

Grants Committee (Informal)

16 March 2022 : 11:00 am

Agenda

Virtual Meeting via 'Teams'

Labour Group: (Political Adviser: 07970 018191)	'Teams'	10:00 am
Conservative Group: (Political Adviser: 07903 492195)	'Teams'	10:30 am
Liberal Democrat (Political Adviser: 07858 924941)	'Teams'	10:30 am
Contact Officer: Lisa Dominic Lisa.dominic@londoncouncils.gov.uk - 0207 934 9843		

Agenda item

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1. Apologies for Absence and announcement of deputies
 2. *Declarations of Interest
 3. Minutes of the Grants Committee held on 24 November 2021
 4. Performance of Grants Programme 2017-22: April 2017 to December 2021 (Appendix 3 in a separate document)
 5. Youth Homelessness Hub project – presentation
 6. 2022-2026 Pan-London Grants Programme: Implementation update
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***Declarations of Interests**

If you are present at a meeting of London Councils' or any of its associated joint committees or their sub-committees and you have a disclosable pecuniary interest* relating to any business that is or will be considered at the meeting you must not:

- participate in any discussion of the business at the meeting, or if you become aware of your disclosable pecuniary interest during the meeting, participate further in any discussion of the business, or
- participate in any vote taken on the matter at the meeting.

These prohibitions apply to any form of participation, including speaking as a member of the public.

It is a matter for each member to decide whether they should leave the room while an item that they have an interest in is being discussed. In arriving at a decision as to whether to leave the room they may wish to have regard to their home authority's code of conduct and/or the Seven (Nolan) Principles of Public Life.

*as defined by the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012

LONDON COUNCILS GRANTS COMMITTEE – INFORMAL MEETING

Minutes of the informal meeting of the Grants Committee held on 24 November 2021 via Microsoft Teams

London Borough & Royal Borough:

Barking and Dagenham
Bexley
Brent
Bromley
Camden
Hackney
Harrow
Havering
Hillingdon
Islington
Kensington and Chelsea
Kingston upon Thames
Lambeth
Lewisham
Merton
Newham
Redbridge
Richmond
Southwark
Sutton
Tower Hamlets
Wandsworth
Westminster

Representative:

Cllr Saima Ashraf
Cllr David Leaf
Cllr Margaret McLennan
Cllr Kate Lymer
Cllr Anna Wright
Cllr Christopher Kennedy
Cllr Sue Anderson
Cllr Viddy Persuad
Cllr Martin Goddard
Cllr Una O'Halloran
Cllr Anne Cyron
Cllr Kim Bailey
Cllr Donatus Anyanwu
Mayor Damien Egan (Chair)
Cllr Marsie Skeete
Mayor Rokhsana Fiaz
Cllr John Howard
Cllr Gareth Roberts
Cllr Alice McDonald
Cllr Marian James (Vice Chair)
Cllr Candida Ronald
Cllr Jonathan Cook
Cllr Heather Acton

London Councils officers were in attendance.

The Chair and members congratulated Cllr Marian James, the new Liberal Democrat Vice Chair of the Grants Committee.

1 Apologies for Absence and Announcement of Deputies

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Jasbir Anand (LB Ealing), Cllr Shantanu Rajawat (LB Hounslow), Cllr Caroline Kerr (RB Kingston upon Thames) and Manju Shahul-Hameed (LB Croydon).

2 Declarations of Interest

- 2.1 There were no declarations of interest.

3 Minutes of the Grants Committee AGM held on 14 July 2021 (for noting)

- 3.1 The minutes of the Grants Committee AGM held on 14 July 2021 were noted (to be agreed via the London Councils' Urgency Procedure following this meeting).

4 Minutes of the Grants Executive held on 30 September 2021

- 4.1 The minutes of the Grants Executive meeting held on 30 September 2021 were noted.

5 Performance of Grants Programme 2017-22: April 2017 to September 2021

- 5.1 Feria Henry, Priority Manager, said that all projects were currently RAG rated Green. She also noted that projects and London Boroughs have also been heavily involved in the ongoing work to help resettle refugees from Afghanistan.
- 5.2 The Priority Manager then gave further information on the performance of Priority 1 – Combatting Homelessness, and Priority 2 – Tackling Sexual Violence.
- 5.3 The Chair and members thanked the Grants team at London Councils for all their hard work during the current Grants cycle, which was now coming to a close. They also thanked all the funded organisations, which had performed extremely well under very challenging circumstances.
- 5.4 Grants Committee Members noted the report.

Action: Strategy Director to arrange for New Horizon Youth Centre and DuPaul to present the work of the Homelessness Hub to Grants Committee in March 2022

6 London Councils Grants Scheme - Budget Proposals 2022/23

- 6.1 David Sanni, Acting Director of Corporate Resources, introduced the report, which detailed the indicative overall budget requirement for the London Boroughs Grants Scheme. An overall level of expenditure of £6.668 million for the Grants Scheme in 2022/23.
- 6.2 Subject to the agreement of London Councils Leaders' Committee on 7 December 2021, the Grants Committee agreed with the recommendations in the report (to be formally agreed through the London Councils' Urgency Procedure).

7 Month 6 Revenue Forecast 2021-2022

- 7.1 David Sanni, Acting Director of Resources, introduced this report, which outlined actual income and expenditure against the approved income and expenditure in the budget to the end of September 2021 for the Grants Committee.
- 7.2 The Grants Committee noted:

- The projected deficit of £31,000 for the year; and
- The projected level of Grants Committee reserves, as detailed in paragraph 10 of this report and the commentary on the financial position of the Grants Committee.

Action: A discussion on reserves to be added to the agenda of the March 2022 Grants Committee meeting.

8 2022-2026 Pan-London Grants Programme: Recommendations for Award of Grants

- 8.1 The Strategy Director introduced this report, which noted the organisations recommended for award of grant for Priorities 1 and 2 and those which were not recommended for funding, for the new 2022-26 Grants Programme. She said that the scoring process had been a robust one, and thanked Cllr David Leaf, Conservative Vice Chair of the Grants Committee, who was involved in assessing applications.
- 8.2 Grants Committee members:
- Agreed with the recommendations for grant funding for Priority 1, Combatting Homelessness, and Priority 2, Tackling Domestic and Sexual Violence outlined in the report (to being agreed via the London Councils' Urgency Procedure)
 - Noted the applications that were not recommended for funding, as set out in the report; and
 - Noted the right to reply submissions from seven applicants (for nine applications) that were not recommended for funding, and officer commentary, as set out in the report.

Grants Committee

Performance of Grants Programme 2017-22
April 2017 - December 2021

Item: 4

Report by Feria Henry and Joanne Watson **Job title** Interim Grants Managers

Date 16 March 2022

Contact Officer Feria Henry/Joanne Watson

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020 7934 9815 joanne.watson@londoncouncils.gov.uk

Summary At its meeting of 8 February 2017 Grants Committee agreed funding for 13 commissions under the following two priorities:

Priority 1 Combatting Homelessness

Priority 2 Tackling Sexual and Domestic Violence

Commissions were agreed for the period 2017 to 2021, subject to delivery, compliance with grant conditions and continued availability of resources.

In response to Covid-19, Grants Committee agreed that the 2017 to 2021 programme be extended until March 2022 to allow time to develop a new programme that reflects a changed London. Recommendations for the new programme were approved in November 2021.

This report provides members with an update on the two priorities of the Grants Programme, for the period April 2017 to December 2021 (quarters one to 19).

Recommendations The Grants Committee is asked to note:

- a) outcomes at priority level for quarters one to 19:
 - i) Priority 1, combatting homelessness, overall is six per cent above profile
 - ii) Priority 2, tackling sexual and domestic violence, overall is eight per cent below profile
- b) the number of interventions delivered in the relevant period:
 - i) Priority 1, combatting homelessness – 102,969
 - ii) Priority 2, tackling sexual and domestic violence – 576,495

- c) project level performance, using the Red, Amber, Green (RAG) performance management system (explained at Appendix 1):
 - i) all projects are rated Green
 - ii) An update on performance management for two projects (para. 3.52-3.56)
- d) the final update on the additional no recourse to public funds activity (section 4)
- e) the final update on the youth homelessness hub project (section 5)
- f) the update on closure arrangements for the end of the programme. (Para. 7.3-7.4)
- g) the borough maps (Appendix 2)
- h) the project delivery information and contact details (Appendix 3), produced as a separate resource to provide members with a directory of services, with up-to-date contact information, as well as an update on performance

Appendix 1 RAG Rating Methodology

Appendix 2 Borough Maps

Appendix 3 Project Delivery Information and Contact Details

1 Background

1.1 The 2017 to 2022 Grants Programme is focused on the following priorities:

Priority 1 - Combatting Homelessness

Priority 2 - Tackling Sexual and Domestic Violence

1.2 Grants Committee agreed funding to 13 commissions for the period 2017 to 2021, and subsequently extended to March 2022, subject to delivery, compliance with grant conditions and continued availability of resources. Grants are summarised in Table 1.

Table 1: London Councils Grants Programme 2017-22 (Priority 1 and 2)

Service Area¹	Organisation	Annual Grant Amount
1.1	Shelter - London Advice Services	£1,003,495
	St Mungo Community Housing Association	£251,378
1.2	New Horizon Youth Centre	£1,008,338
1.3	Homeless Link	£120,239
	Standing Together Against Domestic Violence	£78,977 ²
Priority 1: Combatting Homelessness		£2,462,427
2.1	Tender Education and Arts	£265,000
2.2	Solace Women's Aid	£1,425,238
	Galop	£146,318
	SignHealth	£148,444
2.3	Women's Aid Federation of England (Women's Aid)	£314,922
2.4	Ashiana Network	£840,000
2.5	Women's Resource Centre	£240,783
2.6	Asian Women's Resource Centre	£320,000
Priority 2: Tackling Sexual and Domestic Violence		£3,700,705
Total		£6,163,132

1.3 The London Councils Grants Programme enables boroughs to tackle high-priority social need where this is better done at pan-London level. The programme

¹ See paragraphs 2.1 and 3.1 for a brief description of the service areas

² The annual grant amount in 2021-22 is reduced by £10,000 following the finalisation of non-recurrent evaluation activities.

commissions third sector organisations to work with disadvantaged Londoners to make real improvements in their lives. This is the thirteenth report covering the performance of the 2017 to 2022 Grants Programme. Case studies of programme activity are available [here](#) on the London Councils website.

2 Priority 1: Homelessness

Delivery

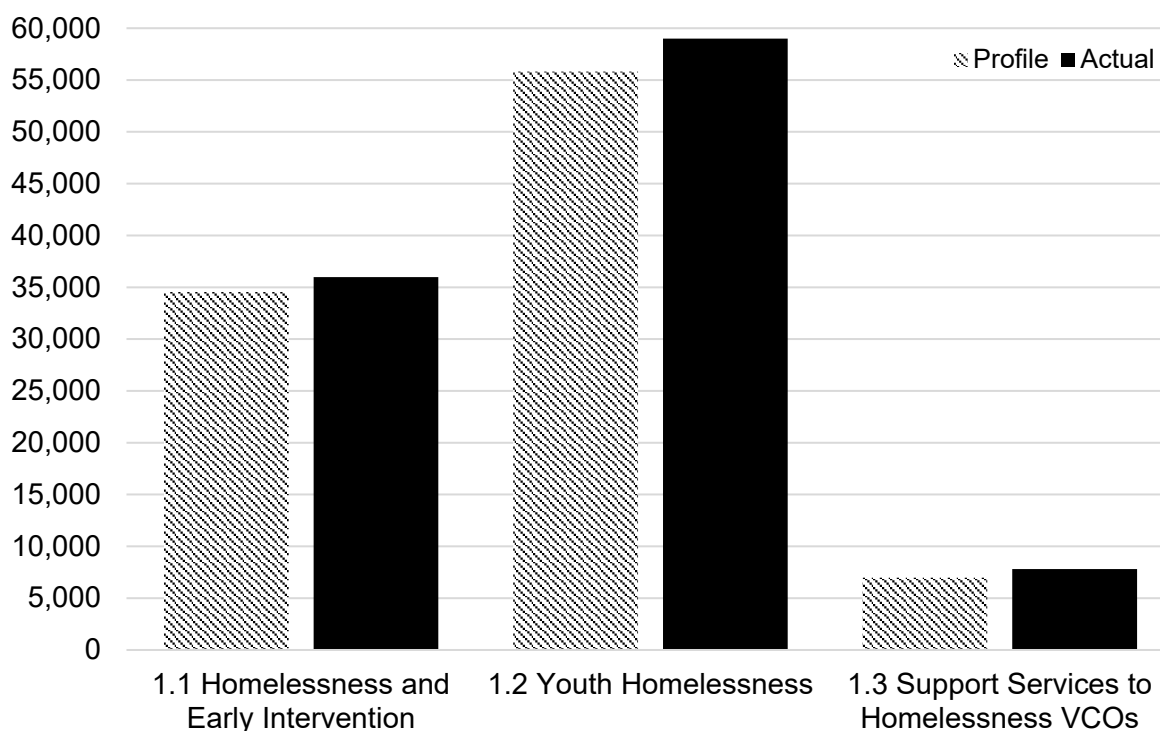
2.1 The Committee has allocated £2.46³ million per year to five projects to Priority 1: Combatting Homelessness for 2017-22 Of these five:

- Two (with a total value of £1.25 million per year) are delivering against specification 1.1: Prevention and Targeted Intervention
- One (value of £1 million per year) is delivering against specification 1.2: Youth Homelessness
- Two (value of £0.2 million per year) are delivering against specification 1.3: Supporting the Response to Homelessness in London through Support to Voluntary Sector Organisations.

2.2 Over quarters one to 19, performance was six per cent above profile. Figure 1 provides further detail across the service areas; specific information on achievement against outcomes at project level is available in Appendix 3.

³ See note 2 above

Figure 1: Priority 1 Delivery against Profile Aggregate Outcomes by service area 2017-22 Q1 to Q19



	1.1 Homelessness and Early Intervention	1.2 Youth Homelessness	1.3 Support Services to Homelessness VCOs
Profile	34,545	55,814	6,969
Actual	35,987	58,994	7,808
Difference	1,442	3,180	839
Variance	4%	6%	12%
Annual Grants Value (£m)	£1.25	£1.01	£0.21
Number of Providers	2	1	2

2.3 As shown in Figure 1, performance is above profile across all service areas at the end of quarter 19.

2.4 Providers continue to support vulnerable and disadvantaged service users within the protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010. By quarter 19⁴:

- 47.1 per cent were female
- 46.1 per cent were under 25
- 7.4 per cent were over 55

⁴ Based on self-declaration; users may declare more than one protected characteristic e.g. disability

- 76.4 per cent were ethnic minorities⁵
- 17.7 per cent declared a disability (24.2 per cent excluding prefer not to say)
- 13.2 per cent were LGBT⁶ (20.9 per cent excluding prefer not to say)
- 2,497 people had no recourse to public funds (4.1 per cent)

Policy and wider environment

- 2.5 Radical interventions in response to the pandemic, the evictions moratorium being the prime example, have made tracking and projecting homelessness trends harder in the past few years. Although key indicators of homelessness such as temporary accommodation placements were appearing to level off, the past half-year has seen numbers start to return to previous trends, with numbers in both applications and acceptances rising again across London.
- 2.6 Pressures on temporary accommodation also continue to increase, as prices for accommodation have risen along with increased costs in the wider housing market. The past year has seen additional demand on accommodation procurement due to central government's response to the arrival of higher than usual numbers of asylum seekers arriving in Britain. Although the number of people needing to be accommodated was expected to drop over the winter, demand has remained unexpectedly high. London Councils continues to work with the Home Office and its partners to ensure asylum seekers are appropriately and safely accommodated, and that Home Office procurement is integrated into existing cooperative arrangements between London boroughs.
- 2.7 In December, central government provided an "exceptional one-off winter top-up" of £65 million to the Homelessness Prevention Grant. This funding is a valuable boost to local authorities' ability to prevent individuals and families entering the homelessness system, but much more grant funding is still needed to make up for the current shortfall in council budgets, in particular Housing Revenue Account budgets, which have seen lost income due to the pandemic.
- 2.8 The Government's Levelling Up white paper, released in February 2022, made no significant new resources available to local government for homelessness

⁵ Includes Asian - all, Black - all, Chinese, Latin American, Middle Eastern, mixed ethnicity, white European, white Irish and white other

⁶ Lesbian, gay, bisexual, identify as trans or a person with trans history or declared other

services. London Councils continue to lobby central government on a proper funding settlement that reduces the current burden on general funds, as well as proper grant funding for the long-term solution of increasing the supply of social housing. As part of our lobbying, London Councils will be participating in the upcoming All-Party Parliamentary Group on Temporary Accommodation.

- 2.9 CHAIN rough sleeping figures have been published for quarter three 2021 and show some encouraging reductions in the number of people sleeping on London's streets compared to this time last year. The number of new rough sleepers is 17 per cent lower than the same period last year and the number of 'intermittent' rough sleepers is 13 per cent lower than the same period last year. However, the number of people defined as 'living on the streets' is 19 per cent higher than the same period last year and 16 per cent higher than the previous quarter – a concerning trend, though this is a much smaller subset of the overall number. The Life Off the Streets (LOTS) group, led by London Housing Directors and London Councils, continue their expansive T-1000 project, focused on ending rough sleeping for around 1,000 people who have the most complex needs.

Service area 1.1

- 2.10 Although some improvements have been reported across the priority in this quarter, the lack of appropriate and affordable long-term accommodation continues to impact access to suitable housing options. Projects also continue to report on increased complex cases, which take longer to resolve than usual, as well as ongoing difficulties in engaging with local authority services. Some of these pressures may be eased with a return to face-to-face working. Hybrid services continue to be in operation with projects adapting delivery to manage the impact on services of the Omicron variant, both for people using their services and staff teams.
- 2.11 Shelter, at the STAR Partnership, re-started substantive face-to-face work across London for the first time since the start of the pandemic. By offering a mix of face-to-face and remote sessions with client preference at the point of referral, they believe a genuine hybrid model has been achieved, putting client choice uppermost in their approach to advice work. The STAR partnership has continued

work to engage or reengage individuals with GP and other medical services. Thames Reach and Stonewall Housing continue to see significant increases in the numbers of new users presenting with physical health needs, which has been exacerbated by their current housing/homelessness.

- 2.12 Shelter reports an increased need for mental health support due to the difficulties in engaging with mental health services which have reduced capacity and service delivery limitations. This has resulted in increased EASL⁷ assessments and considerable advocacy work to obtain access where needed.
- 2.13 The Star Partnership has seen a general decreased need for placement in short and long-term accommodation as several long-awaited long-term placements came through in this quarter, including with Clearing House and into sheltered provision. The anticipated increase in evictions, that were being prevented by eviction bans linked to Covid-19 pandemic, has so far not materialised.
- 2.14 A high degree of financial resilience work was undertaken providing support on budgeting, rent arrears and affordability of accommodation options, particularly as rent arrears and energy payments have been an issue for users of the service. Delays in the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) decisions has impeded this work, especially in relation to the most vulnerable awaiting decisions on Personal Independence Payments.
- 2.15 Demand for landlord services is high and workshops are being delivered to smaller agencies to manage this, by improving awareness of how they can remedy basic landlord issues themselves. The Partnership also expanded its borough engagement strategy to include different types of activity such as housing workshops and pop up advice sessions. These aim to create capacity by ensuring some basic housing queries can be answered at source and improve referral quality.
- 2.16 St Mungo's reports greater access to a wide range of accommodation options this quarter for clients released from prison, because of availability within the housing market and the re-opening of referral pathways across other

⁷ Enabling Assessment Service London - a Community Interest Company; a multi-disciplinary team of qualified and experienced mental health professionals who provide services to homeless projects across London, to facilitate better outcomes for homeless people with complex needs.

accommodation-based support services. They have had success in gaining access to supported accommodation especially for under 35s, providing them with valuable extra assistance upon release back into the community. However, the overall limitations on finding suitable accommodation for this cohort, who are also routinely discriminated against as a result of their offending history, persists.

2.17 Partly through their ongoing work with housing providers and successful rent negotiation below the London Housing Allowance (LHA), there has been an increase in the number of properties available for St Mungo's clients, which provided sustainable move-on options. This has also enabled clients to access properties that are close to their support network or places of work.

2.18 St Mungo's continues to make a concerted effort to develop relationships with prisons and within probation, to improve the visibility of the service and increase the number of referrals. The latter have been affected by changes to the probation service and current local authority capacity.

2.19 St Mungo's has highlighted that in addition to its client-group being disproportionately impacted by the nationwide unemployment rate (of 4.2 per cent), there are also far fewer employment opportunities available for them in this current economic climate. This has been compounded by the excessive mental and physical toll of the past year, which has limited the capacity for some of their clients to engage with Education, Training and Employment (ETE) support.

Service area 1.2

2.20 The London Youth Gateway (LYG) partners have continued hybrid delivery, offering most of its services both face-to-face and through phone and online contact. The emergence and rapid spread of the Omicron variant has meant that staffing levels across the LYG partnership have been severely affected by sick leave and self-isolation.

2.21 Work at schools or colleges and in the prisons remained restricted. Many colleges remain understandably reluctant to host external providers, with Omicron's prevalence. Similarly, access to Youth Offender Institutions (YOIs) and prisons has become severely restricted by new guidelines around provider contracts. As such New Horizon Youth Centre (NHYC) has not been able to resume its prison

outreach work at pre-Covid scale. Working with newly commissioned prison providers, NHYC held an 'away day' for the staff across London YOIs and prisons involved in housing related work, to profile their service and share best practice about working with young people at risk of homelessness on release.

- 2.22 LYG partners continue to report seeing high numbers of young people with undiagnosed and/or untreated mental health problems requiring access to statutory specialist mental health support, which delays their needs being met.
- 2.23 Nightstop delivery faced ongoing challenges due to the pandemic and hosting households in demographics more vulnerable to Covid-19. The Depaul Nightstop team however remains very active in recruiting and training new hosts.
- 2.24 As in winter 2020/21, the number of emergency accommodation places available through winter shelter provision was significantly lower than in pre-pandemic times due to the different set-up required. Young people are noticing the impact of removal of Covid-19 relief measures on both their income and their struggle to access or sustain accommodation. LYG partners are observing the effects of the government withdrawal of Covid-19 emergency measures, particularly the furlough scheme, the £20 Universal Credit uplift and the eviction ban, which has impacted on young people's ability to sustain tenancies.
- 2.25 LYG partner, Shelter has seen a tapering down of young people using the under-25s advice line, with a move toward the uptake of digital or webchat contact. Currently it is not possible to systematically capture the borough information through these channels. Shelter will be reviewing how this information can be better captured.
- 2.26 LYG partners continue to raise awareness of the issues experienced by young people facing homelessness. These have included NHYC highlighting the increasing numbers of young women becoming homeless through The Guardian and BBC, and youth homelessness more generally via [SkyNews](#). They also created an opportunity for a young person to talk about racial and trans discrimination at a [BBC1Xtra podcast series](#). Depaul UK and NHYC hosted a visit by the Mayor of London and the Deputy Mayor of Housing to Hotel 1824, which

also helped to raise awareness of the project and young people sleeping rough through media channels including the [BBC](#) and [ITV](#).

2.27 LYG Partners have begun work with London Councils' Director of Rough Sleeping and Homeless Link to develop a young people work stream of the rough sleeping strategy plan. Partner akt (formerly Albert Kennedy Trust) met with Number 10 representatives to highlight the importance of raising awareness of LGBTQ+ youth homelessness at the Global LGBTQ+ Conference in June 2022. NYHC also submitted a response to the Commission on Young Lives Call for Evidence, focusing on the intersections between housing, homelessness and serious violence. This follows recent success in their work with Stella Creasy MP around the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill, in which government indicated it would be willing to include a new chapter on serious violence in the Homeless Code of Guidance.

Service area 1.3

2.28 Homeless Link commissioned an external consultant to facilitate peer support sessions for People of Colour working in London's homelessness sector. The sessions will examine the sector through the lens of race. A report sharing the main themes of the discussions will be produced. It is hoped these groups will provide insight and invaluable support to the participants and act as a springboard for similar groups to be established within the homelessness sector.

2.29 Difficulties continued in progressing work with Haringey on the Homelessness Reduction Board due to other borough priorities. Homeless Link recognises the significant pressure local authorities are currently under; it will remain engaged with the borough to identify how they can usefully work together in the final quarter of the programme.

2.30 Brent will be moving forward with a Homeless Health Needs Audit (HHNA) assisted by Homeless Link's research team. The PLUS project will be supporting this with a health-themed event bringing key partners together ahead of the HHNA work. The event is planned to include an introduction to the HHNA, an overview of changes to health care structures in Brent and showcase good practice examples of homelessness health care from other areas.

- 2.31 There was increased activity around Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP) and winter provision in quarter 19 as London boroughs and their partners prepared for the months ahead. Homeless Link's SWEP guidance was published in October with ongoing conversations around the need for single occupancy shelter and the reality of limited resources. A Public Health directive in London called on local authorities not to make referrals to communal settings leading to changes in planned provision.
- 2.32 Health and Wellbeing Cohort training and an Integrated Care Systems (ICS) event, with representatives from all five London ICS's were well received. Attendees were able to hear directly from ICS's about plans in their local area, and to establish connections with the lead contact.
- 2.33 Islington Council successfully gained DAHA accreditation in this quarter. DAHA assessors reported seeing excellent increased links that the service had developed through the DAHA process. Case workers were encouraged to work closely with other local authorities, housing associations, homeless organisations and domestic abuse services. Staff were also confident in approaching external partners and working with them to support survivors effectively. There are four full DAHA assessments planned and booked and one re-assessment for the final quarter of this project
- 2.34 The DAHA Framework has been updated to include Intersectional and Anti-Racist practice as a priority area for housing providers to meet standards. Webinars are also being reviewed to ensure they are accessible to all regardless of their protected characteristics, in language, method of delivery and in design.
- 2.35 SignHealth attend the DAHA regional group in this quarter. Providers found this useful, enabling them to form working relationships with this vital service. DAHA was invited to present at several events over the 16 days of activism. This included delivering keynote speeches at conferences held by domestic abuse services keen to engage their boroughs and local councils into improving the housing response.
- 2.36 A successful Twitter promotion took place in November to launch DAHA's [final evaluation](#) report, generating a number of enquiries. The three-year evaluation of

DAHA accreditation part funded through the grants programme, was undertaken by the Centre for Housing Policy, University of York. It investigates the advantages of DAHA accreditation, the difference that it makes to survivor's lives, and cost effectiveness for housing providers.

Performance management

2.37 All Priority 1 projects are currently rated Green (see Table 6).

2.38 STADV has submitted its final evaluation report to London Councils. All funding previously on hold relating to its submission has now been released.

3 Priority 2: Sexual and domestic violence

Delivery

3.1 The Committee has allocated £3.7 million per year to eight projects to Priority 2: Tackling Sexual and Domestic Violence for 2017-22.

- One (value of £0.26 million per year) is delivering against specification 2.1: Prevention (working with children and young people).
- Three (total value of £1.72 million per year) are delivering against specification 2.2: Advice, counselling and support to access services (for medium risk post-independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA) support and target groups not accessing general provision).
- One (value of £0.31 million per year) is delivering against specification 2.3: Helpline, access to refuge provision, support and advice, data gathering on refuge provision and supporting regional coordination of refuge provision.
- One (value of £0.84 million per year) is delivering against specification 2.4: Emergency refuge accommodation and support and alternative housing options to meet the needs of specific groups.
- One (value of £0.24 million per year) is delivering against specification 2.5: Strengthening support for frontline sexual and domestic violence (working with voluntary sector organisations, local authorities, and other agencies).
- One (value of £0.32 million per year) is delivering against specification 2.6: Specifically, targeted services for those affected by harmful practices (female genital mutilation (FGM), honour-based violence, forced marriage and other harmful practices).

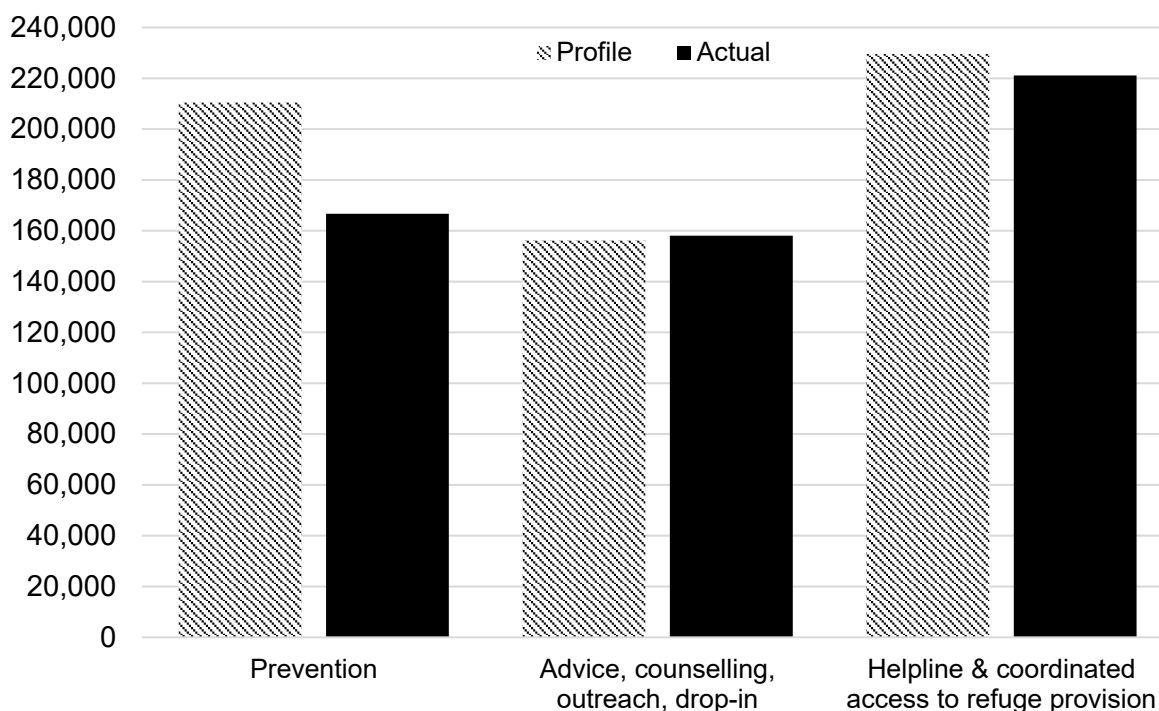
3.2 Over quarters one to 19, overall performance was 8 per cent below profile. Figures 2 and 3 provide further information at a service area level. Outcome targets have been met or been surpassed in four out of the six service areas. For the two service areas - 2.1 and, 2.3 that have performed below target, only service area, 2.1 is outside of the -15 per cent performance tolerance.

3.3 Service area 2.1, Prevention: The sole commission in this strand, the VAWG Consortium Prevention Project, led by Tender Education and Arts is outside the 15 per cent performance tolerance. As previously reported to this committee, this

commission has experienced unique challenges to its service delivery due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Schools were subject to lockdowns and disruptions caused by pupils having to isolate following Covid-19 outbreaks or operate in a restricted manner to prevent the spread of the virus. Issues affecting this project can be found in Service Area issues 2.1

- 3.4 Asian Women's Resource Centre (AWRC) remains well above the 15 per cent delivery tolerance. AWRC has reported that there continues to be an increased need for direct work with survivors on finding or retaining safe housing by making homelessness application, applying non-molestation or occupation orders etc. AWRC also report increased work with local authority housing departments, housing officers, and private landlords. Work with clients has also exceeded profiled target figures, where clients have been encouraged to take up new activities and participate in community events which has helped them get back some aspects of their pre-abuse life.

Figure 2: Priority 2 Delivery against Profile Aggregate Outcomes by service area (2.1, 2.2, 2.3) 2017- 22 Q1 to Q19:

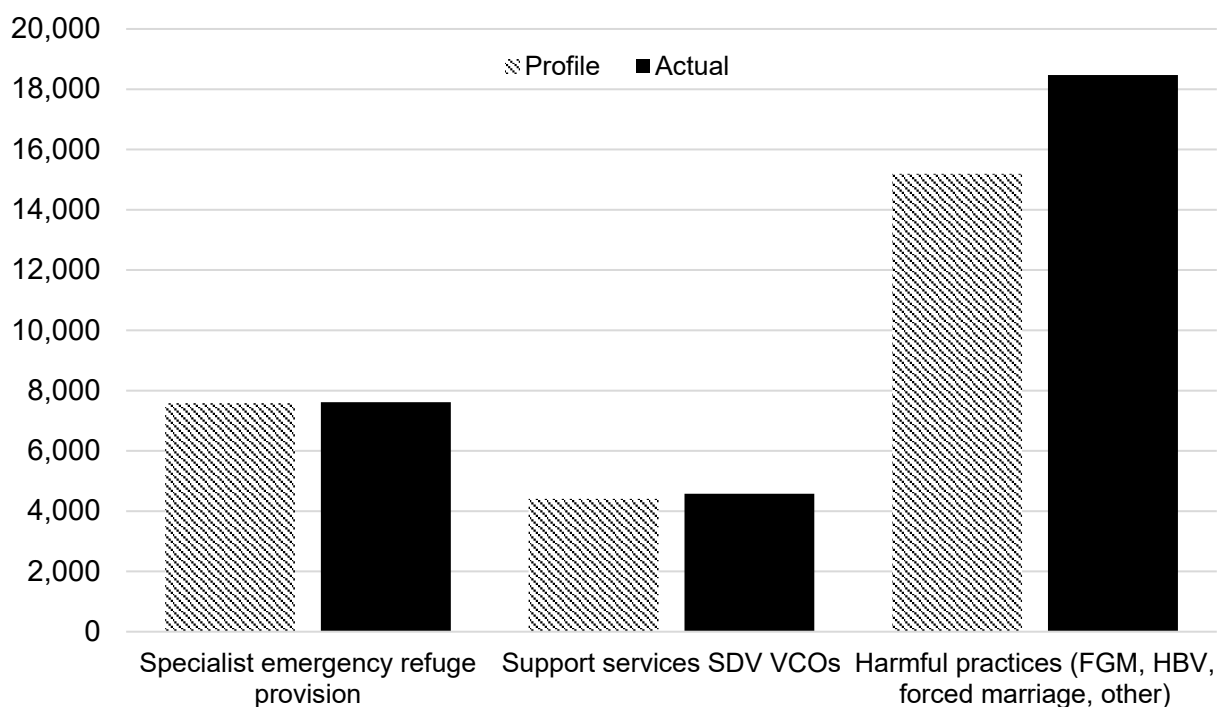


	2.1 Prevention ⁸	2.2 Advice, counselling, outreach, drop- in	2.3 Helpline and coordinated access to refuge provision ⁹
Profile	210,486	156,187	229,590
Actual	166,671	158,057	221,104
Difference	-43,815	1,870	-8,486
Variance	-21%	1%	-4%
Annual Grants Value (£m)	£0.27	£1.72	£0.31
Number of Providers	1	3	1

⁸ Tender Education and Arts (the only commission in this strand) operates on a rolling programme working with three to four boroughs each quarter. As delivery is aligned to the academic year rather than the committee reporting schedule, delivery can appear to fluctuate

⁹ Women's Aid Foundation (the only commission in this strand) records high numbers of callers where their borough of residence is unknown, or unreported. Due to the nature of the service, domestic and sexual violence helplines where callers may be unwilling or too distressed to give this information.

Figure 3: Priority 2 Delivery against Profile Aggregate Outcomes per service area (2.4, 2.5, 2.6) 2017-22 Q1-Q19



	2.4 Specialist emergency refuge provision	2.5 Support services SDV VCOs	2.6 Harmful practices (FGM, HBV, forced marriage, other)
Profile	7,586	4,410	15,193
Actual	7,613	4,579	18,471
Difference	27	169	3,278
Variance	0%	4%	22%
Annual Grants Value (£m)	£0.84	£0.24	£0. 32
Number of Providers	1	1	1

3.5 Providers continue to support vulnerable and disadvantaged service users within the protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010. By quarter 19¹⁰:

- 87.6 per cent were female
- 20.6 per cent were under 25
- 8.8 per cent were aged over 55
- 72 per cent were ethnic minorities¹¹
- 13.5 per cent declared a disability (30.4 per cent excluding prefer not to say)

¹⁰ Based on self-declaration; users may declare more than one protected characteristic e.g., disability

¹¹ Includes Asian - all, Black - all, Chinese, Latin American, Middle Eastern, mixed ethnicity, white European, white Irish and white other

- 3.9 per cent were LGBT¹² (13.3 per cent excluding prefer not to say)
- 3,188 people had no recourse to public funds (2 per cent)

Policy and wider environment

3.6 Victims' Bill Consultation: Following the announcement in May 2021 to introduce a Bill to improve support for victims (the Victims' Bill), the Ministry of Justice ran a [consultation](#) to inform the development the Victims' Bill from 9 December 2021 to 3 February 2022. The Victim's Bill consultation included questions relating to the provision of services to victims of serious crime including sexual violence and domestic abuse:

- the commissioning and delivery of victim support through community-based services, including the possibility of a new statutory duty requiring organisations such as local authorities and NHS bodies to commission community-based support services for victims of crime
- improving advocacy support for victims of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence and other serious violence and improving advocacy for children and young people.

3.7 London Councils, with input from borough colleagues, provided a response to the consultation, focusing on the provision of community-based support and advocacy services. Currently, national funding is available (through the Domestic Abuse Act Duty 4) for victims of domestic abuse living in safe accommodation, but not for those living in the community. This is a major gap in provision and London Councils is calling on the government to address this gap through the Victims' Bill.

London Councils' response included calls for:

- all statutory duty to be accompanied with long term, sustainable funding for services

¹² Lesbian, gay, bisexual, identify as trans or a person with trans history or declared other

- flexible, non-siloed funding that can be effectively joined up with funding for support for victims in safe accommodation, to ensure a seamless journey of victim support
- the implementation of any new statutory duties to come with robust guidance and sufficient time to allow local authorities to achieve truly joined up and strategic implementation
- the government to prioritise mental health support for victims and survivors of violence and abuse
- the government to prioritise support for particularly vulnerable victims of crime, such as victims with multiple disadvantages and victims with no recourse to public funds.

3.8 The [Draft Online Safety Bill](#), which aims to regulate and reduce harmful content online is expected to be introduced to parliament over the next few months. The government has announced [new provisions](#) including the introduction of the offence of sending a genuinely threatening message (including threats of sexual violence) and a “psychological harm” offence, which includes online threatening behaviour against women and girls.

3.9 The government’s [Nationality and Borders Bill](#) is currently at committee stage in the house of Lords. The Bill introduces a new “temporary protection status” for refugees and asylum seekers who have a genuine need for protection but enter the country through an irregular route; those with this status would be provided with minimum levels of support required under international law. This would impact women fleeing gender-based violence who have entered the UK via irregular routes.

3.10 The [Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill](#) is in its final stages. The Bill includes a duty on local authorities and other organisations to tackle [serious violence](#), including domestic abuse and sexual violence.

3.11 The government has launched consultations on [preventing local authorities from applying the local connection test](#) to social housing applicants who are victims of

domestic abuse and on the [impact of joint tenancies](#) on victims of domestic abuse.

- 3.12 The Domestic Abuse Act 2021: Funding under the Domestic Abuse Act Duty 4 has been announced for 2022/23. £20,745,496 has been allocated to the GLA to commission services in London, compared to £20,688,230 allocated for 2021/22. London boroughs have received £1,238,395 (combined) directly to fund activities required under the Domestic Abuse Act as tier two authorities. An overview of the funding allocations can be found [here](#).
- 3.13 MOPAC¹³ is implementing duty 4 of the Domestic Abuse Act on behalf of the GLA, to provide support services for victims and survivors of Domestic Abuse in safe accommodation. Currently, MOPAC is evaluating bids from providers to deliver services, with the aim for services to mobilise by 28 March 2021.
- 3.14 MOPAC published its [Strategy for the Delivery of support for victims in Safe Accommodation](#) in December.
- 3.15 The London Domestic Abuse Partnership Board, which includes representatives from London Councils and local authorities, has met three times. The Partnership Board will lead on addressing pan-London issues in areas including housing, data collection and pathways between services.
- 3.16 The Mayor of London published a [Draft Police and Crime Plan \(PCP\)](#) in November 2021. “Making London a city in which women and girls are safer and feel safer” is listed as a priority in the plan, and MOPAC will be refreshing London’s Violence Against Women and Girls strategy. London Councils’ Lead Member for Policing and Crime, Councillor Jas Athwal, wrote to the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, calling for greater police engagement with local authorities around VAWG and Domestic Abuse to be included in the plan.
- 3.17 London’s Victim’s Commissioner, Claire Waxman, published the update [London Rape Review 2021](#) in December. It continues to be a bleak picture for victims of rape in London using the criminal justice system, with only one per cent of cases analysed reaching court.

¹³ Mayor’s Office for Policing and Crime

3.18 London Councils has worked with the GLA to encourage boroughs to sign up to the [Women's Night Safety Charter](#); 25 of the 33 have now signed up to the charter.

Service Area 2.1

3.19 Despite Covid-19 restrictions easing, and the partnership reporting an improvement in school's ability to engage with the project, Covid-19 is still impacting the delivery of the Tender Education and Arts Prevention project, with education settings becoming increasingly cautious again with who they invite on site to deliver sessional work. Tender has indicated it is unsure of the impact the Omicron variant will have on the rest of the programme and their ability to deliver their remaining targets, giving an example of one staff session at Saint Gabriel's College in Lambeth, which was attended by only nine of the expected 60 teachers.

3.20 Capacity has also been a challenge for this partnership in this quarter. There have been significant staff changes in the lead partner Tender, as well as some of the partners, which have had to induct new staff, hand over projects or use remaining staff to deliver programmes. Two of the partner organisations (IMECE¹⁴ and LAWRS¹⁵) raised concerns regarding understaffing and their capacity to input evaluation data. Tender, as the lead partner, will undertake the recording on their behalf. This pressure on staffing has in turn also impacted on borough engagement this quarter as the partnership has concentrated on delivery. Tender staff are now fully inducted, and they forecast the next quarter to be "hugely successful with a significant increase in booked projects".

3.21 Partner IKWRO¹⁶ has also reported a lack of engagement when trying to find a Champion School to take the remaining work in the boroughs of Hounslow and Hammersmith and Fulham; again Covid was cited as an ongoing issue for schools cancelling booked work but IKWRO continue to work hard to encourage further bookings, and Tender continues to provide them support and contacts.

¹⁴ IMECE is a woman only community based charity aiming to improve the lives of BAMER and, particularly Turkish, Kurdish and Turkish Cypriot women.

¹⁵ Latin American Women's Rights Service

¹⁶ Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation

3.22 Despite these challenges, the partnership reports significant work completed across boroughs and has highlighted the return of face-to-face delivery which has been well received by pupils. Tender feel the work is felt more strongly by the young people when delivered this way. Highlights this quarter include LAWRS being able to adapt its sessions for the larger than anticipated number of Spanish speakers in the delivery of two-day Healthy Relationships Project in Lambeth, which received great feedback from staff and students.

3.23 Tender Education and Arts highlighted articles detailing issues pertinent to schools and their funded project, including:

- [school absences caused by COVID-19 mean that beneficiary numbers are likely impacted this Quarter.](#)
- [conversations about the impact of porn are receiving mainstream attention, with further examination on the link between porn consumption and ideas of consent, boundaries and abusive behaviour](#)
- [Incel culture targets fragile masculinity and reinforces sexist views of women.](#)

Young men at risk of radicalisation are being drawn into subcultures that promote unhealthy perceptions of relationships.

Service Area 2.2

3.24 Solace has appointed Judith Banjoko as Interim CEO for the next nine to 12 months whilst recruitment for the permanent CEO takes place. Judith was formerly Solace's Director of Services. Solace's board of trustees has tasked the Interim CEO to commission an independent organisational culture review with the executive team.

3.25 Demand continues to be high for all the ASCENT Advice and Counselling services. The hubs are unable to answer significant numbers of call made during the advice line opening hours and counselling waiting lists in many boroughs have been closed for at least part of the quarter due to the high number of referrals. Partners are working hard to reopen lists and ensure there is access to counselling in a timely manner.

- 3.26 Solace reports that there has been an increase in referrals for service users with no recourse to public funds (NRPF), with service users reporting that their perpetrators used their immigration status to stop them seeking help. Solace's NRPF project was temporarily closed for referrals due to capacity issues, and Solace has reported "gatekeeping" from local authorities despite the local authorities having a duty to provide support under section 17.
- 3.27 Solace provided both remote and face-to-face advice and counselling this quarter; some partners suspended or reversed returns to the office due to the emergence of the Omicron variant. Groupwork was delivered by all partners except Jewish Women's Aid whose groupwork delivery continues to be suspended due to the complexities of safeguarding women during remote delivery.
- 3.28 Funded organisations attended events for 16 Days of Action and International day of Elimination of Violence Against women including:
- White Ribbon Day in Harrow and the Never Forgotten vigil organised by Million Women Rise.
 - IKWRO held its annual conference online, A Turning Point in Ending "Honour"-Based Abuse.
 - Nia delivered specialist training in Brent and Waltham Forest.
 - SignHealth held a workshop on Domestic Abuse in the Deaf Community and its Young Person Advocacy team took over their Instagram page posting role playing and educational videos on topics such as consent, sexting and issues in the LGBT+ community.
- 3.29 Solace report continuing issues with local authorities moving women into safe and stable housing, which lengthen advocacy and time in refuge and impacting partners' ability to achieve this outcome. The partnership also reports difficulties communicating with statutory services as remote working continues, and gives examples of no BSL interpreter being booked for homeless application appointments or lack of responses from some borough services.
- 3.30 Stonewall Housing, partner in the DAP partnership led by GALOP, has indicated there has been an increase in requests for assistance due to threat of evictions,

following Covid measures that prevented evictions from taking place due to arrears being lifted.

- 3.31 SignHealth has resumed face-to-face school prevention workshops and report how much better it is to be back in the classroom, as face-to-face interaction is far more beneficial. They worked with four schools this quarter reaching over 70 young people. Towards the end of the quarter, with the updated government guidance, most interactions returned to remote support.
- 3.32 Signhealth has reported positive engagement with boroughs including the boroughs of Enfield, Haringey and Bromley; not only VAWG teams but other teams such as adult social services and safeguarding. However, they also reported instances of poor or no communication from boroughs, including an incident where no BSL interpreter was booked for a homeless application appointment.

Service Area 2.3

- 3.33 RASASC, partner in the pan-London Domestic and Sexual Violence Helplines and Data Collection commission¹⁷ reported a dip in calls which they attribute to Covid-19 disruptions and internal changes. They have been unable to complete their normal number of training programmes which in turn left the helpline team stretched and reduced the number of calls they were able to answer but, with training continuing in quarter 20, they are confident the number of calls answered will increase and volunteer levels should be back to pre-pandemic levels by the end of quarter 20.
- 3.34 Refuge reports changes to the voicemail service have reduced the time spent on administration responding to call-backs and voicemails. Refuge also carried out recruitment and training of new helpline advisers to increase the team's capacity and new team leaders are now in post.
- 3.35 Refuge launched a new referral pathway to refer cases from the helpline to Refuge's in-house tech leads who specialise in complex case work for women facing abuse through technology; this quarter helpline team members identified and referred 18 high-risk cases. All helpline team members have now had training

¹⁷ Led by Women's Aid

around tech abuse, so they are able to support callers where referrals were not appropriate.

- 3.36 Women's Aid increased the operating hours of the Live Chat Helpline from 10am-12noon 5 days a week in October 2019 to 8am-6pm, Monday-Friday, and 10am-6pm on weekends, in November 2021. Women's Aid has also increased the number of support workers available online at any given time.
- 3.37 For several quarters, Women and Girls Network (WGN) has reported calls from a significant number of survivors that are experiencing multiple disadvantages and present with mental health issues and/or active suicidality. This quarter they have seen a rise in repeat callers utilising the helpline for ongoing emotional support. There has also be an increase in calls for support around recent experiences of sexual violence.

Service Area 2.4

- 3.38 The Specialist Refuge Network led by Ashiana report continued challenges when registering asylum claims such as delays with the Home Office scheduling interview. The current timeframe is eight to 12 weeks from registering the claim which leaves clients with little financial support and no official documentation to show their asylum claim has been registered.
- 3.39 Ashiana report a lack of cooperation from social services when seeking support for clients with NRPF. They report examples of clients who have been told to return to the perpetrator as there is no accommodation for them. This often hampers any chances clients have to recover from the abuse they have suffered and a loss of faith in authorities.
- 3.40 Partner, Solace, reports that Homelessness Officers are still asking about local connection or using "safeguarding" as a reason to not accept an application.
- 3.41 Covid-19 impacted staffing levels and the lack of access to rapid flow tests made it difficult to manage service users at Solace's refuges. A London borough sent a stockpile which helped the residents and enabled them to visit family and friends safely over the holiday period.

3.42 The partnership reports ongoing challenges with the Metropolitan Police to accept missing women as missing persons, due to their “chaotic lifestyles”.

Service Area 2.5

3.43 The ASCENT project led Women’s Resource Centre (WRC) was disrupted by staff illness and absence, and changing Covid restrictions made planning and scheduling difficult.

3.44 WRC reported good attendance from borough officers at its training and events. In the last quarter 21 officers from 12 boroughs attended training.

3.45 Partner AVA reported a success with its online delivery after working with a digital agency to move its training onto a new platform. A large-scale webinar on supporting children and young people was the first big event on the platform which offers increased functionality and a more professional appearance. The feedback was very positive.

3.46 WRC reported challenges in attracting organisations in a small number of boroughs (Hammersmith and Fulham, Harrow and Greenwich). WRC continues to raise awareness of its offer with borough officers and the partnership continues to circulate lists of new organisations and potential contacts in these boroughs; targeting organisations in these boroughs will be a priority for the final quarter.

Service Area 2.6

3.47 The Ending Harmful Practices (EHP) commission led by Asian Women’s Resource Centre (AWRC) delivered training to professionals in boroughs including Waltham Forest, Sutton and Lambeth as part of the 16 Days of Activism.

3.48 Like most Priority 2 services, the EHP partnership has been affected by staff sickness due to Covid-19 and reduced capacity across teams.

3.49 Partners have found that counselling has needed to take on more of an advocacy role due the range and complexity of issues clients are experiencing. Partners delivering counselling have provided multilingual counselling support to uphold the importance of the mother tongue in therapy.

- 3.50 Finding safe accommodation as well as addressing immigration issues and accessing financial and legal support, particularly for women who have no recourse to public funds, women with disabilities, complex needs or have more than two children, continued to be a real challenge.

Performance management

- 3.51 All Priority 2 projects are currently rated Green (see Table 6).
- 3.52 The VAWG Consortium Prevention Partnership, led by Tender Education and Arts has an improved Green RAG rating. It has worked hard to maintain delivery despite having to grapple with the continued negative impact of Covid 19 and staff turnover affecting all partners (see Service Area 2.1 above).
- 3.53 Officers note that when schools were closed due to the lockdown at the beginning of year four, London Councils agreed that project partners could redeploy staff in quarters 13 and 14 to work on alternative activities/outcomes in other ASCENT commissions in response to needs emerging from the pandemic, and consequently would not be able to fully achieve the outcome targets outlined for those quarters of this project. Initially, the targets for quarters 13 and 14 were not removed from Tender's cumulative totals because Tender aimed to try and catch up on some of the work they were unable to carry out during school closures, as well as utilising some of the underspend from year four to deliver 16 additional healthy relationship courses.
- 3.54 However, due to the continued impact of Covid on the project and despite Tender's very best efforts, Tender has advised that it will not be able to deliver the targets from quarters 13 and 14 or the additional 16 healthy relationship courses. London Councils, therefore, has removed the relevant targets from its profile and will retain unspent funding from that period.
- 3.55 Despite the many difficulties encountered by the project (outlined in Service Area 2.1 above) Tender maintain they will continue to work to meet remaining targets. Officers will continue to monitor the commission's progress.
- 3.56 SignHealth's Domestic Abuse project remains RAG rated Green. However, the commission's delivery against profile percentage remains at 79 per cent delivery

between at the end of quarter 19. Following profiling issues earlier in the programme, Signhealth made improvements in delivery, however, along with all commissions, they have encountered reductions in service activity due to Covid-19 restrictions. Service issues affecting this equalities group have been reported previously to this committee¹⁸, and in Service Area 2.2 in this report. Officers have kept delivery variance under review.

¹⁸ Performance of the Grants Programme 2017-21 item 6, section 5 - 13 November 2019; Performance of the Grants Programme 2017-21, Item 5, section 6 - 8 July 2020

4 No recourse to public funds projects

- 4.1 In December 2019, Leaders Committee agreed that £1million Priority 3 underspend could be used to increase Priority 1 and 2 grants to expand immigration advice for service users with no recourse to public funds.
- 4.2 In May, Grants Committee (through Urgency Procedures) approved three projects to take forward this work:

Table 2: No recourse to public funds projects

Priority	Organisation	Grant Amount
1	Shelter	£258,743
	St Mungo's	£105,012
2	Asian Women's Resource Centre	£581,215
No recourse to public funds TOTAL		£944,970

4.3 Projects focused on:

- services that lead to resolving, and/or speeding up the resolution of, Supported Cases (cases under section 17 of the Children Act 1989), specifically, proactive steps to resolve cases and help families plan how they can move out of support, whilst reducing costs incurred by local authorities
- support to street homeless users with NRPF and street homeless users with needs in respect of the EU Settlement Scheme
- support to users on temporary visas as partners with NRPF where relationships have broken down because of domestic violence requiring support with an application for destitution domestic violence (DDV) concession – support to include liaising with the Home Office to lift NRPF from visas as quickly as possible.

4.4 Project performance to the end of December 2021 is shown below.

Table 3: No recourse to public funds project performance to December 2021

		Shelter	St Mungo's [#]	AWRC [§]
Number of NRPF users assisted	Profile	220	1,299	300
	Actual	395	1,920	501
Number of NRPF users receiving initial advice and onward referral	Profile	65	250	300
	Actual	232	482	282
Number of NRPF users receiving Level 2 (or below) casework support	Profile	120	125	300
	Actual	154	235	279
Number of NRPF users supported with Change of Condition Applications	Profile	63		70
	Actual	35		112
- NRPF condition removed	Profile	90%		50%
	Actual	34		141
Number of Asylum Seekers supported - section 95 asylum support applications	Profile	39		100
	Actual	16		26
Number of NRPF users receiving complex case support	Profile	2		160
	Actual	41		95
Number of NRPF users provided with pre-employment support	Profile	0		72
	Actual	39		149

[#]Delivery completed June 2021

[§]Delivery completed March 2021

4.5 The very high 'Number of NRPF users assisted' and 'Number of NRPF users receiving 'Initial advice and onward referral' can be partly attributed to people with leave to remain with NRPF becoming unemployed (and subsequently requiring support) during the height of the pandemic, and the significant proportion of rough sleepers with NRPF who entered temporary accommodation through the 'everyone in' scheme.

4.6 For example, between April and June 2020, there was a 672 per cent increase in the number of applications to change conditions of leave, compared to the previous quarter ([Home Office Immigration Statistics, July 2020](#)).

4.7 Information about protected characteristics (Equality Act 2010) is collected by the projects. There is a high proportion of people who did not provide information or preferred not to say to many of the equality's questions, so the following information, whilst accurate, may not fully reflect the characteristics of the people

that have been supported. By September 2021, of the people that the projects supported and who provided a response to the relevant equality questions¹⁹:

- 54 per cent were female
- 9 per cent were under 25
- 7 per cent were over 55
- 97 per cent were ethnic minorities²⁰
- 26 per cent declared a disability
- 3 per cent were LGBTQ+²¹

Asian Women's Resource Centre

4.8 The Asian Women's Resource Centre completed delivery in March 2021. The final report was made to Grants Committee in the [July Grants Committee performance report](#).

St Mungo's

4.9 St Mungo's completed delivery in June 2021. The final report was made to Grants Committee in the [November Grants Committee performance report](#).

Shelter

4.10 Shelter, working with Praxis, a specialist immigration partner, continued to respond to high demand to the end of the project and targets were, for the most part, exceeded.

4.11 Praxis has joined the Shelter partnership for the 2022-2026 main programme and will to continue to provide specialist support.

¹⁹ Based on self-declaration; users may declare more than one protected characteristic

²⁰ Includes Asian - all, Black - all, Chinese, Latin American, Middle Eastern, mixed ethnicity, white European, white Irish and white other

²¹ Lesbian, gay, bisexual, identify as trans or a person with trans history or declared other

5 Youth Homelessness Hub (Hotel 1824)

- 5.1 This section of the report provides brief information to the end of February 2022 on the operation of the youth homelessness hub - Hotel 1824, hosted in the London Borough of Hounslow - for 18-to 24-year-olds sleeping rough in the capital.
- 5.2 Phil Kerry, Chief Executive Officer of New Horizon Youth Centre, will be joining the March Grants Committee meeting to update Committee members on the progress of the service, activity related to the anticipated closure of Hotel 1824 and plans for funding and delivering a future service.

Demographics

- 5.3 The following provides information about the cohort of young people that have been supported by the project:
- the age distribution is evenly spread, with 2 to 21-year-olds continuing to be most highly represented.
 - the hub continues to provide support for a higher proportion of women compared to other generic provision - 36 per cent of guests are female, 59 per cent are male and three per cent are transgender or non-binary
 - young people who identify as Black or Black British make up the highest proportion of guests at 50 per cent, with a further 10 per cent identifying as Asian and 19 per cent of guests identifying as white
 - 74 per cent of young people identify as heterosexual and 17 per cent as LGBTQ+
 - 61 per cent of young people are UK nationals and a further 16 per cent are EU Nationals with either pre-settled or Settled status, 13 per cent have indefinite leave to remain
 - 48 per cent are in receipt of benefits, and 22 per cent are already in employment, education or training.
 - 25 per cent of the young people have experience of the care system
 - 21 per cent have an offending history
 - to date, young people accessing the project have represented all but 2 of the London boroughs; the most common local connections have been Camden

and Lambeth. The only boroughs not represented are City of London and Havering.

Table 4: Local connection

Connection		Connection		Connection	
Barking & Dagenham	3	Hammersmith & Fulham	8	Newham	4
Barnet	6	Haringey	1	Redbridge	1
Bexley	5	Harrow	2	Richmond	1
Brent	5	Havering	0	Southwark	5
Bromley	3	Hillingdon	3	Sutton	1
Camden	12	Hounslow	3	Tower Hamlets	8
City of London	0	Islington	3	Waltham Forest	6
Croydon	7	Kensington & Chelsea	1	Wandsworth	9
Ealing	5	Kingston upon Thames	3	Westminster	5
Enfield	6	Lambeth	11	Outside London	10
Greenwich	3	Lewisham	6	Outside UK	2
Hackney	4	Merton	3	Unknown	19

Housing histories

5.4 The young people that have been supported have differing housing histories:

- Approximately 96 per cent of the young people did not have anywhere stable to live when they first arrived at the hub. Forty-four per cent were already rough sleeping or has rough slept, 30 per cent were in emergency or short-term accommodation and 26 per cent were sofa surfing.
- Fifty-four per cent of young people had already approached their local authority about their living situation, of whom only 33 per cent were assessed under the Homelessness Reduction Act.
- The majority of young people who have moved into Hotel 1824 have been homeless for three months or less. The table below provides the breakdown for the full project.

Table 5: Length of homelessness

Length of time homeless	Number of young people	Percentage of young people
Under 1 month	64	37%
1-3 months	29	17%
3-6 months	21	12%
6-12 months	6	3%
More than 12 months	29	17%
N/A or not known	25	14%

Move on progress

- 5.5 Of the 174 young people who have stayed at Hotel 1824 to date:
- 112 have had a positive move on – eight into short term accommodation, 90 into long term accommodation, eight returning to live with family
 - six returned to staying with friends/sofa surfing
 - 24 abandoned the accommodation
 - 13 were asked to leave.
- 5.6 Generally, young people have been asked to leave for non-engagement (not wanting to complete housing assessments or access our support) rather than risk.
- 5.7 Of those that had a positive move on:
- 17 per cent moved on within 28 days
 - 29 per cent moved on within 56 days
 - 28 per cent moved on within 90 days.
- 5.8 The overall average length of stay for current guests and those that have moved on is 63 days.

Project wind down

- 5.9 The current site is only available until mid-March at which point it is being demolished. New Horizon Youth Centre has been working on an exit/transition plan from the end of January and should there not be a seamless transition to a new site of equal occupancy, will reduce numbers in the hotel accordingly based

on average move on times. Where needed, New Horizon has an 'emergency fund' separate from the hotel funding for short term stays in private accommodation.

- 5.10 Phil Kerry from New Horizon Youth Centre will provide an update on options available for a new site during his presentation to Grants Committee (item 6).

6 Risk-based performance management (RAG rating) – Project level performance

- 6.1 Project performance is measured using the programme-wide Red-Amber-Green (RAG) rating system. The RAG rating system forms part of the Commissioning Performance Management Framework agreed by members in February 2017²². The methodology for the system is set out in **Appendix 1** of this report. The rating system shows whether a project's performance is going up, going down or is steady across quarters.
- 6.2 The RAG ratings for quarter 19 (October to December 2021) are set out in the table below. The Committee will note that all projects in quarter 19 are rated Green. The direction-of-travel indicators show that the performance of most the projects is steady or improved. Detailed information on the RAG scoring methodology is provided in **Appendix 1**.
- 6.3 The NRPF projects discussed in section 4 sit outside of the RAG system and are monitored against the performance indicators in Table 3 (paragraph 4.4).

²² Commissioning Performance Management Framework, Item 5, Grants Committee, meeting on 8 February 2017

Table 6: RAG Results

Service area	Organisation (lead)	Project	Partners	RAG Rating Q18	RAG Rating Q19
1.1	Shelter	STAR Partnership (Supporting Tenancies, Accommodation and Reconnections)	Thames Reach, Stonewall Housing, St Mungo's	Green	Green ↔
1.1	St Mungo Community Housing Association	Housing Advice, Resettlement and Prevention Connect (HARP)	n/a	Green	Green ↔
1.2	New Horizon Youth Centre	London Youth Gateway	Depaul UK, Stonewall Housing, Galop, Albert Kennedy Trust, Shelter	Green	Green ↔
1.3	Homeless Link	PLUS Project	Shelter	Green	Green ↔
1.3	Standing Together Against Domestic Violence	Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance	n/a	Green	Green ↔
2.1	Tender Education and Arts	London Councils pan-London VAWG Consortium Prevention Project	IMECE, Women and Girls' Network, The Nia Project, Solace Women's Aid, Latin American Women's Rights Service, FORWARD, Ashiana Network, Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation	Green	Green ↗
2.2	Solace Women's Aid	Ascent: Advice and Counselling	ASHIANA Network, Asian Women's Resource Centre, Chinese Information & Advice Centre, Ethnic Alcohol Counselling in Hounslow, Iranian and Kurdish Women Rights Organisation, IMECE Turkish Speaking Women's Group, Jewish Women's Aid, Latin American Women's Rights Service, The Nia Project, Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre, Rights of Women, Southall Black Sisters, Women and Girls Network	Green	Green ↔

Service area	Organisation (lead)	Project	Partners	RAG Rating Q18	RAG Rating Q19
2.2	Galop	The LGBT DAP (Domestic Abuse Partnership)	Stonewall Housing, London Friend, Switchboard	Green	Green ↔
2.2	SignHealth	Domestic Abuse Service (formerly known as DeafHope London)	n/a	Green	Green ↔
2.3	Women's Aid	Pan-London Domestic and Sexual Violence Helplines and Data Collection Project	Refuge, Women and Girls Network, Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre, Respect	Green	Green ↔
2.4	Ashiana Network	Specialist Refuge Network	Ashiana Network, Solace Women's Aid, The Nia Project, Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation	Green	Green ↔
2.5	Women's Resource Centre	The ASCENT project	Respect (perpetrators), Imkaan, Rights of Women, Against Violence, Abuse and Women and Girls Network	Green	Green ↔
2.6	Asian Women's Resource Centre	Ascent Ending Harmful Practices project	Ashiana Network, Latin American Women's Rights Service, Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation, IMECE Women's Centre, Southall Black Sisters Trust, Women and Girls Network, FORWARD, Domestic Violence Intervention Project	Green	Green ↔

7 Value for Money

7.1 London Councils Grants Programme administers public money on behalf of, and with, the London boroughs and therefore must ensure value for money - the optimal use of resources to achieve intended outcomes. The National Audit Office model of value for money focuses on three E's:

- **Economy:** minimising the cost of resources used or required (inputs);
- **Efficiency:** the relationship between the output from goods or services and the resources to produce them; and
- **Effectiveness:** the relationship between the intended and actual results of public spending (outcomes)

7.2 The *Commissioning Performance Management Framework* (agreed by members in February 2017) sets out the controls used to ensure value for money for the programme. This includes checks on audited accounts, a review of annual budgets and, where underspend has been identified, deductions from payments. A 15 per cent cap is in place with regards to projects' overhead costs.

7.3 Officers continue to work on the closure of the 2017-22 programme in line with the commissioning and monitoring arrangements policy to ensure the safeguarding of public money invested in the programme by the boroughs. The final grant instalment is being paid in two instalments to allow for adjustments for any under-delivery and/or underspend. The first payment relating to the final quarter (quarter 20) is being released in early 2022, on satisfactory submission of returns relating to the period October to December 2021. The second payment will be made following receipt of a satisfactory final return after the close of the programme, including an evaluation report and a report on any underspend.

7.4 Where there is underspend, the final payment will be reduced, or if the figure is greater than the final payment an invoice will be issued. Where there is significant under-delivery (greater than the agreed 15 per cent tolerance), officers will reduce the final payment proportionally in line with the level of under-delivery. Lead partners have already been notified of these proposed steps and officers have informed the commissions at risk of the predicted reduction. Officers will continue

to provide update reports to Grants Committee in the normal way and will provide a final report after the close of the programme.

- 7.5 London Councils operates a robust monitoring system to ensure figures reported are verifiable; the work commissions undertake has a far wider benefit and impact than is often shown through the figures. For example, a frontline organisation may support a service user through multiple interventions across the whole partnership. A second-tier commission may record work with one organisation but provide services to high numbers of their staff across separate departments or branches and so have a much greater reach in upskilling the voluntary and community sector than the figures indicate.
- 7.6 Most commissions have performed well against targets. Where issues with delivery have arisen, officers worked closely with the providers to ensure these were addressed. Improved partnership and cross priority working have led to better outcomes for service users. Where relevant, commissions work towards certain quality standards, and involve service users in the design and adaptation of the projects.
- 7.7 Information and data provided through the programme has been used by the policy team at London Councils, and by other stakeholders, to inform the strategic response to these priority areas.

8 Recommendations

- 8.1 The Grants Committee is asked to note:

a) outcomes at priority level:

- i) Priority 1, combatting homelessness, overall is six per cent above profile for quarters one to 19
- ii) Priority 2, tackling sexual and domestic violence, overall is eight per cent below profile for quarters one to 19

b) the number of interventions delivered in the relevant periods:

- i) Priority 1, combatting homelessness – 102,969

- ii) Priority 2, tackling sexual and domestic violence – 576,495
- c) project level performance, using the Red, Amber, Green (RAG) performance management system (explained at Appendix 1):
 - i) all projects are rated Green
 - ii) an update on performance management for two projects (paragraphs 3.52-3.56)
- d) the final update on the additional no recourse to public funds activity (section 4)
- e) the final update on the youth homelessness hub project (section 5)
- f) the update on closure arrangements for the end of the programme (paragraphs 7.3-7.4).
- g) the borough maps (Appendix 2)
- h) the project delivery information and contact details (Appendix 3), produced as a separate resource to provide members with a directory of services, with up-to-date contact information, as well as an update on performance

Appendix 1 RAG Rating Methodology

Appendix 2 Borough Maps

Appendix 3 Project Delivery Information and Contact Details

Financial Implications for London Councils

Funding for commissions was agreed at the meeting of the Grants Committee in February 2017, within the budget envelope agreed at London Councils Leaders' Committee in November 2016. The London Councils Grants Committee considered proposals for expenditure in 2022-23 at its meeting in November 2021, and Leaders' Committee agreed a budget at its meeting in December 2021.

Legal Implications for London Councils

None

Equalities Implications for London Councils

London Councils' funded services provide support to people within all the protected characteristics (Equality Act 2010), and specific targets groups highlighted as particularly hard to reach or more affected by the issues being tackled. Funded organisations are also required to submit equalities monitoring data, which can be collated across the grants scheme to provide data on the take up of services and gaps in provision to be addressed. The grants team reviews this annually.

Background Documents

Performance of Grants Programme 2017-22, Item 5, 24 November 2021

Extension to the Current 2017-21 Grants Programme, Item 13, 11 November 2020

Commissioning Performance Management Framework: Grants Committee Reporting Plan 2017-18 – Grants Committee, Item 14 12 July 2017

London Councils Grants Programme 2017-21, Item 4, London Councils Grants Committee, 8 February 2017

London Councils officers report quarterly to the Grants Committee on the performance of the grants programme, based on the Commissioning Performance Management Framework agreed by Grants Committee in February 2017.

The cornerstone of this at project level is a Red, Amber or Green (RAG) rating of all projects:

Green	80-100 points
Amber	55-79 points
RED	0-54 points

The RAG rating is made up of:

- Performance - delivery of outcomes, 70 per cent
- Quality - provider self-assessment and beneficiary satisfaction, 10 per cent
- Compliance - timeliness and accuracy of reporting, responsiveness and risk management, 20 per cent.

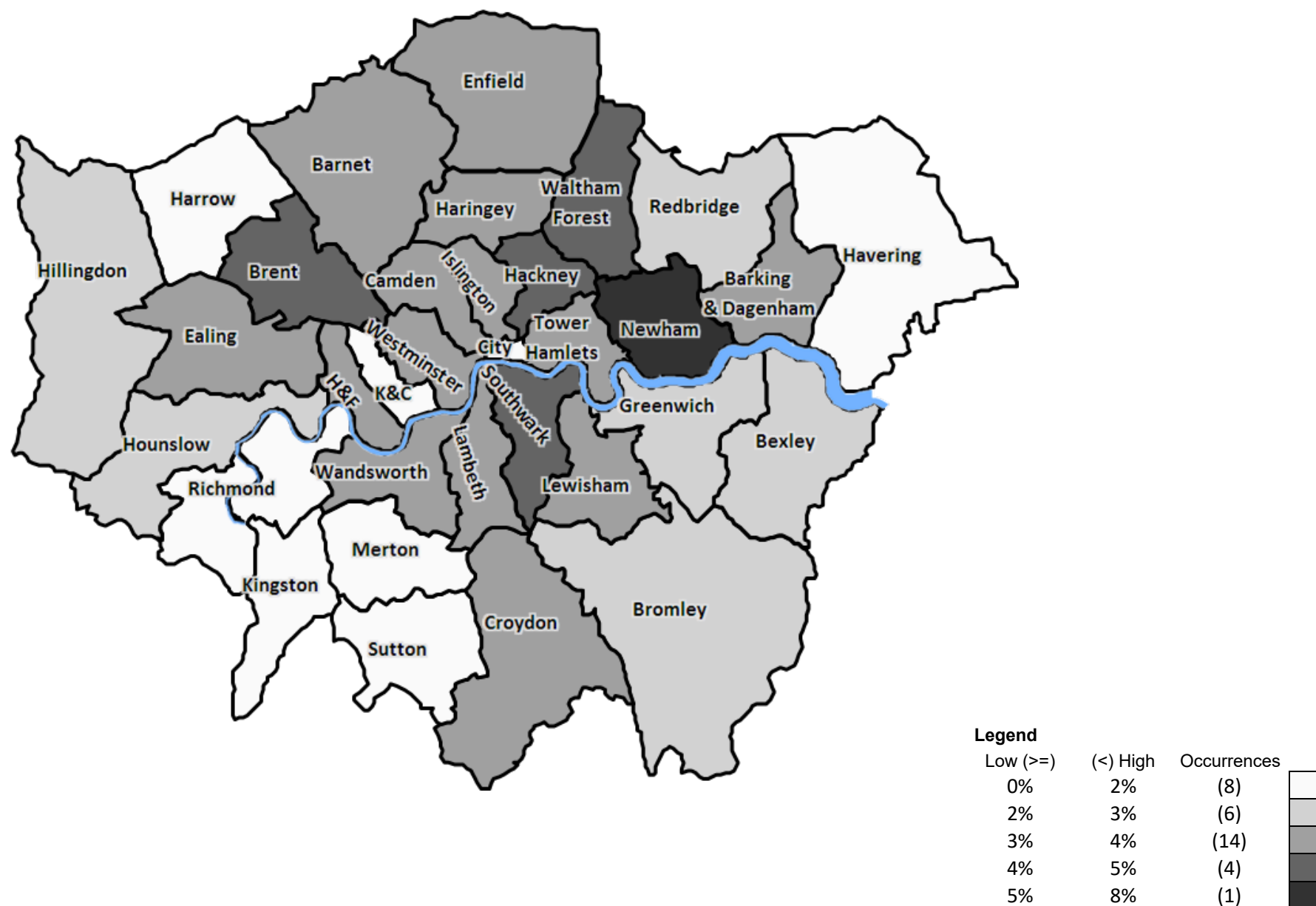
The requirement to meet at least 80 points to achieve a Green rating was agreed at the March 2018 Grants Committee, following a review by officers to ensure that the RAG rating system was appropriately highlighting performance issues.

The framework also sets out a risk-based approach to monitoring in which levels of monitoring are varied dependent on the RAG score of the project.

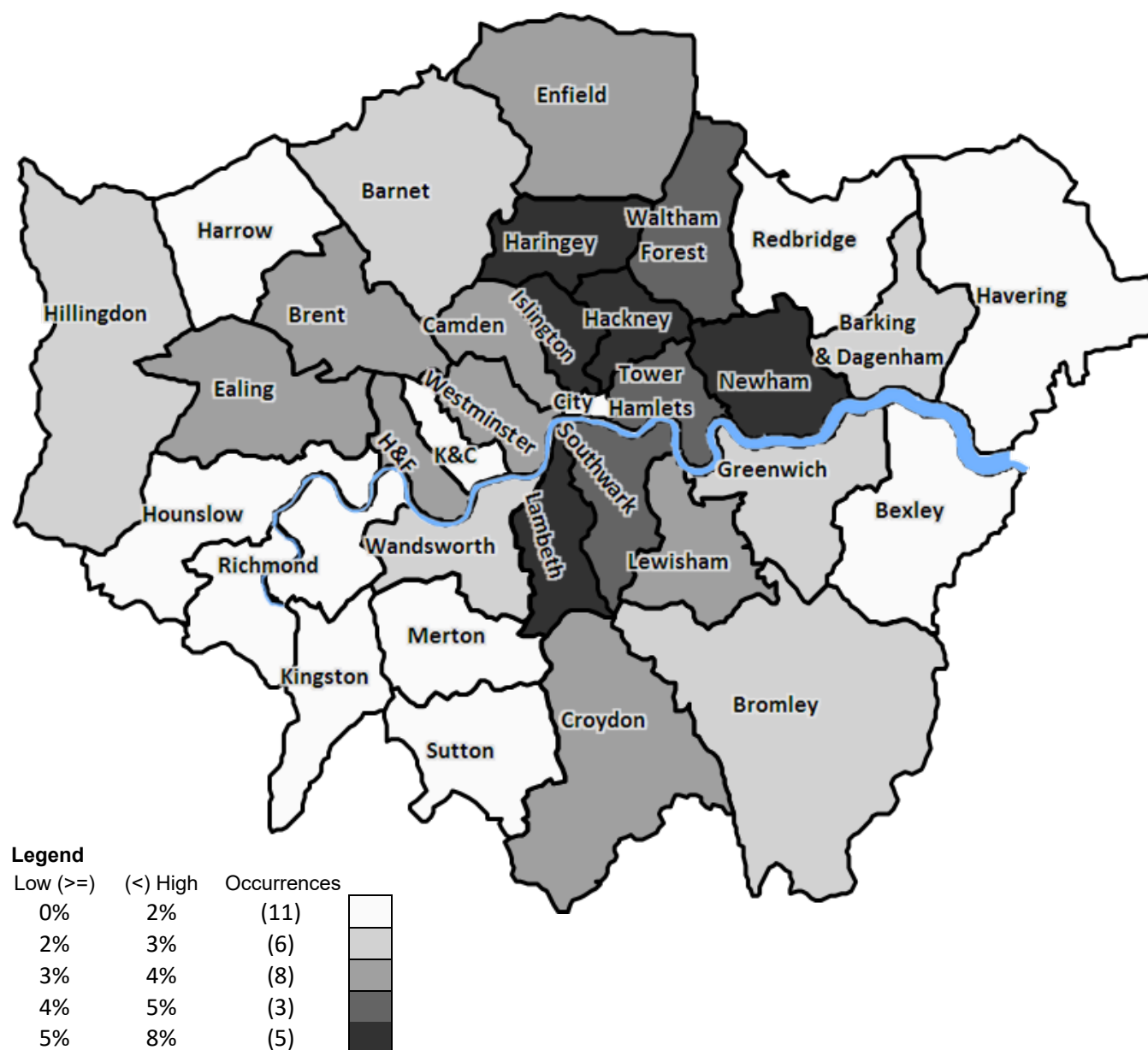
Performance change indicators (changes from one reporting quarter to the next)

↑	an increase of five or more percentage points
↗	an increase of more than two percentage points but less than five
↔	The score has remained relatively static with no significant change allowing for minor fluctuation between -two and +two percentage points
↘	a decrease over two percentage points but less than five
↓	a decrease of five or more percentage points

Priority 1: Combatting Homelessness indicative level of distribution based on need

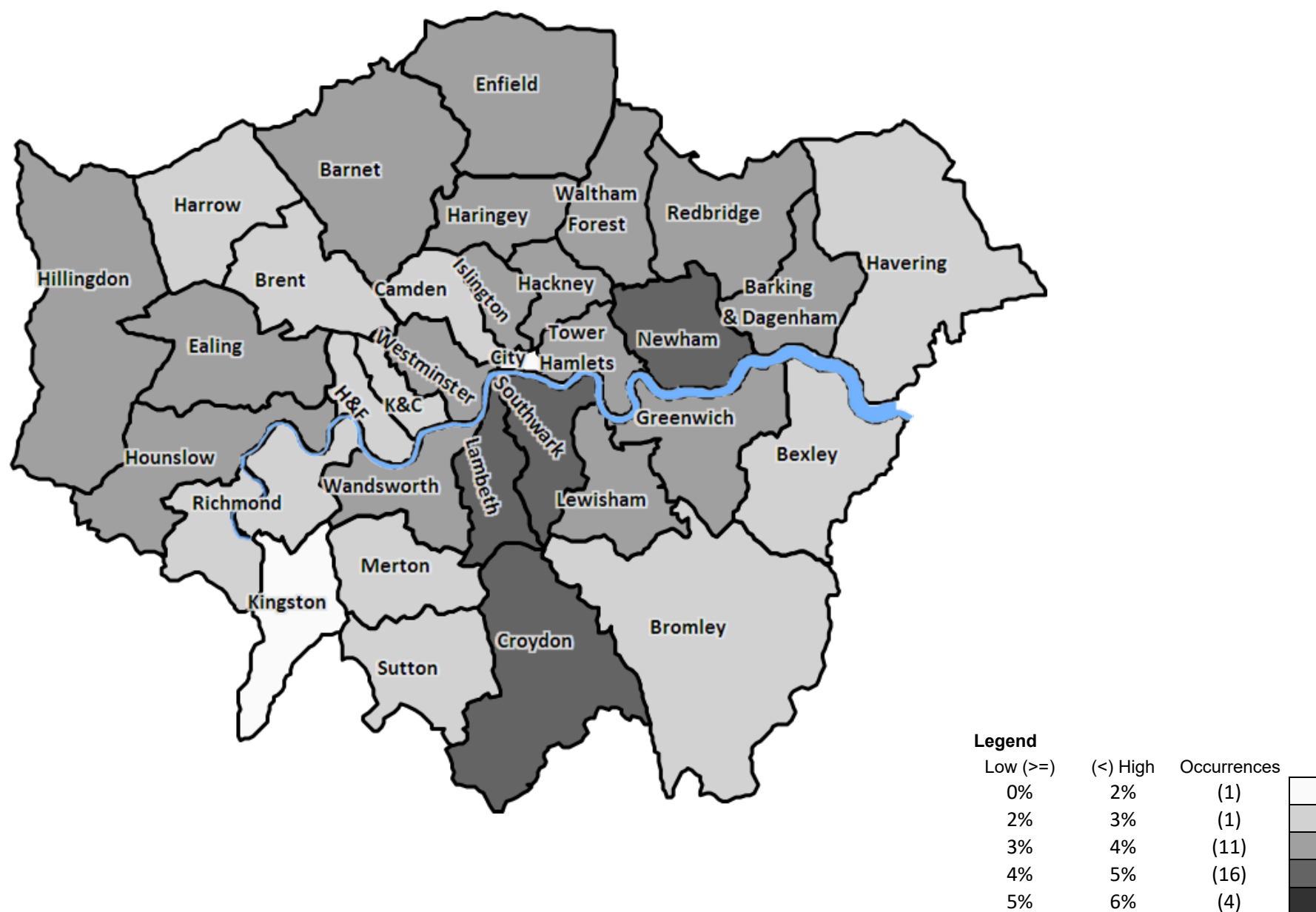


Priority 1: Combatting Homelessness actual distribution to December 2021

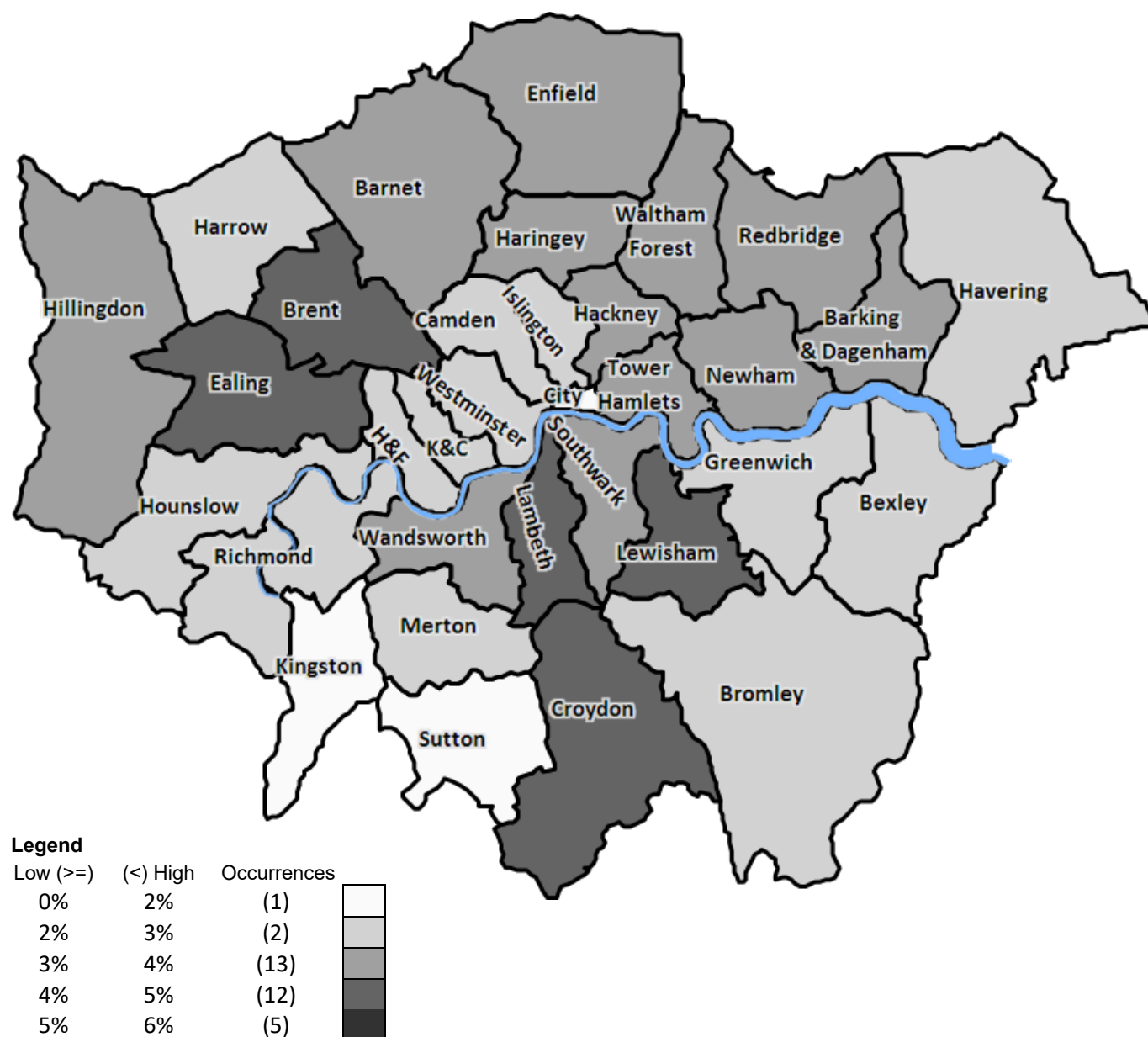
**Boroughs**

City of London	0.25%
Barking & Dagenham	2.71%
Barnet	2.82%
Bexley	1.32%
Brent	3.65%
Bromley	2.12%
Camden	3.83%
Croydon	3.42%
Ealing	3.34%
Enfield	3.19%
Greenwich	2.68%
Hackney	7.23%
Hammersmith & Fulham	3.46%
Haringey	5.11%
Harrow	1.21%
Havering	0.99%
Hillingdon	2.17%
Hounslow	1.76%
Islington	5.50%
Kensington & Chelsea	1.77%
Kingston upon Thames	0.92%
Lambeth	5.90%
Lewisham	3.77%
Merton	1.29%
Newham	6.83%
Redbridge	1.97%
Richmond upon Thames	0.69%
Southwark	4.80%
Sutton	0.68%
Tower Hamlets	4.09%
Waltham Forest	4.62%
Wandsworth	2.70%
Westminster	3.23%

Priority 2: Tackling Sexual and Domestic Violence - indicative level of distribution based on need



Priority 2: Tackling Sexual and Domestic Violence - actual distribution of delivery to December 2021



Boroughs	
City of London	0.27%
Barking & Dagenham	3.03%
Barnet	3.55%
Bexley	2.79%
Brent	4.03%
Bromley	2.57%
Camden	2.68%
Croydon	4.29%
Ealing	4.80%
Enfield	3.73%
Greenwich	2.76%
Hackney	3.10%
Hammersmith & Fulham	2.42%
Haringey	3.37%
Harrow	2.66%
Havering	2.52%
Hillingdon	3.54%
Hounslow	3.00%
Islington	2.90%
Kensington & Chelsea	2.41%
Kingston upon Thames	1.26%
Lambeth	4.30%
Lewisham	4.18%
Merton	2.33%
Newham	3.80%
Redbridge	3.29%
Richmond upon Thames	2.44%
Southwark	3.25%
Sutton	2.00%
Tower Hamlets	3.57%
Waltham Forest	3.18%
Wandsworth	3.10%
Westminster	2.91%

See separately produced Appendix



London Councils

Grants Programme 2017 to 2022

Performance of Commissions

April 2017 – December 2021

(Includes contact details for each project)

Priority 1 – Combatting Homelessness

Shelter	
Project name:	STAR Partnership (Supporting Tenancies, Accommodation and Reconnections)
Priority:	Priority 1: Combatting Homelessness
Specification:	1.1 Homelessness: Early intervention and prevention
Amount (1 year):	£1,003,495
Delivery partners: Thames Reach, Stonewall Housing, St Mungo's	
<p>Shelter is leading the STAR Partnership (Supporting Tenancies, Accommodation and Reconnections), a specialist partnership with Thames Reach, Stonewall Housing, St Mungo's, Praxis. This is a Pan-London housing and homelessness advice and support service for people Londoners over 25 needing help to access safe, secure and affordable housing.</p> <p>Through this partnership we aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Help secure short- and long-term accommodation - Help to resolve disputes putting tenancies at risk - Help with financial resilience - Help to improve physical and mental health - Help to access education, training and employment - Help for migrants to access immigration advice and support <p>We do this through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Free housing, welfare benefit, debt and immigration advice - Face to face and telephone advice appointments - Specialist, confidential housing advice and advocacy for LGBTQ+ people - Practical tenancy sustainment support - Assertive and targeted outreach direct to rough sleepers especially in hotspots and encampments - Support for people directly into the private rented sector - Personal resilience and independence planning to secure a long-term, healthy and happy home - Support to access health and other community services - Support to access employment and training - London-wide targeted engagement and promotion to be relevant and accessible to key priority groups in all 33 boroughs. 	

Contact Details	Referrals
<p>Karen Davey Karen Davey@shelter.org.uk (London Hub Manager)</p> <p>07901 514 255</p> <p>26-28 Ramsgate Street, London E8 2NA</p>	<p>https://england.shelter.org.uk/get_help/local_services/london</p> <p>STAR Video:</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mT4Q-Z9yKnM&list=PLrybnVaUKJhDptYtJlckblfN77mXMyIQT&index=1</p>

Outcome	2017-2022 Q19	
	Profile	Delivered
Number of new service users	23,750	26,174
Number assisted to obtain crisis or intermediate short-term accommodation	1,661	1,943
Number assisted to obtain suitable settled accommodation	1,743	2,287
Number with one/more protected equalities characteristic (Equality Act 2010)	1,796	3,570
Number of rough sleeper hotspot closures	237	188
Number with resolved landlord/accommodation service issues affecting tenancy stability (particularly in outer London) may include harassment, abandonment and behaviour issues	1,710	2,977
Numbers with disrepair resolved and able to maintain tenancy	1,900	1,169
Number supported to successfully sustain tenancies/accommodation for 6 months	474	541
Number supported to successfully sustain tenancies/accommodation for 12 months ¹	528	563
Number with resolved debt, benefits and financial hardship issues	2,731	2,877
Number with improved physical health	950	1,472
Number with improved mental health	2,185	2,509
Numbers referred successfully onto an employment project ²	807	646
Number with increased employability skills (including apprenticeships)	403	273
<p>Disrepair resolved and able to maintain tenancy – To address continued underperformance around achieving the outcome around disrepair, Shelter ran a Facebook campaign on disrepair. This advertised the STAR Partnership telephone advice line number for people to contact for further help.</p> <p>Numbers referred successfully onto an employment project and those with increased employability skills (including apprenticeships) - The client group are less ready for work, either because they are in a crisis situation with their housing, or too unwell or unfit for work. Despite this, referral work has increased from the last quarter amongst clients who have benefited from tenancy sustainment work.</p> <p>Number of rough sleeper hotspot closures - Thames Reach continue to face difficulty in meeting quarterly targets for this outcome which stems from the lower than average referrals for hotspots since the start of the pandemic. Furthermore, often when workers attend the sleep site there are insufficient numbers of people present for it to classify as a hotspot (where at least 3 individuals form a group at a designated sleep site) but work is still carried out.</p>		

¹ Reporting started from Q5

² London Councils Priority 3 referrals ended from Q10

St Mungo's	
Project name:	Housing Advice, Resettlement and Prevention Connect (HARP)
Priority:	Priority 1: Combatting Homelessness
Specification:	1.1 Homelessness: Early intervention and prevention
Amount (1 year):	£251,378
Delivery partners: N/A	
<p>St Mungo's will deliver a Pan London Housing, Advice, Resettlement and Prevention (HARP) service to people who are or are at risk of homelessness, providing holistic intervention. Proposed activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A through-the-gate service, enabling people access to intervention and housing, promoting a smooth transition into communities. - A service which is flexible to the demand of need 'making each contact count', allocating specialist workers in each region who will work and receive referrals from probation/CRCs, local authorities, GPs and prisons in that region. - A Central Hub providing access to intervention for people through self-referral route - A Helpline for outside London Prisons and probation/CRCs discharging people returning to London. - Specialist intervention, advocacy and housing promoting the well-being and interests of individuals with protected characteristics, no recourse to public funds and complex needs inclusive of mental health and substance use. - A catalogue of services and private landlords within each borough to support better outcomes. - An emergency discretionary access fund to purchase small essential needs led resources for our clients, instigated by the project workers (such as fees relating to access to birth certificates, travel etc. - Promotion of education, employment and volunteering, inclusive of peer volunteering opportunities. 	

Contact Details	Referrals
<p>Samantha Cowie, Head of Criminal Justice samantha.cowie@mungos.org 020 7023 7010/ 020 3856 6000 3 Thomas More Square, 5th Floor, Tower Hill London E1W 1YW www.mungos.org</p>	<p>All referrals must be made through a secure email address. Please contact our HARP service manager Ogechi.ojihi@mungosofs.cjsm.net</p> <p>Advice line: 020 85257710 Website: https://www.mungos.org/our-services/offender-services/</p>

Outcome	2017-2022 Q19	
	Profile	Delivered
Number of new users	6,090	6,171
Number assisted to obtain crisis or intermediate short term accommodation	2,375	2,342
Number of tenancies brokered	237	212
Number assisted to obtain suitable settled accommodation	1,425	1,465
Number with one/more protected equalities characteristic (Equality Act 2010)	712	1,096
Number reconnected with stable family /friends accommodation	950	922
Number with resolved landlord/accommodation service issues affecting tenancy stability may include harassment, abandonment behaviour issues	912	869
Number supported to successfully sustain tenancies/accommodation for 6 months	1,632	722
Number supported to successfully sustain tenancies/accommodation for 12 months ³	1,440	644
Number with resolved debt, benefits and financial hardship issues	1,710	1,536
Number with improved physical health	1,824	1,564
Number with improved mental health	997	1,007
Number with improved life skills (can include independent living and be measured through distance travelled tool)	1,824	1,621
Numbers referred successfully onto an employment project ⁴	237	113
Number with increased employability skills (including apprenticeships)	912	724
Number successfully obtaining work placements, volunteering opportunities ⁵	133	101
<p>Sustained tenancies/accommodation for 6 and 12 months – This outcome remains a challenge due to availability of accommodation and the nature of the client group. Client engagement fluctuates, and numbers are affected by clients who have returned to custody, licenses with probation ending, uncontactable clients and historic lower quarterly figures. Despite dedicating a lot of time to maintaining contact with clients, the project still struggles to accurately reflect the sustainment work that has gone on for the previous 12 months.</p> <p>Referrals to an employment project and with increased employability skills (including apprenticeships)– Numbers have been impacted due to long waiting lists and reduced capacities across relevant VCS. The client-group is also disproportionately impacted by the nationwide unemployment rate (of 4.2%) which is reflected in this outcome.</p> <p>Work placements, volunteering opportunities – Although the four-year variance level is below target, there has been some increase in work placements/volunteering this quarter. With 10 service users successfully gaining work placements/volunteering, from a quarter target of 7.</p>		

³ Reporting to start from Q5

⁴ London Councils Priority 3 referrals ended from Q10

⁵ Number successfully gaining employment included from Q13

New Horizon Youth Centre	
Project name:	London Youth Gateway (LYG)
Priority:	Priority 1: Combatting Homelessness
Specification:	1.2 Youth homelessness
Amount (1 year):	£1,008,338
Delivery partners: Depaul UK, Stonewall Housing, Galop, Albert Kennedy Trust and Shelter	
<p>The London Youth Gateway (LYG) project will provide a youth-targeted collaborative pathway to address increasing demand and emerging needs of young people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, in each London borough. The LYG project will be delivered in partnership by New Horizon Youth Centre (lead), Depaul UK (Nightstop and Alone in London services), Shelter, and LGBT Jigsaw partners Stonewall Housing, Galop and Albert Kennedy Trust.</p> <p>The joint work will provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - direct access to emergency accommodation - affordable accommodation options, delivered in innovative new partnership models, and PRS access - family mediation and reconnection support - youth-focused advice and advocacy services around housing need, eviction, welfare benefits and debts via one-to-one, telephone and online provision - youth homelessness prevention sessions in schools and colleges - outreach into Young Offender Institutes (YOIs), prisons and on the street to ensure young people are linked up early with necessary support - satellite services and a telephone advice line to reach young people across London - independent living skills and financial literacy workshops - counselling, communication and interpersonal skills support - 7-days per week employment, education and training programme delivered in-house and in partnership, and in-depth accredited training programme 	

Contact Details	Referrals
<p>Phil Kerry, CEO</p> <p>phil.kerry@nhyouthcentre.org.uk</p> <p>020 7388 5560</p> <p>68 Chalton St, London, NW1 1JR</p> <p>www.nhyouthcentre.org.uk</p>	<p>General Info. 020 7388 5560</p> <p>Youth Work 020 7388 5570</p> <p>Advice 020 7388 5580</p> <p>http://www.londonyouthgateway.org.uk/get-help/</p>

Outcome	2017-2022 Q19	
	Profile	Delivered
Number of users	32,245	28,307
Number assisted to obtain crisis or intermediate short-term accommodation	2,090	3,000
Number supported to obtain suitable safe settled accommodation	3,063	2,449
Number with one/more of the protected characteristics in the 2010 Equality Act (excluding age)	2,688	2,154
Number assisted with family mediation/reconnection leading to safe and settled reconciliation (where appropriate)	2,446	1,236
Number supported to successfully sustain suitable safe accommodation for 6 months	646	854
Number supported to successfully sustain suitable safe accommodation for 1 year or more ⁶	198	399
Number with resolved debt, benefits and financial hardship issues	2,826	4,233
Number with increased knowledge of housing options	23,145	25,937
Number with improved mental health	5,913	6,207
Number completing independent living skills workshops/course (incl. budgeting/money management)	3,282	2,664
Number with improved interpersonal skills (incl. behaviour, conflict and relationships)	3,519	4,503
Number successfully obtained employment for six months (including apprenticeships)*	493	415
Number with increased employability skills	3,225	3,290
Number successfully obtained a training opportunity (accredited)	2,280	1,653
<p>Number supported to obtain suitable safe settled accommodation- Under-delivery is due to the chronic low supply of accommodation options, set against growing demand. LYG continue to broker accommodation places and build relationships with housing providers and landlords.</p> <p>Family mediation/reconnection – Having completed their specialist training in Q18, the Alone in London new family mediation team was able to focus on delivering family reconnection work in Q19. This is reflected in the significantly increased performance against this target in this quarter, compared with previous quarters. The Alone in London family mediation team intends to build on this increased performance against target in the January-March period.</p> <p>Number completing living skills workshops/courses and obtaining training opportunities (accredited)- Outcome numbers have been impacted by reduction in face to face workshop delivery, and restricted use of the New Horizon Day Centre, due to pandemic restrictions. This preventative work however is continuing to be prioritised. The project anticipates that cumulative target numbers will be reached near the end of Year five of the delivery period.</p>		

⁶ Reporting to start from Q5

Homeless Link	
Project name:	PLUS Project
Priority:	Priority 1: Combatting Homelessness
Specification:	1.3 Support services to homelessness voluntary sector organisations
Amount (1 year):	£120,239
Delivery partners: Shelter	
<p>To strengthen the homelessness sector (voluntary, public and private) to work more collaboratively. To bring sectors together to better understand, define and identify their role in preventing homelessness. To support frontline providers and commissioners to be responsive to changing patterns of need, policy, legislation and equalities issues. To build the capacity of frontline providers to improve service delivery and effectiveness and ultimately be more sustainable. With the ultimate aim of achieving improved outcomes for those at risk of or experiencing homelessness.</p> <p>Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - providing specialist advice, support, training, information, good practice spotlights and policy forums - supporting and improving working relationships between the VCS, boroughs and landlords through attendance at forums, partnership events and bespoke work with outer London boroughs. - improving collaboration and communication between the homelessness, employment, domestic/sexual violence, substance use, and health sectors through relationship brokerage, bespoke support, joint initiatives and peer networks - providing quality policy, law and research information identifying London specific impact and trends through briefings and bulletins - testing new models through special initiatives responding to the London specific context. <p>Outcomes delivered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Higher quality, more responsive and effective service delivery (measured against a baseline, and using an external evaluation) - More effective cross sector/priority collaboration to deliver more effective services - Improved and focussed response to prevention - A better equipped sector to develop creative interventions and solutions responsive to the specific London context. 	

Contact Details	Referrals
<p>Jane Bancroft - London Development Manager jane.bancroft@homelesslink.org.uk 020 7840 4460/ 079 5611 4992</p> <p>Vicky Album – London Development Manager Vicky.Album@homelesslink.org.uk 020 7840 4458</p> <p>2nd Floor Minorities House, 2-5 Minorities, London EC3N 1BJ</p>	<p>www.homelesslink.org.uk</p>

Outcome	2017-2022 Q19	
	Profile	Delivered
Number of new organisations	552	627
Number with increased knowledge of changes in homelessness policy/ legislation/ benefit reforms	598	603
Number with improved working relationships with local services	548	497
Number with increased knowledge to adapt service delivery as a result of change of need across London/policy and legislative change	430	443
Number of VCS able to demonstrate that they have adapted their services and increased their links (to local authorities, providers under Priority 1, 2 and 3, and other agencies) to deliver holistic solutions for service users	275	561
Number of VCS aware of changing need in inner and outer London and able to adapt services accordingly.	390	548
Number of housing professionals with increased knowledge of changes in homelessness policy/ law/benefit reforms	190	238
Number of housing professionals who feel better informed of funded services and how they assist local delivery	305	327
Number of Landlords with increased knowledge of changes in homelessness policy/ law/benefit reforms	36	42
Number of organisations with more diverse funding streams	50	65
Number with a wider understanding of funding processes and opportunities	595	420
Number of relationships brokered between VCS and social philanthropy/ investment organisations charitable arms of businesses to increase housing opportunities.	48	48
Number with a wider understanding of funding processes and opportunities -There were no specific funding opportunities advertised this quarter, but Homeless Link lobbied successfully for £28m to be dedicated to the sector in relation to mitigating the risks posed by Omicron. Homeless Link put forward seven London organisations to a community of philanthropists who were distributing £100,000. A Homeless Link webinar giving details of this fund and promoting good practice attracted just under 500 attendees.		

Standing Together Against Domestic Violence	
Project name:	Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA)
Priority:	Priority 1: Combatting Homelessness
Specification:	1.3 Support services to homelessness voluntary sector organisations
Amount (1 year):	£88,977
Delivery partners: N/A	
<p>The Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) is a partnership between three agencies who are leaders in innovation to address domestic abuse within housing: Standing Together Against Domestic Violence (STADV), Peabody and Gentoo. DAHA's mission is to transform the housing sector's response to domestic abuse (DA) through the introduction and adoption of an established set of standards and an accreditation process.</p> <p>STADV works on behalf of this partnership and will be solely responsible for the delivery of this grant. The key aim is to accelerate DAHA's ability to reach local authority housing and registered housing providers in London to support their standards of practice in relation to domestic abuse. This grant will enable DAHA to offer free workshops which reflect the DAHA accreditation standards, to provide training and to influence housing providers to undertake the DAHA accreditation. This ultimately will achieve early intervention for domestic abuse and better service and support to survivors of abuse and their children.</p>	

Contact Details	Referrals
<p>Guddy Burnet, CEO g.burnet@standingtogether.org.uk 246 King Street Ravenscourt Park W6 0RF 020 8748 5717 www.standingtogether.org.uk</p>	<p>Deidre Cartwright – DAHA Development Manager (London) d.cartwright@standingtogether.org.uk 0208 748 5717 www.dahalliance.org.uk/events for general information and events details https://form.jotformeu.com/72763233547359 to book to attend workshops http://accreditation.dahalliance.org.uk/ to sign up to online self-assessment toolkit</p>

Outcome	2017-2022 Q19	
	Profile	Delivered
Number of new organisations	320	149
Number of frontline organisations with increased awareness of specialist/equalities needs of clients	380	386
Number of frontline organisations adapting and or introducing services to meet the specialist/equalities needs of clients	190	321
Number of frontline organisations with increased knowledge of changes in homelessness policy/ legislation/ benefit reforms	380	353
Number of frontline organisations with improved working relationships with local services and in particular domestic abuse services	380	376
Number of housing providers acquiring DAHA accreditation	24	13
Number of VCS able to demonstrate that they have adapted their services and increased their links (to local authorities, providers under Priority 1, 2 and 3, and other agencies) to deliver holistic solutions for service users	190	346
Number of housing organisations with increased awareness of specialist /equalities needs of clients	380	385
Number of housing professionals with improved working relationships with frontline services and in particular domestic abuse services and MARAC	190	324
Number of housing professionals who feel better informed of funded services and how they assist local delivery	380	370
Number of housing providers with improved ability to form partnerships/work collaboratively	190	349
Number of housing providers supported to work together on more than one occasion related to domestic abuse provision and best practice	380	386
Number of housing providers with documented evidence that they are progressing in 4 of 8 DAHA National Standards ⁷	45	43
Number of housing providers with increased awareness of tenancy sustainment options for residents affected by domestic abuse ⁸	300	298
<p>New organisations - As there is a finite number of housing providers to engage with in the capital and accreditation can be a lengthy process, it has been agreed that focus should shift to supporting organisations already engaged in the process, as long as project outcomes continue to be met.</p> <p>DAHA Accreditation – This is a long-term outcome and preparatory work was front loaded to provide organisational support and workshop training to improve practices, in preparation for assessment. This quarter one housing provider, Islington Council, was successfully accredited. DAHA are working with two boroughs who have some improvements to make but are expected to be accredited before the end of the project.</p>		

⁷ New outcomes from Q5

⁸ As above

Priority 2 – Tackling Sexual and Domestic Violence

Tender Education and Arts	
Project name:	London Councils pan-London VAWG Consortium Prevention Project
Priority:	Priority 2: Tackling Sexual and Domestic Violence
Specification:	2.1 Sexual and Domestic Violence: Prevention
Amount (1 year):	£265,000
Delivery partners: IMECE, Women and Girls' Network (WGN), The Nia Project, Solace Women's Aid, Latin American Women's Rights Service (LAWRS), FORWARD, Ashiana Network and Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation (IKWRO)	
<p>The Pan-London VAWG consortium prevention project is a strategic partnership of nine organisations set to deliver across 32 boroughs. Led by Tender, it presents an innovative, holistic response to gender-based violence amongst young people, covering a range of VAWG themes through specialist arts and drama workshops.</p> <p>This project builds on robust foundations established by the consortium's work funded by London Councils since 2013. Building on the momentum created to date, the Project will establish a Centre of Excellence in each borough, adding an enhanced stage to the existing project through a champion school programme.</p> <p>This enables the project to reach more vulnerable young people and carry out more activities ultimately leading to whole school change. The project will work with schools to identify targeted groups of young people at high-risk of experiencing abuse due to multiple disadvantage. The consortium will provide early intervention group work with these groups to decrease their vulnerability. Each school will receive support in developing effective policies to prevent domestic abuse and sexual bullying and respond to disclosures from students.</p> <p>Outcomes: Young people warn each other of abusive relationships, more young people challenge abusive behaviour safely and can comment on national policy and programmes of work.</p>	

Contact Details	Resource
Susan Moore, Head of Programmes susanmoore@tender.org.uk 020 7697 4275 (direct line) The Resource Centre, 356 Holloway Road, London N7 6PA	www.tender.org.uk

Outcome	2017-2022 Q19	
	Profile	Delivered
Number of new users	87,225	72,191
Healthy Relationship Project participants can identify at least one warning sign of sexual and domestic violence	5,410	4,735
Healthy Relationship Project participants in secondary schools and out of school settings can memorise key statistics pertaining to abuse	3,480	2,953
Healthy Relationship Project participants state sexual and domestic violence is unacceptable	5,729	4,249
Children and young people report feeling confident to support a friend following school assembly	55,132	49,352
Children and young people feel more confident to deal with abuse and understand it is based on power inequality following school assembly	59,070	44,457
Children and young people can now make positive relationship choices following school assembly	63,008	44,630
Healthy Relationship Project participants can identify appropriate support channels and services	5,729	4,568
Healthy Relationship Project participants in secondary schools and out of school settings report an improvement in their peer relationships	1,913	2,126
Professionals report positive changes in the behaviour and/or attitudes of participants following Healthy Relationships Project	199	199
Professionals in Champion Schools report increased confidence to use training in professional practice (staff training)	3,072	2,838
Professionals in Champion Schools report increased knowledge about the complex nature of the issue (staff training)	2,688	2,639
Healthy Relationships Project participants in secondary schools and out of school settings can recall criminal statistics for different forms of sexual and domestic violence against protected groups	3,712	2,590
Participants in Champion Schools (targeted group) are able to identify controlling behaviours in relationships	672	663
Participants in Champion Schools (targeted group) report feeling more confident to seek support	672	672
<p>Tender Education and Arts operates on a rolling programme working with three to four boroughs each quarter. As delivery is aligned to the academic year rather than the committee reporting schedule, delivery can appear to fluctuate.</p> <p>The project's core work is mainly delivered via face to face activities in schools and youth settings, which continues to be significantly affected by the Covid 19 pandemic as schools restrict access in order to prevent the spread of the virus.</p> <p>As a result of the continued impact of Covid, Tender's outstanding targets from quarters 13 and 14, which it hoped to deliver in year five with the use of its underspend from that period, have been removed from cumulative totals as Tender have confirmed that they will not be able to meet these in addition to its remaining year 5 targets.</p> <p>All project partners have been impacted by staff turnover this quarter.</p> <p>For further information, please see the main report (paragraphs 3.52 - 3.56)</p>		

Solace Women's Aid	
Project name:	Ascent: Advice and Counselling
Priority:	Priority 2: Tackling Sexual and Domestic Violence
Specification:	2.2 Sexual and Domestic Violence: Advice, counselling, outreach, drop-in and support for access to services
Amount (1 year):	£1,425,238
Delivery partners: Solace (Lead Partner); Ashiana Network; Asian Women's Resource Centre (AWRC); Chinese Information and Advice Centre (CIAC); EACH Counselling and Support; IKWRO; IMECE Women's Centre; Jewish Women's Aid (JWA); Latin American Women's Rights Organisation (LAWRS); Nia; Rape and Sexual Assault Support Centre (RASASC); Rights of Women (ROW); Southall Black Sisters (SBS); Women and Girls Network (WGN)	
<p>The project provides support for women (age 16+) affected by DV/SV and prevents its escalation through individually tailored advice, support and therapeutic services to enable women to cope, recover and move to independence.</p> <p>The Project provides four key service areas with a holistic delivery model providing initial response to all forms of Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) as well as after-care from IDVA services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advice, including legal support, through a hub and spoke model and inclusive of targeted support for BME women; those with NRPF; young women (including gang affected age 14+); sexually exploited women (including those with problematic substance use issues) and women with complex housing needs to enable them to access safe accommodation. - One to one BACP accredited counselling delivered within each borough as well as counselling in over 20 languages provided by BME led by and for organisations. - A bespoke in-borough group work programme, as well as specialist BME focused group work across the partner organisations to aid recovery, reduce isolation and increase understanding of abuse. - No Recourse fund to assist women with no recourse to public funds with essential living costs and accommodation. - Training including legal training to professionals and accredited VAWG training to volunteers and therapeutic training to clinicians. <p>The project will deliver a range of outcomes including increased safety, access to safe housing, legal support, reduced risk, improved mental/physical health and well-being, increased confidence/self-esteem and increased knowledge for service providers around DV/SV.</p>	

Contact Details	
Rebecca Goshawk, Head of Public Affairs and Partnerships r.goshawk@solacewomensaid.org ascenta&c@solacewomensaid.org 07854 968970 Solace Women's Aid, 2 Angel Square, Torrens Street, London, EC1V 1NY www.solacewomensaid.org	East London (Solace Women's Aid): 0808 802 5565; advice@solacewomensaid.org West London (Women and Girls Network): 0808 801 0660; advice@wgn.org.uk London Legal Advice (Rights of Women): 0207 608 1137

Outcome	2017-2022 Q19	
	Profile	Delivered
Number of new users	29,592	35,316
Number of service users reporting reduced fear/ greater feelings of safety	20,714	20,221
Number of service users reporting reduced risk, reduced repeat victimisation, prevention of escalation	16,283	16,071
Service users have improved self-esteem, motivation, confidence and are able to rebuild their lives, moving to independence	11,419	12,688
Service users have improved emotional health and wellbeing and physical health and are able to rebuild their lives, moving to independence	8,455	9,410
Number of service users with continuing support to sustain new lives	10,146	10,451
Number of service users with safety plan	12,589	12,309
Number of tenancies secured	5,073	3,702
Number of service users accessing legal advice and/or with increased understanding of the law	8,877	9,754
Number of service users supported to access other services including Health and Children's services.	18,122	18,093
Service users with increased knowledge of options to exit prostitution	143	155
People from the protected characteristics report increased safety/knowledge of their rights	11,837	12,411
People from the protected characteristics report satisfaction with services	14,797	15,358
Number of service users successfully referred from Local Authority and local IDVAs	4,446	4,401
Service providers are better informed of beneficiaries' needs and service users are enabled to communicate their needs and views to service providers/decision makers	2,126	2,181
Service providers are better equipped to support SUs with VAWG and/ or legal issues	1,045	1,047
Tenancies secured - The commission continues to highlight the challenges faced by survivors in accessing safe and stable housing, including due to the unavailability of housing stock and issues with housing allocation. Partners report having to undertake significant advocacy around housing to support service users into even emergency accommodation. This continues to greatly impact on the ability to meet target outcome figures. Casework and advocacy for this area of work proves to be very time consuming, with it taking longer periods to stabilise tenancies.		

Galop	
Project name:	The LGBT DAP (Domestic Abuse Partnership)
Priority:	Priority 2: Tackling Sexual and Domestic Violence
Specification:	2.2 Sexual and Domestic Violence: Advice, counselling, outreach, drop-in and support for access to services
Amount (1 year):	£146,318
Delivery partners: Stonewall Housing, London Friend and Switchboard	
<p>The LGBT Domestic Abuse Partnership (DAP) will provide specialist support to over 500 LGBT victims of Domestic Violence annually. It is the only pan London multi-agency domestic violence service for LGBT people. It will deliver a joined-up service enabling vulnerable LGBT survivors, who face barriers to accessing support, to quickly access comprehensive, specialised support tailored to their needs.</p> <p>As the lead partner in the DAP, Galop will: Build links with borough based services to raise awareness of LGBT domestic abuse and improve referrals pathways; provide specialist one-to-one DV advocacy, and through the National LGBT Domestic Abuse Helpline provide specialist telephone, email advice and support to victims 7 days a week, referring London callers into the DAP. Stonewall Housing will provide housing advice and advocacy to DV victims at risk of homelessness, or with housing support needs. London Friend provides counselling and group support. Switchboard provides additional support through a helpline open 7 days per week and signposting into DAP services.</p> <p>The DAP has consistently delivered outcomes that improve the safety and wellbeing of LGBT survivors of domestic violence. Victims receive help navigating the criminal justice system and accessing specialist support aimed at reducing risk and repeat victimisation.</p>	

Contact Details	Referrals
<p>Peter Kelley, Head of Domestic Abuse Services & Deputy CEO peter@galop.org.uk 020 7697 4081 (office)</p>	<p>Survivors and professionals can refer through the DAP website using the electronic referral form: www.lgbtdap.org.uk</p> <p>Referrals can also be made via www.galop.org.uk and via email: referrals@galop.org.uk</p> <p>Clients and professionals can also self-refer or make referrals through Galop's helpline: 0207 704 2040 Or the National LGBT DV Helpline: 0800 999 5428</p>

Outcome	2017-2022 Q19	
	Profile	Delivered
Number of new users	2,571	2,902
Number of service users reporting reduced fear/ greater feelings of safety	475	566
Number of service users reporting reduced risk, reduced repeat victimisation, prevention of escalation	318	354
Service users have improved self-esteem, motivation, confidence and are able to rebuild their lives, moving to independence	270	305
Service users have improved emotional health and wellbeing and physical health and are able to rebuild their lives, moving to independence	271	190
Number of service users with continuing support to sustain new lives	285	296
Number of service users with safety plan	228	277
Number of tenancies secured	190	210
Number of service users accessing appropriate health services or other services including children's services	380	417
Number of service users accessing legal advice	256	265
People from the protected characteristics report increased safety/knowledge of their rights	745	792
People from the protected characteristics report satisfaction with services	380	414
Number of service users successfully referred from Local Authority and local IDVAs	95	105
Service providers are better informed of beneficiaries' needs and service users are enabled to communicate their needs and views to service providers/decision makers	57	78
Service users have improved emotional health and wellbeing and physical health and are able to rebuild their lives, moving to independence – London Friend have now been successful in securing funding to allow them to fit ventilation into counselling rooms. This work is due to be complete by the next quarter. London Friend reported that 101 clinical hours were offered in total this quarter. Target figures have been impacted by the need to cancel the December workshop due to lack of uptake possibly due to Covid. Also, two counselling clients did not complete their sessions in this quarter.		

SignHealth	
Project name:	Domestic Abuse Service (formerly known as DeafHope London)
Priority:	Priority 2: Tackling Sexual and Domestic Violence
Specification:	2.2 Sexual and Domestic Violence: Advice, counselling, outreach, drop-in and support for access to services
Amount (1 year):	£148,444
Delivery partners: n/a	
<p>Signhealth's Domestic Abuse Service is a specialist service for Deaf female survivors of domestic abuse and violence, and their children. It is delivered by trained Deaf women for Deaf women and is vastly more cost-effective than using mainstream domestic violence services with interpreters. The service also provides support to Deaf male survivors, through advice and supported signposting. Caseworkers use British Sign Language and other international sign languages.</p> <p>Signhealth's Domestic Abuse Service will deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Specialist D/deaf referral for all London Borough Officers and IDVAs - IDVA and outreach 1-2-1 support for deaf women and young people - Prevention/early intervention workshops in schools/youth groups to boys and girls (Young DeafHope) - Psychological Therapy for clients with complex needs, anxiety and/or depression - Survivors' Workshops - Deaf-led support groups - British Sign Language (BSL) and other accessible information about domestic abuse for Deaf community - Deaf awareness training/support for London Borough Officers and mainstream domestic violence providers <p>This will achieve all specification outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduced levels/ repeat victimisation of sexual and domestic violence - Improves wellbeing - Increases safety and independence - London Borough Officers and IDVAs have a quality Deaf referral route - Multi-agency providers have a better understanding of how to meet Deaf access - Supports BAMER, LGBT and Multiple Complex Needs Deaf women 	

Contact Details	Referrals
<p>Marie Vickers – Service Manager mvickers@signhealth.org.uk da@signhealth.org.uk (regularly monitored) 020 3947 2601 (voice) 07970 350366 (text) Falcon Mews, 46 Oakmead Road, London SW12 9SJ https://signhealth.org.uk/with-deaf-people/domestic-abuse/</p>	<p>Deaf people can self-refer through our email da@signhealth.org.uk or our SMS number 07970 350366</p> <p>Professionals can either contact or email da@signhealth.org.uk to make a referral</p>

Outcome	2017-2022 Q19	
	Profile	Delivered
Number of new users	705	1120
Number of service users reporting reduced fear/ greater feelings of safety	472	348
Number of service users reporting reduced risk, reduced repeat victimisation, prevention of escalation	472	251
Service users have improved self-esteem, motivation, confidence and are able to rebuild their lives, moving to independence	472	300
Service users have improved emotional health and wellbeing and physical health and are able to rebuild their lives, moving to independence	472	287
Number of service users with continuing support to sustain new lives	425	240
Number of service users with safety plan	425	265
Number of tenancies secured	72	76
Number of service users accessing appropriate health services or other services including children's services	425	180
Number of service users accessing legal advice	116	110
People from the protected characteristics report increased safety/knowledge of their rights	705	1086
People from the protected characteristics report satisfaction with services	705	1086
Number of service users successfully referred from Local Authority and local IDVAs	122	123
Service providers are better informed of beneficiaries' needs and service users are enabled to communicate their needs and views to service providers/decision makers	1282	1184
<p>The reprofiling of three lifetime targets to better reflect mode of delivery was agreed at the July 2020 Grants Committee meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of tenancies secured - from 360 to 61 - Number of service users accessing legal advice - from 360 to 94 - Number of service users successfully referred from local authority and local IDVAs from - 252 to 102 <p>Following profiling issues earlier in the programme, Signhealth made improvements in delivery, however they, as all commissions, have encountered reductions in service activity due to Covid-19 restrictions, Service issues affecting this particular equalities group have been reported previously to this committee, and in Service Area 2.2 in this report. Achievement of outcomes have also been reduced due to delays experienced with legal advice and housing services which have caused delays in client's journeys, as clients feel they cannot start to rebuild their lives yet. New service users will require sustained work to reach outcomes including reduced fear, improved self-esteem and sustaining new lives (see para. 3.56 in Main report for additional information).</p>		

Women's Aid	
Project name:	Pan-London Domestic and Sexual Violence Helplines and Data Collection Project
Priority:	Priority 2: Tackling Sexual and Domestic Violence
Specification:	2.3 Helpline and coordinated access to refuge provision
Amount (1 year):	£314,922
Delivery partners: Refuge, Women and Girls Network (WGN), Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre (RASASC) and Respect	
<p>This project will work to ensure that people affected by all forms of domestic and sexual violence receive the non-judgmental, confidential support that they need, and access to emergency refuge provision when they need it, and to assist commissioners and strategic stakeholders to effectively coordinate refuge provision based on robust data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expert Pan-London telephone, email and online support to victims of domestic and/or sexual violence and those supporting them - Comprehensive data on London services facilitating immediate refuge referrals - Collection, analysis and dissemination of data on the nature and usage of refuge and other provision and needs in London. <p>The project will assist London boroughs directly through a dedicated refuge referral mechanism, plus informative data for improving services and better understanding needs, including provision of a 'heat map'.</p> <p>Routes to Support (formerly known as UK Refuges Online (UKROL)) is an integral part of this project, and the project will work with London Councils,</p> <p>MOPAC⁹ and borough stakeholders to ensure the maximum benefit is achieved from the range of data collected through the improved data analysis tools and resources that the project will implement going forward.</p> <p>The project will be committed to impactful liaison with London boroughs and promoting its services to all those who might benefit</p>	

Contact Details	Referrals
Phillipa Thomas, Interim Director of Services p.thomas@womensaid.org.uk www.womensaid.org.uk	The Freephone 24 Hour National Domestic Violence Helpline: 0808 2000 247 helpline@womensaid.org.uk www.nationaldomesticviolencehelpline.org.uk Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre Helpline: 0808 802 9999 Women and Girls Network Dedicated Sexual Violence Helpline: 0808 801 0770 Respect Men's Advice Line: 0808 801 0327

⁹ MOPAC – Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime

Outcome	2017-2022 Q19	
	Profile	Delivered
Number of new users	97,385	123,262
Number of service users with reduced level of risk	83,125	67,767
Number of service users referred to a refuge	9,500	9,060
Survivors of rape and sexual abuse accessing Helpline	21,375	17,572
Quarterly report on refuge referrals (successful and non-successful) by London borough, with particular categories including equalities sent to all borough officers and other key stakeholders ¹⁰	19	19
New data on housing status of service users on entry and exit is included in quarterly reports	18	17
Reports and heat maps used by borough officers and other key stakeholders (including MOPAC) to coordinate refuge provision; plan strategically and improve responses to domestic and sexual violence	128	192
Number of successful referrals into counselling or other specialist service provision	7,125	7,716
People with the protected characteristics (Equalities Act 2010) are able to access support that meets their needs	760	832
Service users reporting their needs were adequately addressed when utilising the Helpline service (according to age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage & civil partnership, pregnancy & maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation).	1,900	1,991
Service providers (including boroughs and refuges) report being able to respond to service users' needs	380	389
Professionals report having the relevant and required information they need to support service users affected by sexual and domestic violence	380	388
Number of logins to Routes to Support ([RTS] formerly UKROL [UK Refuges online]) from services in London	104,500	114,745
Referrals to ISVA and sexual violence-specific support services	380	416
<p>As part of the reprofiling exercise agreed at the July 2020 Grants Committee Women's Aid included mental health related outputs/activities to the provision undertaken under outcome 3.1.</p> <p>Number of new users – During the pandemic the helplines reported a significant increase in calls and an increase in survivors seeking support.</p> <p>Number of service users with reduced level of risk -. The pandemic resulted in reduced referral services/ closed waiting lists which impacted the reduction in risk level.</p> <p>Survivors of rape and sexual abuse accessing Helpline – Staff and volunteer shortages have had an impact and internal changes for one partner resulted in volunteer training not being run.</p> <p>Reports and heat maps used by borough officers /stakeholders – A reporting error for several quarters meant an over achievement was reported. The heatmaps are used via RTS reporting and are in fact, on target.</p>		

¹⁰ The Routes to Support (RTS) reports (formerly UKROL) are quarterly reports on refuge data across London provided to boroughs and the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime. The categories of the data gathered are monitored by a steering group of relevant stakeholders (boroughs, MOPAC/GLA and providers)

Ashiana Network	
Project name:	Specialist Refugee Network
Priority:	Priority 2: Tackling Sexual and Domestic Violence
Specification:	2.4 Emergency refuge accommodation that offers services to meet the needs of specific groups
Amount (1 year):	£840,000
Delivery partners: Ashiana Network, Solace Women's Aid, Nia project, Iranian & Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation (IKWRO)	
<p>London Specialist Refugee Network seeks to continue to provide a unique and innovative Pan-London service through specialist refuge accommodation and targeted support to high-risk women/children affected by domestic and sexual violence (DSV) with complex needs. The Network will provide specialist refuge, targeted support and outreach and second stage accommodation. The project works intensively with women to assess/address needs, improve safety/health/wellbeing enabling women to exit violent/abusive relationships/situations. The services comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Programme of group-work/workshops to enhance health/wellbeing/living-skills/resilience - Resettlement programme to support independence/longer lasting outcomes - Outreach service supporting/enabling women to access alternative refuge accommodation/be supported in independent living - Training/awareness raising workshops for professionals to remove barriers/widen access - Housing advocacy securing/maintaining referral pathways with housing providers to secure alternative accommodation for women at risk and unable to access refuge - 38 specialist 24-hour refuge and second-stage accommodation bed spaces and package of intensive targeted support to enhance safety and remove barriers: - 6 (24-hour) bed spaces: Problematic substance use - 5 (24-hour) bed spaces: Sexually exploited women (including prostitution and trafficking) - 8 (24-hour) bed spaces: Women with mental health/problematic substance use - 7 second-stage bed spaces: Trafficked women - 6 bed spaces: Middle Eastern and North African women fleeing harmful practices - 6 bed spaces: South Asian, Turkish and Iranian women with NRPF experiencing DV/SV and harmful practices <p>Within the existing 38 bed spaces, the project will allocate an additional 3 bed spaces for women with NRPF¹¹, particularly for trafficked women and 2 bed spaces for women with mobility related disabilities.</p>	

Contact Details	Referrals
Shaminder Ubhi, Director shaminder@ashiana.org.uk info@ashiana.org.uk 020 8539 0427 www.ashiana.org.uk	Nia - 07590 712872 (24 hours); 0207 683 1270 info@niaendingviolence.org.uk The Emma Project: 07590 712872 (24 hours) Solace Women's Aid - 0207 328 9117 info@solacewomensaid.org (The Amari Project): 020 3874 5027 amari@solacewomensaid.org IKWRO – 07846 275 246 (Arabic/Kurdish) 24hrs 07846 310 157 (Farsi/Dari/Turkish) 24 Hours 020 7920 6460- info@ikwro.org.uk

¹¹ No recourse to public funds

Outcome	2017-2022 Q19	
	Profile	Delivered
Number of new users	3,777	4,073
Numbers not returning to a perpetrator	175	200
Numbers with increased awareness of safety planning	926	748
Engagement with in-house and external specialist support and culturally specific provision, (such as drug and alcohol support, support with mental health, support to exit prostitution, harmful practices, immigration and NRPF	736	676
Numbers supported to successfully apply for indefinite leave to remain under the Destitution Domestic Violence (DDV) concession or refugee status under an asylum application	152	204
Numbers of women that demonstrate reduced harmful substance use	237	178
Number of women involved in prostitution and trafficking reporting increased awareness of options to exit prostitution and with personalised action plans	175	118
Numbers demonstrating an increased understanding of sexual and domestic violence/prostitution/trafficking as a form of violence against women	665	715
Number of users demonstrating an increased understanding and stabilisation in their mental health	346	321
Number of users with increased understanding of impact of mental health and substance misuse on their children	80	74
Service users moved on in a planned way	137	187
Service users with increased living skills	318	301
Service users with more stabilised immigration status	213	294
No of people prevented (where appropriate) from unnecessary refuge admission through support to alternative housing options that enable them to stay safe. Support provided to service users for whom specific refuge provision does not exist / scarce / do not wish to access (LGBT)	237	176
Number of referral pathways agreed with registered social landlords and other housing providers	28	27
Number of service users gaining/maintaining tenancies	156	165
Number of professionals with increased knowledge of sexual and domestic violence aimed at increasing clients' access to services	2,256	2,155
Removal of barriers in accessing services for people with the protected characteristics of the 2010 Equalities Act	403	685
Number of users with disabilities accessing the service	346	389
<p>Under delivery: One refuge partner had no new residents because the current residents' applications to the Home Office are still being considered and thus could not move on. Other causes of under delivery include staff vacancies, the number of women supported being lower than profiled and because some outcomes may be underachieved in one quarter and met in another.</p> <p>Over delivery: For some outcomes, the project supported more service users than was profiled. For example, over the last few quarters more service users than profiled were supported to stabilise their immigration status because of a surge in people approaching the service since the pandemic began.</p>		

Women's Resource Centre	
Project name:	The ASCENT project (Amplifying, Supporting, Capacity building, Engaging, Networking, Training)
Priority:	Priority 2: Tackling Sexual and Domestic Violence
Specification:	2.5 Support services to the sexual and domestic violence voluntary sector organisations
Amount (1 year):	£240,783
Delivery partners: RESPECT (perpetrators), Imkaan, Rights of Women, Against Violence and Abuse and Women and Girls Network	
<p>Ascent is part of the Pan London VAWG Consortium project and will specifically address the long-term sustainability needs of the provision of services to those affected by sexual and domestic violence (S&DV).</p> <p>It will improve the quality of such services across London, by providing a variety of services that includes sustainability, expert-led and accredited (assured) training, seminars and special events, best practice briefings, newsletters, and online 'sector conversations' for front-line staff from both voluntary and statutory services to improve service provision and ensure it meets the needs of service users. The Ascent project has a strong focus on borough spread as well as cross-priority work.</p> <p>Ascent will also draw on the wide and varied expertise of all its partners, and of those within the wider Pan London VAWG Consortium in order to meet the requirements of the Equality Act 2010. As a partnership, ASCENT will both model and promote the value of partnerships to service users, funders and commissioners.</p>	

Contact Details	Referrals
<p>Ms Vivienne Hayes, CEO vivienne@wrc.org.uk 020 7697 3451 Project Lead – Nour Gazarin United House, North Road, London, N7 9DP www.wrc.org.uk</p>	<p>www.imkaan.org.uk www.respect.uk.net www.avaproject.org.uk www.wgn.org.uk www.rightsofwomen.org.uk</p>

Outcome	2017-2022 Q19	
	Profile	Delivered
Number of new organisations	309	657
Frontline services/organisations have an increased level of knowledge and ability to run services/organisations effectively and efficiently	415	566
Frontline services/organisations reporting increased ability to be more financially sound and efficient	190	127
Frontline services/organisations with an increased level of knowledge in areas such as financial management, governance, recruitment/workforce; ICT, premises management and income diversification	195	188
Frontline services/organisations report greater ability to work in partnership	475	523
Frontline services/organisations express interest in forming partnerships with other services/providers including LGBT and homelessness services	475	450
Frontline services/organisations able to collaborate with other services such as local authorities, health services, housing providers and homelessness services	190	300
Frontline organisations able to deliver improved services to meet their clients' needs and in line with relevant quality standards (deliver, monitor, evaluate and adapt)	710	649
Frontline services/organisations better able to monitor and evaluate impact of services	285	340
Frontline organisations/services with increased ability to meet their service users' needs	715	793
Borough officers, health professionals, social housing landlords, housing officers, homelessness/hostel staff and other key professionals more aware of key issues, services available and referral pathways.	95	116
Frontline services/organisations with increased ability to meet the three aims of the Equality Act 2010	570	455
Frontline organisations with increased diversification of boards of trustees	95	72
<p>As part of the reprofiling exercise agreed at the July 2020 Grants Committee, the following changes were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Frontline services reporting increased ability to be more financially sound and efficient reduced from 40 to 35 - Frontline services with an increased level of knowledge in areas such as financial management, governance, recruitment/workforce; ICT, premises management and income diversification increased from 40 to 45. Outputs related to this outcome include mental health related training (see paragraph 3.62 of the main report for further detail). <p>High levels of over-delivery in earlier quarters caused overachievement of targets in the current quarter. Activities to address under delivery are scheduled to take place in the final quarter.</p>		

Asian Women's Resource Centre (AWRC)	
Project name:	Ascent Ending Harmful Practices project
Priority:	Priority 2: Tackling Sexual and Domestic Violence
Specification:	2.6 Specifically targeted services FGM, Honour based violence (HBV), forced marriage and other harmful practices
Amount (1 year):	£320,000
Delivery partners: Ashiana Network, Latin American Women's Rights Service, IKWRO, IMECE Women's Centre, Southall Black Sisters Trust, Women and Girls Network, FORWARD and Domestic Violence Intervention Project (DVIP)	
<p>The partnership will provide intensive support to women and girls from BMER communities, across London affected by Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), 'Honour' Based Violence (HBV), Forced Marriages (FM), and other harmful practices within the spectrum of domestic and sexual violence, annually.</p> <p>Activities will include: 1) 1:1 advice and information on rights and entitlements: 2) casework and advocacy support which will include accompanying women to report crimes of violence to the police and housing departments, as well as accompanying women to court and advocating their needs to social services 3) therapeutic support groups and a counselling provision to 66 women 4) raising awareness of the impact of HBV, FM and FGM within communities and other voluntary and statutory agencies (not only BMER communities) through delivering workshops, training and presentations and 5) specific work with young women through the delivery of workshops to support peer mentoring and youth advocacy.</p> <p>These activities aim to improve service users' safety, self-esteem, confidence and wellbeing, as well as improving understanding of rights and options and uptake of other services in the domains of criminal justice, health, housing and employment training.</p>	

Contact Details	Referrals
Sarbjit Ganger, Director sarbjit@asianwomenscentre.org.uk info@asianwomenscentre.org.uk 020 8961 6549 http://asianwomenscentre.org.uk/	Ascent: 0208 961 6549 0208 961 5701 referrals@asianwomenscentre.org.uk

Outcome	2017-2022 Q19	
	Profile	Delivered
Number of new users	2954	2897
Service users have improved self-esteem, confidence and emotional health and well being	2242	2358
Service users have improved mental health	378	554
Service users have a better understanding of the support options available to them and are more aware of their rights and entitlements	2128	2569
Service users have an increased ability to communicate their needs and views to service providers	898	1303
Number of professionals with improved understanding of harmful practices and the barriers faced by BAMER women in accessing services	616	1570
Service users report increased feelings of safety	2242	2348
Service users have an increased level of understanding regarding options available to help their decision making	2242	2380
Service users have enhanced coping strategies	1382	1601
Service users make changes to their living situations and exit violence	1458	1541
Service users have improved life skills to help them rebuild their lives and move to independence: service users attending ESOL classes	314	421
Service users have improved life skills to help them rebuild their lives and move to independence: service users attending ICT classes	314	342
Service users have improved life skills to help them rebuild their lives and move to independence: service users attending other employment skills workshops	314	392
Local authority officers are able to access support to wrap around existing support or make referrals into the service.	285	443
Referrals from IDVAs and sexual health clinics	190	263
Service users accessing other support	190	386
AWRC are the sole commission in Service Area 2.6. This quarter partners have worked incredibly hard in the delivery and reach of the project, the project continues to exceed targets, including due to increasing demand for project services such as health, legal and wellbeing support.		

Grants Committee

2022-2026 Pan-London Grants Programme -Implementation update

Item: 6

Report by	Yolande Burgess	Job title	Strategy Director
Date	24 November 2021		
Contact Officer	Feria Henry/Joanne Watson		
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Summary

At the November 2021 meeting, Grants Committee agreed recommendations for grant funding for Priority 1, Combatting Homelessness, and Priority 2, Tackling Domestic and Sexual Violence for the 2022-2026 Pan-London Grants Programme.

This reports updates members on implementing the new programme.

Recommendations

Grants Committee is asked to:

- note the activity to-date (section 1) and continuing activity (section 3) to implement the 2022-2026 pan-London Grants Programme
 - note the provisional grant values to partners who will be delivering the programme from April 2022 (table 1)
 - discuss and makes suggestions for the activity of the Committee in the coming year (section 4).
-

2022-2026 Grants Programme – Implementation update

1 Background

- 1.1 At the November 2021 meeting, Grants Committee agreed recommendations for grant funding for Priority 1, Combatting Homelessness, and Priority 2, Tackling Domestic and Sexual Violence for the 2022-2026 Pan-London Grants Programme.
- 1.2 The total funding available through the prospectus for the life of the programme was £21,100,000; £9,800,000 for combatting homelessness and £11,300,000 for tackling domestic and sexual abuse. Funding was split across nine services areas:

1.2.1 *Priority 1 – Combatting homelessness*

- 1.1 Prevention and targeted intervention - £4million
- 1.2 Prevention and targeted intervention for rough sleepers - £1million
- 1.3 Prevention and targeted intervention for young people - £4million
- 1.4 Improving the response to homelessness in London (working with housing and homelessness organisations and professionals) - £800,000

1.2.2 *Priority 2 – Tackling domestic and sexual abuse*

- 2.1 Prevention (children and young people) - £1million
- 2.2 Specialist advice, counselling and support (for medium risk survivors (including post-IDVA/ISVA) and target groups not accessing general provision) - £7million
- 2.3 Helpline services (advice and support, access to refuge provision) - £1.2million
- 2.5 Improving the response to domestic and sexual abuse in London (working with domestic and sexual abuse organisations and professionals) - £800,000
- 2.6 Services for people affected by harmful practices - £1.3million

- 1.3 The [prospectus and service specifications](#) are available on the London Councils website.

2 Activity with recommended applicants

- 2.1 Twelve organisations were recommended for 13 grants to deliver the services outlined in the prospectus (see Table 1).

- 2.2 Since the November Committee meeting the grants team has undertaken the following activities:

- 2.2.1 Pre-agreement meetings – to cover a range of pre-award matters including:

- roles and responsibilities (grant agreement)
- review of activity, outcomes, and budget profiles
- monitoring and reporting (including borough level)

- 2.2.2 Programme assessment

- assessment of outcomes against prospectus
- review of all profiles and budgets to assess pan-London delivery and value

- 2.3 Co-design of reporting arrangements (working with Superhighways) using a collaborative approach to review current system and scope the future system with the aim of:

- reducing time grants officers spend on collating and analysing information
- reducing time, and funding, grantees spend on reporting to London Councils
- sharing collated reporting outcomes with grantees on a more consistent basis.

- 2.4 A key issue the team and new partners have been managing is adjusting projects to match available resources. Following initial negotiations, grants have been reduced proportionally to the funding for programme priority, to avoid reducing smaller grants to the point of non-viability (see Table 1).

Table 1: Applicants and provisional funding

Service Area	Organisation	Original requested amount	Provisional total grant
1.1	Shelter, The National Campaign for Homeless People Ltd	£3,993,720	£3,711,869
1.1	St Mungo Community Housing Association	£1,455,633	£1,321,670
1.2	St Mungo Community Housing Association	£445,109	£413,025
1.3	New Horizon Youth Centre	£3,999,795	£3,659,927
1.4	Homeless Link	£767,910	£693,510
Priority 1: Combatting Homelessness		£10,662,167	£9,800,000
2.1	Against Violence and Abuse	£998,375	£945,515
2.2	Galop	£643,749	£573,745
2.2	Women and Girls Network	£5,820,952	£5,536,218
2.2	SignHealth	£1,171,769	£1,113,477
2.3	Refuge	£1,200,000	£1,137,209
2.5	Women's Resource Centre	£799,996	£758,507
2.6	Asian Women's Resource Centre	£1,300,000	£1,235,329
Priority 2: Tackling Domestic and Sexual Violence		£11,934,841	£11,300,000

3 Continuing activity and next steps

3.1 Continuing activity for the team and next steps include:

- 3.1.1 finalising actions from pre-agreement meetings
- 3.1.2 completing the extension for refuge provision - In March 2021, Grants Committee agreed to defer the call for proposals for refuge provision (service are 2.4) to 2022 and roll over the current grant (£840,000) for refuge services in the current programme to 2022-23, to give time to develop longer term arrangements with the boroughs and the GLA following the introduction of the Domestic Abuse Act
- 3.1.3 finalising the agreement for refuge data services - In July 2021, Grants Committee agreed to an award of grant (£25,000 per year, £100,000 total) for the period 2022 to 2026 to the Women's Aid Federation for continuation of data services related to refuge domestic abuse services and refuge provision
- 3.1.4 agreeing new reporting arrangements
- 3.1.5 completing and issue funding agreements **before 1 April 2022**
- 3.1.6 making first payments
- 3.1.7 scoping the 2022-2026 programme evaluation.

4 Year one activity for Grants Committee

- 4.1 Grants Committee members were involved in bringing the new programme to life from developing the prospectus through contributing to workshops through to scoring of applications and engagement with a programme panel.
- 4.2 There will be opportunities for Grants Committee members to find out more about and further develop the programme in year one (2022-2023):
 - 4.2.1 opening out new member inductions (after May) to all Grants Committee members
 - 4.2.2 inviting new partners to present to Grants Committee (July)
 - 4.2.3 scoping the 2022-2026 programme evaluation

- 4.2.4 arranging visits for members throughout year
 - 4.2.5 using the evaluation findings from 2017-2022 programme to discuss and agree any programme management changes
 - 4.2.6 reviewing new programme reporting arrangements
 - 4.2.7 scoping/agreeing changes year two/three
 - 4.2.8 agreeing champions/leads for specific aspects of work.
- 4.3 Grants Committee members are invited to discuss the above ideas and makes suggestions for the activity of the Committee in the coming year.

5 Recommendations

- 5.1 Grants Committee is asked to:
- 5.1.1 note the activity to-date (section 1) and continuing activity (section 3) to implement the 2022-2026 pan-London Grants Programme
 - 5.1.2 note the provisional grant values to partners who will be delivering the programme from April 2022 (table 1)
 - 5.1.3 discuss and makes suggestions for the activity of the Committee in the coming year (section 4).

Financial Implications for London Councils

A decision on the annual funding for the programme will need to be agreed by Leaders' Committee.

Legal Implications for London Councils

London Councils manages the London Councils Grants Programme on behalf of all the boroughs and the City of London. The Programme makes grants to voluntary organisations to deliver improved outcomes for Londoners.

The Programme operates within a scheme made under Section 48 of the Local Government Act 1985. It is a collective scheme i.e. all the boroughs fund the Programme, through a levy contribution based on the boroughs proportion of the capital's population. Boroughs must exercise their functions in respect of the scheme 'with due regard to the needs of the whole of Greater London'.

Leaders' Committee determines the principles and priorities of the Programme and the overall budget of the Programme. The Grants Committee commissions services, makes awards of funding, manages projects' performance and may advise Leaders' Committee on the Programme.

The legal requirements of good decision-making by public authorities, in summary, require the following:

1. **Declaration of interests:** The principle being, a decision maker should not be a "judge in his own cause". Where a decision-maker has an interest in the subject of a decision he is making it is likely to preclude his participation in the decision where – the decision will affect a friend or relation, the decision-maker has a financial interest in its outcome, the decision-maker is a director of an organisation affected by the outcome of the decision, the decision-maker is a member of group campaigning for one outcome or another, the decision maker's spouse, civil partner or other close family member has an interest in the outcome. Although a close connection with the subject of the decision will automatically disqualify a person from making a decision, declaration of a less direct interest before a decision is made may permit them to take part. In the latter circumstances the person concerned and any colleagues participating in the decision-making process must decide whether the connection would lead a fair-minded and informed observer to conclude that there was a real possibility that the decision-maker would be biased if they took part. London Councils has policies and procedures to assist in managing these matters, with Members being required to comply with their own authority's Code of Conduct.
2. **Following correct procedure:** A decision-maker will often be required to follow a set procedure for making its decisions, whether set out in statute or set by the decision-maker itself. Any such procedures are usually drafted with the purposes of both ensuring the decision-maker takes into account all relevant considerations as well as ensuring procedural fairness for those affected by the decision. In taking decisions which engage consideration of specific duties, such as the equalities duties, any process must ensure that those duties are also met. In your case, this will ensure that you turn your mind to, and can evidence that you have had due regard to the public sector equality duty in taking the decision. As you know this does not necessarily require a formal public consultation or EIA (but see below).

Examples of prescribed procedures for decision-makers include express duties to: consult, give reasons for decisions, be informed of a right to appeal (if there is one), etc. NB: Whilst it is necessary for a public body making decisions to follow a set procedure that will not of itself render the procedure fair, and in certain circumstances it may also be appropriate/fair to depart from the published procedure.

3. **Consultation:** Public bodies are required by law to consult before making decisions, particularly in the context of making policies or issuing guidance. In some cases, there is an express duty to consult and a statutory process which must be followed. There is no express statutory requirement to consult under the Grants Scheme, although in having due regard to the needs of the whole of Greater London in making the scheme and exercising the relevant functions under section 48 of the Local Government Act 1985, and specifically in meeting the duty under subs 48(10) to keep the needs of the whole of Greater London under review, one must have regard to the general public law principles and requirements relating to consultation. There is published government guidance (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/consultation-principles-guidance>) and London Councils should have regard to this guidance

In summary: a public authority has a wide discretion in choosing the options upon which to consult; consultation may be an iterative process; consultation must be lawful (and therefore fair), and such consultation must also be adequate; consultation should be proportionate to the potential impact of the proposal or decision being taken; it should be undertaken at a formative stage in developing the proposals; the timeframe for any consultation should be proportionate and realistic to allow stakeholders an adequate time to consider and respond; the information provided as part of the consultation should be useful and accessible, the objectives of the consultation clear, and the public authority must give sufficient reasons for any proposals being consulted upon to allow for intelligent consideration and response; those consulted should be aware of the criteria that will be applied by the public authority when considering proposals and which factors will be considered decisive or of substantial importance at the end of the process of consultation, such as in evaluating the consultation responses or in taking the decisions informed by the consultation; consultation need not be formal and in

writing, and there are a number of ways of engaging with stakeholders which may be appropriate e.g. by email or web-based forums, public meetings, working groups, focus groups and surveys; etc.

If a public authority has promised it will engage in consultation before making a decision it would normally be unfair not to do so. Public bodies should be mindful of any public statements/guidance that may have issued promising consultation e.g. where decisions engage equalities issues. Past practice may imply a promise to consult again on the same type of decision - fairness generally requiring that the practice of consultation is continued. Even if there is no promise or past practice of consultation, the nature and impact of the decision may mean that fairness requires it.

Measures of the severity of a decision's impact include - the extent to which it unexpectedly alters the existing position or legitimate expectations of the affected individuals/groups; or the severity of consequences of the decision on the affected individuals/groups; etc . The product of the consultation must be conscientiously taken into account in finalising proposals.

4. **Rational and evidence-based:** A public body must take rational decisions. An irrational or unreasonable decision is one that was not objectively rational and reasonably open to the decision-maker. Evidence-based decisions help to ensure that decisions are objectively reasonable.
5. **All relevant considerations:** A decision maker must ensure that it takes into account all relevant considerations in reaching a rational and evidence-based decision. The subject matter of the decision will inform what is relevant. EG: the proposal, response to consultation, guidance on parameters for decision, costs of decision, effects of the decision on others (including, for example, having due regard to the decision-makers' public sector equality duty), advice from officers, etc.
6. **Proper purpose:** A public body must act for a proper purpose and in taking their decisions decision-makers must apply their minds to the correct statutory objective. A public body must act in good faith.
7. **Proportionate:** Public decision-makers should act in a way that is proportionate. Proportionate decisions are also likely to be rational, evidence-based and reasonable.

8. **Properly reasoned:** Procedural requirements on public decision-makers require that reasons must be given for their decisions. Reasons do not need to be excessively detailed but do need to be adequate. Adequate decisions – deal with all the substantial points that have been raised; are sufficient for the parties to know whether the decision-maker has made an error of law; set out and explain key aspects of the decision-maker's reasoning in coming to its conclusion; include all aspects of reasoning that were material to the decision; but do not need to set out in detail all the evidence and arguments referred to by the decision-maker. The reasons for decisions should be recorded at the time the decisions are made.
9. With reference to the above, the standard grounds for judicial review are on the basis that a decision: was unlawful/ultra vires; was irrational; or was procedurally unfair - in that the decision-maker has not properly observed the relevant procedures (whether set by statute or by itself) e.g. it has failed to consult or give reasons for its decision, or there has been a failure to observe the principles of natural justice in the decision-making process e.g. evidence of bias.

Further, a public authority should also be careful not to raise a further ground of challenge if, through their own conduct or statements, they have established a legitimate expectation as to how the public body will act. A legitimate expectation may arise exceptionally in three cases – where the decision-maker has made a clear and unambiguous representation that it will adopt a particular form of procedure above and beyond that which it would otherwise been required to adopt; where the claimant has an interest in some ultimate benefit that it hopes to attain or retain fairness may require the claimant to be given an opportunity to make representations; and where the decision-maker has a substantive right on which it was reasonable for the claimant to rely. Public bodies may change their policies or depart from them (and so not fetter their discretion), and so a legitimate expectation will only arise if departure from the existing policies was an abuse of power.

Equalities Implications for London Councils

In reaching decisions for the implementation of any future grants programme, the Committee is required to have due regard to its obligations under the Equalities Act 2010, particularly the Public Sector Equalities Duty.

London Councils' funded services provide support to people within all the protected characteristics (Equality Act 2010), and targets groups highlighted as particularly hard to reach or more affected by the issues being tackled. Funded organisations are also required to submit equalities monitoring data, which can be collated across the grants scheme to provide data on the take up of services and gaps in provision to be addressed. The grants team reviews this data annually.

Background Documents

Grants Committee (AGM), 11 November 2020, Item 13, Extension to the current Grants Programme; Item 14 New grants programme 2022-2026: Planning and implementation

Grants Committee, 17 March 2021, Item 6, Grants Programme 2022-26: Planning and implementation

Grants Committee, 14 July 2021, Item 14, Grants Programme 2022-26: New programme prospectus

Grants Committee, 24 November 2021, Item 8, 2022-2026 Pan-London Grants Programme: Recommendations for award of grant