



COUNTY OF WELLINGTON

COMMITTEE REPORT

HS-22-03

To: Chair and Members of the Social Services Committee
From: Mark Poste, Director of Housing
Date: Wednesday, January 12, 2022
Subject: Housing Provider COVID Support Update

Background:

In May 2021, the Social Services Committee and Council supported the creation of a second phase of the Housing Provider COVID Support Programme. This programme allocated a total of \$200,000 in funding to help these important partners with the increased costs on approved COVID related expenses incurred from January to December 31, 2020. This second phase was to be broken up into two 6 month blocks, one from January to June and one from July to December. This report provides an update on the second 6-month block.

Over the month of December, Housing Services released the programme guidelines and application process to housing providers, and Housing Services worked with the Treasury Department to deliver the programme. Most providers did participate in the programme, although as expected, most of the costs came from housing providers that manage multi residential programmes where social distancing issues are more relevant. We received \$143,492 in total requests from 12 housing providers and were able to support \$100,000 worth of requests that met the programme guidelines. The types of requests received ranged from enhanced cleaning, purchasing PPE and cleaning supplies, technology to support distance communications and co-op governance, physical distancing barriers and air purification solutions. All housing providers that submitted an application received funding, with 9 of the 12 receiving their entire funding requested.

All payments were made on December 30, 2021, and this programme helped these non-profit providers balance their books against the unexpected expenses related to the pandemic. Thank you to Committee and Council for your support of these very important community partners.

Financial Implications:

All approved expenditures for the HP COVID Support programme have been accommodated within the provincially funded Social Services Relief Fund Phase 3 allocation.

Recommendation:

That report HS-22-03 "Housing Provider COVID Support Update" be received for information.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Poste'.

Mark Poste
Director of Housing