Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities

22 December 2021

Dear Colleague,

PROTECT AND VACCINATE 21/22 FUNDING GUIDANCE

Following on from the letter sent to local authority Chief Executives by Minister Hughes (Minister for Rough Sleeping and Housing), 20 December 2021, below is some further information on the purpose and conditions of the Protect and Vaccinate funding.

As set out in the letter, in light of the Omicron variant the Prime Minister has implemented Plan B to step-up our response to COVID-19 and announced a national endeavour to vaccinate every eligible adult in England this year. In order to respond to this, we are providing a total of **£28.1m** funding to all local authorities for the following:

- **Accommodating people sleeping rough (£24.9m):** to support all local authorities across England to find appropriate accommodation for people sleeping rough (subject to individual assessments) and, importantly, to use this as a way of boosting vaccination rates across this vulnerable population. This will include people who may have previously been offered accommodation but rejected it or left accommodation, and individuals new to rough sleeping who require help to move on from rough sleeping. Where you need to, we suggest focussing on the most vulnerable people sleeping rough, particularly clinically vulnerable, as well as those with a history of rough sleeping. Access to accommodation is not contingent on accepting a vaccination.

- **Increasing vaccination uptake amongst people sleeping rough (£3.2m):** to encourage the uptake of vaccination amongst people sleeping rough and others at risk in the single homeless cohort. This funding will be used at your discretion to incentivise vaccination amongst this cohort using your knowledge and understanding of the issues they face.

Purpose of the Grant:

This will be a ring-fenced grant paid under Section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003. Further details of the grant conditions will be set out in your grant determination letters in the New Year. Information on how this interacts with supporting non-UK nationals with restricted eligibility is included in the Chief Executive letter, 20 December, (which can be found on gov.uk (here).

The purpose of the grant is to:

- subject to individual assessments, make offers of safe and appropriate accommodation and support to people who are rough sleeping in order to facilitate vaccinations and safeguard from infection from COVID-19); and

- increase take-up of vaccinations among people sleeping rough by providing appropriate incentives in line with guiding principles at Annex A.

Monitoring and Data:

We will be measuring the following data in order to monitor progress of this funding. We may require additional information to inform broader oversight of this initiative – but will ensure any requests are proportionate and balance need with the impact on local authorities and your partners.

- **Monitoring Spend:** The S151 officer of each recipient authority is required to sign and return to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, a spend declaration to be received no later than 14th April 2022 confirming spend against this fund.

- **Rough Sleeping Management Information:** We will be continuing to collect and monitor the rough sleeping MI to measure the changes in those rough sleeping and in emergency accommodation – and, therefore, ask that you continue to make this a priority.

- **Vaccination:** NHSEI are providing additional vaccination support on a rolling basis to priority areas, through mobile vaccination units. NHSEI will continue to collect clinical data, and we may be asking you soon for information on vaccination levels amongst those you are accommodating. Your DLUHC rough sleeping adviser will also be gathering qualitative data on how the money on vaccination incentives is being spent, with an assessment of the outcomes.

Your rough sleeping adviser will be on hand to support you with this and offer guidance and oversight regarding these funds

<u>Payment Process:</u>

Allocations can be found at Annex B. Payments are scheduled early in the New Year (2022). Funding has been allocated based on the levels of rough sleeping in each area.

S151 officers will be required to submit a spend declaration to the department confirming the grant has been spent in line with grant conditions by 14 April 2022. In line with ringfencing rules, any underspend will be returned to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

Any short-term accommodation secured through this fund should be demonstrably good value for money. This could be achieved through negotiation of rate of placements, alignment with existing contracting and maximisation of rental income.

Local authorities updated us on their RSI4 expenditure during our audit in September 2021. Following the audit, if LAs have identified any further underspend from RSI4, we ask that they alert us (by emailing rsi@communities.gov.uk) by **31 January 2022**. Notification of underspends by this date will be eligible for repurposing to support the objectives of Protect & Vaccinate. Any underspends recorded after this date will be resolved on a case-by-case basis.

This funding is until the end of March 2022. We appreciate that longer-term funding certainty is important for local authorities. We will work closely with you on our next steps in the New Year.

Thank you for your continuing work to support those experiencing rough sleeping throughout the pandemic. We recognise the additional pressures that the spread of the Omicron variant and cold weather pose for local authorities in terms of rough sleeping, and hope that this additional funding will help enhance the hard work you are already undertaking to ensure protections are in place.

C Bennion

Catherine Bennion

Deputy Director, Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Policy and Delivery

Annex A: Guiding Principles for Increasing Vaccination Uptake Expenditure

The purpose of the £3.2m funding is to increase uptake of vaccinations among people sleeping rough, e.g. by making vaccination more convenient, helping to overcome hesitancy and increase confidence, and providing broader incentives to encourage take-up.

The funding can be used at local discretion to improve vaccination uptake amongst this population, using local knowledge and understanding of the issues this cohort experience, and learning from others about 'what works'. This funding can be used working with local Voluntary, Community and Faith sector (VCFS) partners to deliver the intended aim.

Some examples of 'what works' in increasing uptake amongst people experiencing homelessness can be found below:

- Groundswell's recent peer-led research (COVID19-testing-and-vaccines-whats-working-summary-FINAL-updated-1.pdf (groundswell.org.uk)

- The Queen's Nursing Institute's case studies (Covid Vaccinations – The Queen's Nursing Institute (qni.org.uk))

- Doctor's of the World Vaccine Confidence Toolkit and have translated information (Vaccine Confidence Toolkit - Doctors of the World)

- Future NHS resources in the COVID-19 Vaccination workspace (COVID-19 Vaccination Programme - FutureNHS Collaboration Platform) and Homelessness and Inclusion Health workspace (Homelessness and Inclusion Health - FutureNHS Collaboration Platform)

- The LGA's good council practice on behavioural insights and vaccination roll-out (COVID-19: good council practice | Local Government Association)

You may wish to support activities such as travel costs, meal vouchers, childcare, funding for staff to take people to vaccination sites (to note this is not an exhaustive list, but intended to provide helpful examples). We also anticipate funding may be targeted at overcoming vaccine hesitancy – e.g. ensuring availability of tailored materials and outreach who can overcome misinformation. Please make use of existing materials, available from the COVID-19 vaccination resource centre (Covid-19 Vaccine - Coronavirus Resource centre (phe.gov.uk)) and on Groundswell's website.

The intention and expectation for this funding is to lead to an increase of vaccinations amongst this cohort. We recognise that this may be challenging at times and may not always result in a vaccination. We encourage you to carefully consider what works for your cohort, including sharing best practice with other local authorities and VCFS partners, and particularly partners in the NHS, in order to make most effective use of this funding.

Local authorities have a responsibility to ensure that all expenditure of public money is spent in line with the Best Value Statutory Guide. Local authorities should also be aware of risks relating to any and all types of fraud and take the take appropriate steps to mitigate this.

Your rough sleeping adviser will be on hand to support you with this and offer guidance and oversight regarding this fund. There is an expectation that you will provide your rough sleeping advisor with qualitative data on the broad types of activities being funded for the purpose of monitoring spend and outcomes.

Annex B:

Protect and Vaccinate 21/22 Allocations			
Local Authority	**Accommodation (2021-22)**	**Vaccination (2021-22)**	**Total Allocation**
Adur	20,493	2,651	23,144
Allerdale	8,855	1,146	10,000
Amber Valley	10,247	1,326	11,572
Arun	112,712	14,581	127,294
Ashfield	20,493	2,651	23,144
Ashford	61,480	7,953	69,433
Babergh	40,986	5,302	46,289
Barking and Dagenham	40,986	5,302	46,289
Barnet	133,205	17,232	150,438
Barnsley	30,740	3,977	34,717
Barrow-in-Furness	8,855	1,146	10,000
Basildon	20,493	2,651	23,144
Basingstoke and Deane	8,855	1,146	10,000
Bassetlaw	61,480	7,953	69,433
Bath and North East Somerset	122,959	15,907	138,866
Bedford	10,247	1,326	11,572
Bexley	40,986	5,302	46,289
Birmingham	317,644	41,092	358,736
Blaby	8,855	1,146	10,000
Blackburn with Darwen	112,712	14,581	127,294
Blackpool	81,973	10,605	92,577
Bolsover	8,855	1,146	10,000
Bolton	61,480	7,953	69,433
Boston	40,986	5,302	46,289
Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	368,877	47,720	416,597
Bracknell Forest	71,726	9,279	81,005
Bradford	81,973	10,605	92,577
Braintree	71,726	9,279	81,005
Breckland	92,219	11,930	104,149
Brent	245,918	31,813	277,731
Brentwood	8,855	1,146	10,000
Brighton and Hove	399,616	51,697	451,313
Bristol, City of	809,479	104,719	914,198
Broadland	20,493	2,651	23,144
Bromley	30,740	3,977	34,717
Bromsgrove	10,247	1,326	11,572
Broxbourne	20,493	2,651	23,144
Broxtowe	40,986	5,302	46,289
Buckinghamshire	133,205	17,232	150,438
Burnley	61,480	7,953	69,433
Bury	8,855	1,146	10,000
Calderdale	20,493	2,651	23,144
Cambridge	61,480	7,953	69,433
Camden	799,232	103,393	902,626
Cannock Chase	40,986	5,302	46,289
Canterbury	153,699	19,883	173,582
Carlisle	8,855	1,146	10,000

Castle Point	10,247	1,326	11,572
Central Bedfordshire	51,233	6,628	57,861
Charnwood	8,855	1,146	10,000
Chelmsford	143,452	18,558	162,010
Cheltenham	112,712	14,581	127,294
Cherwell	92,219	11,930	104,149
Cheshire East	71,726	9,279	81,005
Cheshire West and Chester	8,855	1,146	10,000
Chesterfield	81,973	10,605	92,577
Chichester	30,740	3,977	34,717
Chorley	30,740	3,977	34,717
City of London	317,644	41,092	358,736
Colchester	122,959	15,907	138,866
Copeland	8,855	1,146	10,000
Cornwall	338,137	43,743	381,880
Cotswold	20,493	2,651	23,144
County Durham	71,726	9,279	81,005
Coventry	112,712	14,581	127,294
Craven	40,986	5,302	46,289
Crawley	81,973	10,605	92,577
Croydon	153,699	19,883	173,582
Dacorum	61,480	7,953	69,433
Darlington	20,493	2,651	23,144
Dartford	81,973	10,605	92,577
Derby	51,233	6,628	57,861
Derbyshire Dales	20,493	2,651	23,144
Doncaster	266,411	34,465	300,875
Dorset	215,178	27,837	243,015
Dover	71,726	9,279	81,005
Dudley	20,493	2,651	23,144
Ealing	225,425	29,162	254,587
East Cambridgeshire	8,855	1,146	10,000
East Devon	81,973	10,605	92,577
East Hampshire	51,233	6,628	57,861
East Hertfordshire	61,480	7,953	69,433
East Lindsey	20,493	2,651	23,144
East Riding of Yorkshire	153,699	19,883	173,582
East Staffordshire	8,855	1,146	10,000
East Suffolk	61,480	7,953	69,433
Eastbourne	122,959	15,907	138,866
Eastleigh	71,726	9,279	81,005
Eden	8,855	1,146	10,000
Elmbridge	51,233	6,628	57,861
Enfield	215,178	27,837	243,015
Epping Forest	30,740	3,977	34,717
Epsom and Ewell	20,493	2,651	23,144
Erewash	8,855	1,146	10,000
Exeter	225,425	29,162	254,587
Fareham	112,712	14,581	127,294
Fenland	122,959	15,907	138,866
Folkestone and Hythe	92,219	11,930	104,149
Forest of Dean	8,855	1,146	10,000

Fylde	20,493	2,651	23,144
Gateshead	10,247	1,326	11,572
Gedling	8,855	1,146	10,000
Gloucester	51,233	6,628	57,861
Gosport	61,480	7,953	69,433
Gravesham	71,726	9,279	81,005
Great Yarmouth	112,712	14,581	127,294
Greenwich	143,452	18,558	162,010
Guildford	81,973	10,605	92,577
Hackney	122,959	15,907	138,866
Halton	20,493	2,651	23,144
Hambleton	8,855	1,146	10,000
Hammersmith and Fulham	40,986	5,302	46,289
Harborough	30,740	3,977	34,717
Haringey	81,973	10,605	92,577
Harlow	10,247	1,326	11,572
Harrogate	30,740	3,977	34,717
Harrow	10,247	1,326	11,572
Hart	8,855	1,146	10,000
Hartlepool	20,493	2,651	23,144
Hastings	174,192	22,535	196,726
Havant	8,855	1,146	10,000
Havering	40,986	5,302	46,289
Herefordshire, County of	133,205	17,232	150,438
Hertsmere	10,247	1,326	11,572
High Peak	30,740	3,977	34,717
Hillingdon	61,480	7,953	69,433
Hinckley and Bosworth	10,247	1,326	11,572
Horsham	102,466	13,256	115,721
Hounslow	61,480	7,953	69,433
Huntingdonshire	61,480	7,953	69,433
Hyndburn	10,247	1,326	11,572
Ipswich	51,233	6,628	57,861
Isle of Wight	51,233	6,628	57,861
Isles of Scilly	8,855	1,146	10,000
Islington	92,219	11,930	104,149
Kensington and Chelsea	81,973	10,605	92,577
King's Lynn and West Norfolk	8,855	1,146	10,000
Kingston upon Hull, City of	184,438	23,860	208,298
Kingston upon Thames	122,959	15,907	138,866
Kirklees	40,986	5,302	46,289
Knowsley	8,855	1,146	10,000
Lambeth	256,164	33,139	289,303
Lancaster	61,480	7,953	69,433
Leeds	276,657	35,790	312,447
Leicester	143,452	18,558	162,010
Lewes	61,480	7,953	69,433
Lewisham	174,192	22,535	196,726
Lichfield	30,740	3,977	34,717
Lincoln	163,945	21,209	185,154
Liverpool	143,452	18,558	162,010
Luton	71,726	9,279	81,005

Maidstone	30,740	3,977	34,717
Maldon	61,480	7,953	69,433
Malvern Hills	30,740	3,977	34,717
Manchester	645,534	83,510	729,044
Mansfield	92,219	11,930	104,149
Medway	194,685	25,186	219,871
Melton	30,740	3,977	34,717
Mendip	194,685	25,186	219,871
Merton	8,855	1,146	10,000
Mid Devon	20,493	2,651	23,144
Mid Suffolk	40,986	5,302	46,289
Mid Sussex	102,466	13,256	115,721
Middlesbrough	92,219	11,930	104,149
Milton Keynes	30,740	3,977	34,717
Mole Valley	20,493	2,651	23,144
New Forest	81,973	10,605	92,577
Newark and Sherwood	30,740	3,977	34,717
Newcastle upon Tyne	51,233	6,628	57,861
Newcastle-under-Lyme	112,712	14,581	127,294
Newham	112,712	14,581	127,294
North Devon	92,219	11,930	104,149
North East Derbyshire	8,855	1,146	10,000
North East Lincolnshire	71,726	9,279	81,005
North Hertfordshire	10,247	1,326	11,572
North Kesteven	8,855	1,146	10,000
North Lincolnshire	51,233	6,628	57,861
North Norfolk	51,233	6,628	57,861
North Northamptonshire	102,466	13,256	115,721
North Somerset	71,726	9,279	81,005
North Tyneside	30,740	3,977	34,717
North Warwickshire	8,855	1,146	10,000
North West Leicestershire	8,855	1,146	10,000
Northumberland	51,233	6,628	57,861
Norwich	143,452	18,558	162,010
Nottingham	297,151	38,441	335,592
Nuneaton and Bedworth	20,493	2,651	23,144
Oadby and Wigston	8,855	1,146	10,000
Oldham	10,247	1,326	11,572
Oxford	297,151	38,441	335,592
Pendle	8,855	1,146	10,000
Peterborough	143,452	18,558	162,010
Plymouth	112,712	14,581	127,294
Portsmouth	256,164	33,139	289,303
Preston	102,466	13,256	115,721
Reading	184,438	23,860	208,298
Redbridge	153,699	19,883	173,582
Redcar and Cleveland	10,247	1,326	11,572
Redditch	10,247	1,326	11,572
Reigate and Banstead	20,493	2,651	23,144
Ribble Valley	8,855	1,146	10,000
Richmond upon Thames	40,986	5,302	46,289
Richmondshire	8,855	1,146	10,000

Rochdale	71,726	9,279	81,005
Rochford	10,247	1,326	11,572
Rossendale	8,855	1,146	10,000
Rother	10,247	1,326	11,572
Rotherham	20,493	2,651	23,144
Rugby	30,740	3,977	34,717
Runnymede	10,247	1,326	11,572
Rushcliffe	10,247	1,326	11,572
Rushmoor	10,247	1,326	11,572
Rutland	10,247	1,326	11,572
Ryedale	40,986	5,302	46,289
Salford	30,740	3,977	34,717
Sandwell	20,493	2,651	23,144
Scarborough	122,959	15,907	138,866
Sedgemoor	20,493	2,651	23,144
Sefton	10,247	1,326	11,572
Selby	10,247	1,326	11,572
Sevenoaks	30,740	3,977	34,717
Sheffield	235,671	30,488	266,159
Shropshire	184,438	23,860	208,298
Slough	122,959	15,907	138,866
Solihull	30,740	3,977	34,717
Somerset West and Taunton	102,466	13,256	115,721
South Cambridgeshire	8,855	1,146	10,000
South Derbyshire	8,855	1,146	10,000
South Gloucestershire	8,855	1,146	10,000
South Hams	40,986	5,302	46,289
South Holland	30,740	3,977	34,717
South Kesteven	20,493	2,651	23,144
South Lakeland	20,493	2,651	23,144
South Norfolk	10,247	1,326	11,572
South Oxfordshire	40,986	5,302	46,289
South Ribble	8,855	1,146	10,000
South Somerset	61,480	7,953	69,433
South Staffordshire	8,855	1,146	10,000
South Tyneside	40,986	5,302	46,289
Southampton	143,452	18,558	162,010
Southend-on-Sea	184,438	23,860	208,298
Southwark	276,657	35,790	312,447
Spelthorne	10,247	1,326	11,572
St Albans	40,986	5,302	46,289
St. Helens	10,247	1,326	11,572
Stafford	92,219	11,930	104,149
Staffordshire Moorlands	30,740	3,977	34,717
Stevenage	163,945	21,209	185,154
Stockport	61,480	7,953	69,433
Stockton-on-Tees	10,247	1,326	11,572
Stoke-on-Trent	235,671	30,488	266,159
Stratford-on-Avon	51,233	6,628	57,861
Stroud	40,986	5,302	46,289
Sunderland	92,219	11,930	104,149
Surrey Heath	10,247	1,326	11,572

Sutton	20,493	2,651	23,144
Swale	51,233	6,628	57,861
Swindon	81,973	10,605	92,577
Tameside	30,740	3,977	34,717
Tamworth	10,247	1,326	11,572
Tandridge	20,493	2,651	23,144
Teignbridge	102,466	13,256	115,721
Telford and Wrekin	10,247	1,326	11,572
Tendring	20,493	2,651	23,144
Test Valley	30,740	3,977	34,717
Tewkesbury	10,247	1,326	11,572
Thanet	71,726	9,279	81,005
Three Rivers	10,247	1,326	11,572
Thurrock	40,986	5,302	46,289
Tonbridge and Malling	30,740	3,977	34,717
Torbay	81,973	10,605	92,577
Torridge	40,986	5,302	46,289
Tower Hamlets	297,151	38,441	335,592
Trafford	10,247	1,326	11,572
Tunbridge Wells	10,247	1,326	11,572
Uttlesford	8,855	1,146	10,000
Vale of White Horse	20,493	2,651	23,144
Wakefield	10,247	1,326	11,572
Walsall	30,740	3,977	34,717
Waltham Forest	81,973	10,605	92,577
Wandsworth	204,931	26,511	231,443
Warrington	30,740	3,977	34,717
Warwick	61,480	7,953	69,433
Watford	40,986	5,302	46,289
Waverley	10,247	1,326	11,572
Wealden	10,247	1,326	11,572
Welwyn Hatfield	10,247	1,326	11,572
West Berkshire	20,493	2,651	23,144
West Devon	30,740	3,977	34,717
West Lancashire	8,855	1,146	10,000
West Lindsey	8,855	1,146	10,000
West Northamptonshire	112,712	14,581	127,294
West Oxfordshire	30,740	3,977	34,717
West Suffolk	122,959	15,907	138,866
Westminster	1,916,108	247,879	2,163,987
Wigan	40,986	5,302	46,289
Wiltshire	133,205	17,232	150,438
Winchester	20,493	2,651	23,144
Windsor and Maidenhead	8,855	1,146	10,000
Wirral	20,493	2,651	23,144
Woking	10,247	1,326	11,572
Wokingham	30,740	3,977	34,717
Wolverhampton	51,233	6,628	57,861
Worcester	153,699	19,883	173,582
Worthing	112,712	14,581	127,294
Wychavon	51,233	6,628	57,861
Wyre	10,247	1,326	11,572

Wyre Forest	20,493	2,651	23,144
York	51,233	6,628	57,861