

If there is any item of business to be discussed at the meeting in which you have a disclosable pecuniary interest or non-pecuniary interest (Other Interests), you must declare the interest appropriately at the start of the meeting or as soon as you become aware that you have an interest.

Arrangements have been made so that interests that are declared regularly by members can be viewed in a schedule on the Council website ([Councillor Declarations of Interests](#)). Any interest noted in the schedule on the website will be deemed to have been declared and will be minuted as such by the Democratic Services Officer. As a general rule, there will, therefore, be no need for those Members to declare those interests as set out in the schedule. There are, however, TWO EXCEPTIONS to the general rule:

1. When the interest amounts to a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest that is engaged in connection with any item on the agenda and the member feels that the interest is such that they must leave the room. Prior to leaving the room,

the member must inform the meeting that they are doing so, to ensure that it is recorded in the minutes.

2. Where a dispensation has been granted to vote and/or speak on an item where there is a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, but it is not referred to in the Schedule (where for example, the dispensation was granted by the Monitoring Officer immediately prior to the meeting). The existence and nature of the dispensation needs to be recorded in the minutes and will, therefore, have to be disclosed at an appropriate time to the meeting.

Note: Following the adoption of the new Code of Conduct, Members are reminded that they should declare the existence and nature of their personal interests at the commencement of the relevant item (or as soon as the interest becomes apparent). If that interest is a Disclosable Pecuniary or a Deemed Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, the Member must withdraw from the room.

Where a Member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest but has received a dispensation from Audit & Standards Committee, that Member may vote and/or speak on the matter (as the case may be) and must disclose the existence of the dispensation and any restrictions placed on it at the time the interest is declared.

Where a Member has a Deemed Disclosable Interest as defined in the Code of Conduct, the Member may address the meeting as a member of the public as set out in the Code.

Note: Council Procedure Rules require Members with Disclosable Pecuniary Interests to withdraw from the meeting unless a dispensation allows them to remain to vote and/or speak on the business giving rise to the interest.

Where a Member has a Deemed Disclosable Interest, the Council's Code of Conduct permits public speaking on the item, after which the Member is required by Council Procedure Rules to withdraw from the meeting.

4. ROUGH SLEEPER ASSESSMENT AND INTERVENTION HUB – report of the Assistant Director – Housing Services attached **(Page 4)**.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Individual Cabinet Member Decision

Report to: Councillor James Bartlett

Date of Meeting: 2nd November 2026

Subject: Rough Sleeper Assessment and Intervention Hub,

Portfolio: Housing

Responsible Officer: Sharon Clinton – Assistant Director Housing Services

Corporate Plan – Theme: Housing, Health and Communities

Corporate Plan – Aim: Supporting Vulnerable Residents

Ward Relevance: All

Public or Private: Public

Amendment to Budget: No Council Tax Related: No

Recommendation to Council/Cabinet/Committee: No

Forward Plan: Yes

Subject to Call-in: Yes

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To seek approval for the establishment of a Rough Sleeper Assessment and Intervention Hub, the recruitment of a Rough

Sleeping Partnership Coordinator and the delegation of authority to the Assistant Director for Housing Services to implement projects, accommodation solutions and support initiatives funded through the Rough Sleeping Programme allocation.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Portfolio Holder for Housing:

- a) Approves the establishment of a Rough Sleeper Assessment and Intervention Hub.
- b) Approves the recruitment of a Rough Sleeping Partnership Coordinator, on a two-year fixed contract, funded through the Rough Sleeping Programme allocation.
- c) Delegates authority to the Assistant Director for Housing Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing, to determine the most appropriate location, operational arrangements and associated costs for the Rough Sleeper Assessment and Intervention Hub.
- d) Delegates authority to the Assistant Director for Housing Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing, to approve expenditure relating to projects, accommodation solutions and support initiatives funded through the Rough Sleeping Programme allocation in accordance with grant conditions

3. Background

- 3.1 On 19 August 2026 the Government launched the Rough Sleeping Programme to support people who are sleeping rough or at imminent risk of rough sleeping. The programme's immediate objective is to ensure that people have a route off the streets during winter 2026 and into sustainable accommodation.
- 3.2 Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council has been allocated £204,102 for 2026/27 as part of a wider three-year funding allocation of £685,234 covering the period 2026/27 to 2028/29.

- 3.3 The funding is ringfenced and must provide additional capacity and interventions that prevent, reduce and end rough sleeping. Funding cannot be used to replace existing provision and must comply with the programme guidance and grant conditions issued by MHCLG.
- 3.4 Housing Solutions has developed proposals for a Rough Sleeper Assessment and Intervention Hub supported by a dedicated Rough Sleeping Partnership Coordinator. The post will be established on a two-year fixed term basis and will provide dedicated capacity to coordinate assessment, accommodation pathways and support for individuals sleeping rough or at risk of rough sleeping.

4. Body of report and reason for recommendations

- 4.1 The Rough Sleeping Programme seeks to provide a rapid route off the streets for individuals sleeping rough and to strengthen local pathways into settled accommodation. The programme places particular emphasis on assessment, partnership working, prevention and sustainable move-on solutions.
- 4.2 The proposed Rough Sleeper Assessment and Intervention Hub will provide a dedicated location through which housing, support and partner agencies can assess individual needs and coordinate interventions.
- 4.3 The Hub will support individuals who are sleeping rough, at imminent risk of rough sleeping, sofa surfing, residing in temporary accommodation or otherwise experiencing housing instability.
- 4.4 The Rough Sleeping Partnership Coordinator will be recruited on a two-year fixed term contract funded through the Rough Sleeping Programme allocation. The role will provide dedicated capacity to coordinate assessments, facilitate access to accommodation, strengthen partnership working, maximise the use of available funding and support sustainable move-on arrangements.
- 4.5 The grant conditions allow funding to be used flexibly to respond to local need, provided expenditure remains aligned to programme objectives and creates additional capacity. Delegated authority is therefore required to enable the Council to respond quickly to emerging needs and maximise the use of available funding.

- 4.6 Expenditure approved under this delegation may include staffing costs, accommodation costs, commissioned support services, specialist assessments, practical assistance, move-on accommodation solutions, tenancy sustainment support, digital inclusion initiatives and projects designed to prevent rough sleeping and improve access to housing and support services.
- 4.7 Approving these proposals will strengthen the Council's response to rough sleeping and support delivery of the Government's ambition to end rough sleeping whilst improving outcomes for vulnerable residents.

5. Consultation with the public, members, officers and associated stakeholders

- 5.1 The proposals have been developed by Housing Services following engagement with MHCLG advisers and consideration of the requirements of the Rough Sleeping Programme
- 5.2 Engagement has taken place with accommodation providers, support organisations and partner agencies involved in homelessness prevention and rough sleeping interventions.
- 5.3 The proposals reflect identified local need and are intended to complement existing homelessness and rough sleeping services through the creation of additional capacity

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 The proposals will be funded through the Council's Rough Sleeping Programme allocation. The Council has been awarded £204,102 in 2026/27 as part of a total three-year allocation of £685,234. Expenditure will be monitored and reported in accordance with MHCLG grant conditions. Any unspent funding or funding utilised outside grant conditions may be subject to clawback.

7. Legal Implications

- 7.1 The proposals support the Council's homelessness and rough sleeping functions and are consistent with the objectives of the Rough Sleeping Programme. All expenditure and service delivery arrangements will be undertaken in accordance with

relevant housing legislation, statutory duties and the Section 31 Grant Determination.

8. Equalities implications

8.1 No specific equality implications have been identified following the completion of an equality impact assessment.

9. Health implications

9.1 Homelessness and rough sleeping are closely linked to poor physical and mental health outcomes. The supports earlier intervention, improved access to accommodation and partnership working with support services, which will contribute to improved health and wellbeing outcomes for customers.

10. Climate and environmental implications

10.1 No direct climate and/or environmental implications have been identified.

11. Section 17 Crime and Disorder Implications

11.1 No direct Section 17 crime and disorder implications have been identified.

12. Risk management implications

12.1 Failure to develop and implement an effective response could increase pressure on homelessness services and temporary accommodation provision during winter 2026 and beyond. There is also a risk of grant clawback where funding is not used in accordance with programme requirements and grant conditions. The proposed Hub and governance arrangements will support effective programme delivery and monitoring.

13. Human resources implications

13.1 Approval of the recommendations will enable the recruitment of a Rough Sleeping Partnership Coordinator on a two-year fixed term contract. The post will be fully funded through the Rough Sleeping Programme allocation and will be subject to the Council's normal recruitment and employment procedures.

14. Biodiversity Implications

14.1 No direct biodiversity implications have been identified.

15. Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) Implications

15.1 No direct LGR implications have been identified.

16. Options considered and reason for their rejection

16.1 In formulating this report and recommendations, the following other options were identified. Reasons for their rejection or why the option and recommendation proposed in section 2 of the report has been selected are outlined below.

Option Ref	Option Title	Reason for rejection or why the option and recommendation proposed in section 2 of the report has been selected
A	Do not approve the proposals	Rejected as it would limit the Council's ability to maximise Government funding, create additional capacity and respond effectively to rough sleeping pressures.

17. Conclusion

17.1 The Rough Sleeping Programme presents a significant opportunity for the Council to strengthen its response to rough sleeping and support vulnerable residents. The establishment of a Rough Sleeper Assessment and Intervention Hub, supported by a dedicated Rough Sleeping Partnership Coordinator and appropriate delegated authority, will provide additional capacity, improve partnership working and maximise the use of Government funding to deliver sustainable outcomes for residents sleeping rough or at risk of rough sleeping.

18. Appendices

18.1 Please note the following appendices:

Appendix 1: Rough Sleeping Programme Funding Briefing Note.

19. Background papers

19.1 Please note the following background papers:

Appendix A

Briefing Note: Rough Sleeping Programme funding 2026

Purpose of this briefing:

To help staff assess proposals consistently and understand what the Rough Sleeping Programme is intended to achieve, what expenditure may be supported and, most importantly, what the funding must not be used for. This briefing summarises the published guidance; grant conditions and the agreed delivery plan remain the controlling documents.

What the programme is intended to do

- Provide a rapid route off the streets for people sleeping rough, or at imminent risk of rough sleeping, with the immediate priority of moving as many people as possible into accommodation before Christmas 2026.
- Provide safe accommodation alongside person-centred, trauma-informed support, based on assessed need rather than verification status or local connection.
- Create sustainable pathways into settled housing and prevent repeat rough sleeping through move-on planning and tenancy sustainment.
- Deliver additional settled homes and intensive wraparound support for people with long-term, repeated or persistent rough sleeping histories and the greatest barriers to leaving the streets.
- Strengthen prevention, early intervention and coordinated local working across housing, health, social care, criminal justice and voluntary sector services.

What the funding can be used for

- Routes off the street: safe, suitable short-term accommodation and associated services, including assessment spaces, shared or self-contained accommodation, supported lodgings, B&B where appropriate, and emergency short-term refuge.
- Support: needs and risk assessments, named-worker support, coordinated case management, health and substance-use support, adult social care and

safeguarding links, benefits and practical assistance, move-on planning, and tenancy sustainment.

- Prevention: targeted early intervention for people at imminent risk of rough sleeping where this directly supports the programme objectives.
- Settled accommodation capital: additional homes delivered through acquisition, repair of empty or void homes, refurbishment or conversion, limited new build that can be completed within programme timescales, registered provider-led schemes, eligible leasing arrangements of at least 10 years, and suitable partnership or social investment models.
- Revenue linked to settled accommodation: support to help people prepare for, move into and sustain long-term accommodation, together with eligible short-term accommodation costs and wraparound services.

What the funding cannot be used for

- General temporary accommodation supply or accommodation intended to meet wider homelessness demand rather than the programme's intended rough sleeping cohort.
- Unsupported general-needs housing that is not accompanied by the support required to achieve sustainable outcomes for the intended cohort.
- Existing activity presented as new: re-badging existing provision, replacing existing commitments or using the grant simply to maintain business-as-usual services.
- Duplicate funding: support or costs already paid for through another programme, unless MHCLG has explicitly agreed this within the delivery plan.
- Displacement: moving existing rough sleeping or homelessness support elsewhere, or diverting supported housing from another high-need group, without MHCLG agreement.
- Activity that is not additional, not aligned with programme objectives or not targeted at people sleeping rough, at imminent risk, or within the defined long-term rough sleeping cohort.
- Default long-stay temporary accommodation: the programme must create routes into suitable settled housing, not another static temporary accommodation pathway.
- Capital proposals that cannot deliver accommodation ready for occupation within the programme and allocation timescales.
- Ineligible or unapproved overspend: expenditure outside the grant conditions or agreed delivery plan, including costs without a clear evidenced link to programme outcomes.

Key funding controls

- The 2026 to 2027 local authority grant is ringfenced and expenditure must comply with the Section 31 grant conditions and agreed requirements.
- Unspent funding, or funding used outside the agreed requirements, may be clawed back.
- Future payments may be reduced or withheld if first-year funding is not used to support the programme objectives and progress towards ending rough sleeping.
- The programme does not change existing legal duties, powers or restrictions. Delivery decisions must follow the authority's legal assessment and applicable housing, social care, public health and immigration law.
- Plans should complement existing homelessness and rough sleeping services and clearly show additional capacity, intended beneficiaries, outcomes, costs and delivery timescales.

Before approving or committing expenditure

1. Does the proposal directly benefit the programme's intended cohort?
2. Is the activity additional and clearly different from existing funded provision?
3. Is the cost permitted under the relevant revenue or capital funding stream?
4. Will the proposal create a credible route away from rough sleeping and, where relevant, into settled accommodation?
5. Can the expenditure, delivery and outcomes be evidenced and reported within the required timescales?

If any answer is "no" or unclear, do not commit the funding. Escalate the proposal for review against the grant determination, grant conditions and agreed delivery plan, and seek clarification from MHCLG where necessary.