

Appendix 2:
Breakdown of Intended Use of New Burdens Funding with Explanatory Note

Budget required:	2022-23	Explanatory Note
Private Rented Sector Access (Call before you service)	200,000	Funding to Private Tenancy Unit working in partnership with Housing Solutions & Support. In recognition that Covid-19 eviction ban is ended and that eviction from PRS is a top-3 reason for homeless presentation. New service being introduced in 2022/23, to have a point of contact for landlords before they service notice that could potentially terminate a tenancy; as well as a resource for Housing Solutions & Support through which to investigate and act should there be illegal acts on the part of landlords leading to homeless presentations.
Additional Visiting Officer Capacity – currently funding 3 additional officers	60,000	These officers visit customer in their accommodation, who are unable to visit the office or manage the telephone access to the service. Early access to help for the prevention of homelessness is critical and while much of the service is now telephone based, an outreach element is needed for some of the most vulnerable.
Family Mediation	10,000	This service was introduced in the last quarter of the financial year 21/22, as a pilot with early signs of progress. One of the top three reasons for homelessness in the city is family friend exclusion. With affordable housing difficult to find families are staying in the same home for longer periods. This service is commissioned and aims at reducing that family tension, enabling households to stay. Access to the service is enabled for key partner agencies as well as Housing Solutions and Support.
Childrens Trust Support	60,000	This is new funding for 2022/23 to support with the early intervention and prevention work coming out of the Childrens Trust it is aimed at families with children on Child Protect Plan or children in Need plans. The pilot saw 7 families from January to March 2022 being prevented from homelessness, and recognises that BCT may have awareness and access to vulnerable families ahead of Housing Solutions and Support.
Sanctuary/Security Measures	307,759	This service has prevented 114 households, from April 2020 to 1 st March 2022. It is one of the view options open to victims of Domestic Abuse and Gang Crime that keeps them safe in their existing property therefore preventing households accessing temporary accommodation. This service works alongside the DA Hub and WMP.
Early Intervention Fund	820,000	Last year this fund together with the Vulnerability Renters Fund prevented 385 households from accessing Temporary Accommodation, as they were assisted with rent deposits to enable access to accommodation and supported to pay rent

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		arrears to avoid eviction. With the new Accommodation Finding Team working with private landlords this flexible fund will be even more critical to the success of Housing Solutions and Support.
Webchat	100,000	This service has dealt with 12,562 enquiries about homelessness or households threatened with homelessness this financial year 21-22. A significant tool for those making early contact with the service. This is part of the Information, Advice and Guidance offer, and fits with the communication plans around early access for prevention of homelessness. This service picks up those customer at the earliest stage of their homelessness, when they are investigating the options available to them.
Domestic Abuse Hub	530,000	Domestic Abuse is one of the top three reasons for homelessness in this city, we fund BSWAID to provide a holistic and Statutory service that sits along side the well being hub, to provide support and advice to women experiencing domestic abuse. An operational year of this service saw 4000 accessing for advice, support and guidance, with 1233 appointments and 771 Homeless Applications with 419 placements, seeing around 11 appointments a day.
Officer/Partners Training	30,000	This has afforded the training of 120 new staff to the service and 200 existing staff. This work is critical in ensuring the service is make correct legal decisions, in a timely fashion. With the level of new recruitment as part of the redesign this training investment continues to be crucial
Rough Sleeper and Singles Hub, Statutory Homelessness Support	80,000	Funding to enable the Housing Solutions and Support statutory service for single homeless adults to be delivered in a voluntary sector, daycentre setting, providing triage, referral and support services (Sifa-Fireside). 2021-22 this service responded to 2223 approaches from single homeless people.
Hospital Discharge, Statutory Homelessness Support	40,000	This resource supports the Hospital Discharge Team who work across the main three hospitals in Birmingham, QE, Heartlands and Good Hope. We worked in partnership 21-22 to prevent 380 households coming into Bed and Breakfast.
Offenders Hub, Statutory Homelessness Support	40,000	This supports to ensure offenders are able to access accommodation as quickly as possible on release and has funded an officer to working with 480 offenders, who often have complex needs and can be difficult to place.
Contact Centre, support for increasing evictions	300,000	Over the last two year we have seen a 25% increase in demand for households looking for homelessness advice and guidance.

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		Much of this first contact has shifted onto the telephone. It is critical that there is capacity to answer these enquiries in a timely way in order to maximise opportunity to prevent homelessness early. We have had to provide extra resource to ensure people are spoken too at the earliest opportunity. The contact centre took 178,424 calls for 9 months this year, compared to 164,846 for all of 2021/2
Homeless Finance and Monitoring Officer	5,000	This has been used to fund extra business resource to ensure timely payment of invoices across the grant. This funding is also used to support the collection of data, around the early intervention work supported by this funding.
Court Support	50,000	This is a new service for 2022/23 to prevent homelessness at the Court stage. This is something developed during winter 2021-22 as part of the Vulnerable Renters programme and is to enable greater support through agencies at the Court including the Citizens Advice Bureau and their specialist services there.
Total	£2,632,759	