



To: Regional Council

Meeting Date: June 27, 2024

From: Katherine Chislett
Commissioner of Community and Health Services

Re: **June 13, 2024 Committee of the Whole Item I.2.1 – York Region’s 2024 to 2027 Homelessness Service System Plan**

In [March 2024](#), Council requested that staff report in June 2024 with a rapid deployment plan, with funding options, for emergency and transitional housing to address the exponential growth in homelessness and for staff to explore establishing a housing and homelessness advocacy group consisting of elected officials. This memo is in response to a request at the [June 13, 2024](#) Committee of the Whole meeting for staff to add a recommendation formally requesting Provincial funding for operating costs of rapid deployment actions.

Proposed rapid deployment actions are eligible expenses under the Provincial Homelessness Prevention Program, however Provincial funding is fully allocated to existing programs

Ongoing operating costs for the proposed rapid deployment actions would require an additional \$7 million above the endorsed budget outlook for Community and Health Services in 2025 and beyond. Although the costs for the rapid deployment actions are eligible expenses under the Provincial Homelessness Prevention Program, the \$36.7 million provided to York Region from the Province, is already fully allocated to existing programs. Without an increase in the Provincial annual allocation, operating costs associated with the rapid deployment actions would require Regional tax levy funding to continue beyond 2024.

It is recommended the Regional Chair request Provincial funding to support the rapid deployment actions in 2025 and beyond

Pursuant to the direction at Committee of the Whole, it is recommended that the following be added as Recommendation #5 to the [June 13, 2024](#) report:

“The Regional Chair send a letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Members of Provincial Parliament who represent York Region to request an increase of \$7 million to York Region’s annual Provincial Homelessness Prevention Program allocation, starting in 2025, to fund operating costs of the rapid deployment actions.”



Katherine Chislett
Commissioner of Community and Health Services



Erin Mahoney
Chief Administrative Officer

June 19, 2024
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