Delegated Decision Report
3 November 2026

Title:	Rough Sleeping Programme – Year 1 Allocations
Portfolio:	A North East we are proud to call home
Responsible Director:	Phil Witcherley, Director of Economic Growth and Innovation
Report Author:	James Williams, Policy and Economy Adviser (Homelessness)

Purpose of the report

To seek approval to allocate and deploy the North East Mayoral Strategic Authority's 2026/27 Rough Sleeping Programme Year One funding allocation of £3.115m to the seven constituent authorities in accordance with the agreed programme approach and funding distribution methodology as approved in principle by the Rough Sleeping Delivery Programme Delegated Decision Report of 7 September 2026 and further set out in this report.

Recommendations

The Director of Economic Growth and Innovation, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder is to:

1. finalise and facilitate the award of individual grant agreements, funding allocations and associated delivery arrangements with the seven constituent authorities required to implement the programme as set out in paragraph 2.

Executive Summary

On 19 August 2026, the Prime Minister launched the national Rough Sleeping Programme with the ambition that everyone sleeping rough is offered a route off the streets before Christmas 2026. The North East Mayoral Strategic Authority (MSA) has been allocated £3.115m revenue funding during 2026/27 to support delivery of this objective.

The funding has been directed through Mayoral Strategic Authorities as part of the Government's devolution agenda and wider commitment to 'rewiring the state', creating an opportunity for the North East MSA to coordinate a regional response to rough sleeping. As agreed through the Delegated Decision of 7 September 2026, funding will be distributed through constituent local authorities, enabling deployment through existing homelessness services, accommodation pathways and local delivery arrangements.

A. Context

1. Rough Sleeping Programme

On 19 August 2026, the Prime Minister and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) announced a new national Rough Sleeping Programme. The programme aims to ensure that everyone sleeping rough is offered a route off the streets before Christmas 2026 through investment in emergency accommodation, support and intervention services.

As part of the programme, the North East MSA has been awarded £3,115,770 revenue funding for 2026/27. This forms the first phase of a wider multi-year programme and provides an opportunity to support some of the region's most vulnerable residents whilst contributing to the Mayor's wider housing and homelessness ambitions.

Approval is therefore sought to implement the approved delivery approach through the award of grants to constituent authorities, enabling funding to be deployed promptly and effectively.

2. Proposed Delivery Approach

The delivery approach for the Rough Sleeping Programme remains as approved through the Delegated Decision of 7 September 2026, which confirmed that Year One funding would be distributed through the seven constituent authorities to enable rapid mobilisation and delivery of activity. This report seeks approval to implement that approach through the award of individual grants and associated funding agreements, as detailed in the table below:

Local Authority	2026/27 Rough Sleeping Programme Allocation
Durham County Council	£643,481
Gateshead Council	£325,183
Newcastle City Council	£914,007
North Tyneside Council	£247,211
Northumberland County Council	£304,294
South Tyneside Council	£247,326
Sunderland City Council	£434,268
Total	£3,115,770

3. Next Steps

A.1 Grant award letters and Grant Funding Agreements will be developed in consultation with Legal Services and issued to individual local authorities detailing required delivery arrangements in accordance with the requirements of MHCLG.

A.2 Once Grant Funding Agreements are signed by both parties, funds will be formally transferred.

A.3 Programme delivery and monitoring in line with requirements as set out within the Grant Funding Agreements.

B. Impact on North East Mayoral Strategic Authority Objectives

The proposal directly supports the North East MSA's ambition to create a fairer and more inclusive region where residents have access to safe and secure housing.

The programme contributes to the Mayor's Plan for Homes and commitment to tackle homelessness, support vulnerable residents and work collaboratively across local government and partner organisations to improve outcomes for communities.

The programme also contributes to wider objectives relating to health, wellbeing, economic inclusion and reducing inequalities across the region.

C. Key Risks

Risk	Mitigation
Funding timescales may limit the ability to establish new commissioning arrangements before winter 2026/27	Utilise existing local authority delivery mechanisms and established services to support rapid mobilisation
Demand for services may exceed available funding	Prioritise funding onward interventions that provide the greatest impact on reducing rough

	sleeping and support effective targeting of resources
Delivery approaches may vary across constituent authorities	Establish regional monitoring arrangements and shared outcome expectations
Failure to deliver programme outcomes could impact future funding opportunities and directly impact future provision for those rough sleeping	Robust programme management, performance monitoring and regular engagement with MHCLG and delivery partners

D. Corporate Implications

1. Finance and other resources implications

The North East MSA has been allocated £3.115 through the Government's Rough Sleeping Programme for 2026/27. Detailed financial arrangements and profiling will be developed in accordance with MHCLG grant conditions and North East MSA financial procedures.

2. Legal Implications

G Comments of the representative of the Monitoring Officer have been incorporated into the body of the report

3. Equalities Implications

People experiencing rough sleeping often experience multiple disadvantages and are disproportionately represented within groups with protected characteristics. The programme is expected to have a positive impact by improving access to accommodation, support and wider services for vulnerable residents. An Equality Impact Assessment will be completed and maintained as delivery proposals are developed.

4. Consultation and engagement

The North East MSA will work closely with constituent authorities, homelessness services, housing providers, voluntary and community sector organisations and MHCLG in developing and delivering the programme. Ongoing engagement will inform both immediate delivery arrangements and the development of longer-term regional proposals.

E. Appendices

Appendix 1: Rough Sleeping Programme Funding Allocation

F. Background papers

MHCLG Rough Sleeping Programme Guidance (August 2026)
MHCLG Rough Sleeping Programme Funding Allocations (August 2026)

G. Glossary

Abbreviation	Meaning
CDEL	Capital Departmental Expenditure Limit
MHCLG	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

North East MSA	North East Mayoral Strategic Authority
RDEL	Resource Departmental Expenditure Limit

Contact officer(s)

James Williams, Policy & Economy Adviser (Homelessness) – james.williams2@northeast-ca.gov.uk
Heather Orton, Head of Housing and Regeneration – heather.orton@northeast-ca.gov.uk

Appendix 1

Year	Revenue (RDEL)	Capital (CDEL)
2026/27	£3,115,770	-