

Frequently asked questions (FAQs)

Prevention pilots

Question	Response
Can organisations submit more than one bid for pilots?	Yes. However, please bear in mind that each bid should be for one pilot project and clearly show how they meet the funding criteria for Adult Social Care/ carers and/or housing/ homelessness prevention.
Will support be available to small groups and organisations?	Yes, we are hoping to fund a number of projects. This includes smaller pilots delivered by local community groups/ organisations. Community Action Sutton (CAS) is available to support small groups or organisations put together a bid. We are also encouraging organisations to work together. This might be with a larger organisation partnering with a smaller organisation or group to support a specific cohort or community. Equally, it could be two smaller organisations working together in partnership. Where organisations agree to collaborate/work together in the submission of a bid there will need to be one organisation who takes the lead to receive the funding.
If a larger organisation is partnering up with a	We will, in the evaluation of bids, need to consider whether the overhead costs are

small organisation can they put in for their cost overheads and be the lead as their staff member will be supporting the small organisation to deliver the work. The majority of the delivery will be undertaken by the small organisation.	reasonable and proportionate to the pilot proposed. So, for example high costs with a low value pilot would be difficult to support.
Can pilot projects, aimed at unpaid Carers, be for Carers looking after people who are not over 65 years?	Yes. Pilot projects aimed at preventing Carer breakdown is a named cohort in the funding criteria. This can include adults under 65 years of age. The guidance pack and bid submission forms have been amended to confirm this.
Can a bid cover both the Housing and Adults Social Care target groups?	Yes this is acceptable, providing bid criteria can be met and preventative outcomes demonstrated.
Are the Carers cohort and Adult Social Care funding allocations separate?	No. Carers and Adult Social Care are to be funded from a single funding pot with an allocation together of £200,000 with Housing a separate allocation also of £200,000.
I have identified ways of monitoring my project and showing how it will help people, but how can I show the financial impact of my project on Housing and ASC services? What type of 'metrics' would you like to receive?	We ask that bids consider how they will monitor the impact of the activity they propose to undertake. Please consider some of the examples provided within the information slide pack. For successful bids, the actual metrics will be subject to agreement with the London Borough of Sutton (LBS) as part of the terms of the grant.
What does it cost LBS to move women in emergency or temporary accommodation because they are put in housing with men and feel unsafe?	Spend on domestic abuse victims was £1,622,455 2024/2025 and £478,000 in the first quarter of 2025/2026 alone.
Can we submit a bid for a service we currently offer but which the Council doesn't buy?	Yes this is permissible providing that the bid criteria are met and preventative outcomes can be demonstrated.
The information pack mentions those with 'no recourse to public funds' is a pilot focused upon this group who may be homeless or in temp	Yes this would be acceptable.

accommodation acceptable?	
Pilot activity may benefit a range of other organisations including health?	Yes this is recognised. To support this we have representatives on the evaluation panel from the NHS Integrated Care Board (ICB) who are interested in the impact of prevention. However, the prevention pilots are wholly funded by LBS and therefore, the impact upon demand upon the Council will be a key focus.
What are the evaluation criteria?	The information slide pack contains a range of information that forms the focus for the prevention pilots. For the purposes of illustration only, the evaluation criteria includes: • Has the target cohort been identified? • Is delivery of the pilot to Sutton residents? • Does the organisation have a bank account into which grant monies might be paid? • Proposed costs are 'reasonable' and proportionate to the scale of activity and value of the grant proposed? • Has the pilot proposal clearly defined how it will measure and show its impact e.g. reducing or delaying demand? • Does the pilot bid bring any added value e.g. in applying knowledge, experience or in other resources?
Is there a maximum bid value?	There is formally no maximum bid value. However, previously we indicated that we expected bids to fall with a maximum of £80,000. We will need to consider value for money and delivery against the bid criteria and comparison with other bids which may be received. If a high value bid was received which would result in no other cohorts receiving support by a pilot we would want to consider whether scaling might be a possibility with the bid owner.
Can I clarify the target cohort for the Housing funding allocation	Under the Housing funding allocation there is a focus on reducing homelessness and use of temporary and emergency accommodation. The two target cohorts are: • Reduced demand for temporary and emergency accommodation, and • Those with no recourse to public funds (NRPF) ○ Bids then are not restricted to those with no recourse to public funds but

	open to bids that reduce homelessness, use of temporary or emergency accommodation Note: Funding allocations within the Housing cohort shall be; 75% statutory prevention of homelessness with 25% being deployed for those with No Recourse to Public Funds
Do bids have to show a precise financial saving for the Council?	We need bids to show the impact of the activity within the bid on such areas as: avoid, reduce, delay. This might be straightforward in examples of where for example two hours of homecare services have been removed but we recognise that in other areas this may be more challenging.
The information pack mentions ongoing funding wholly, or in part, after the pilot period has ended. Is this a weighted area?	We are interested in whether for example any proposal (as a result of the impact bids may have had) to fund the activity longer term is supported by complimentary funding which might reduce any onward cost to the Council. This isn't expressly weighted.
Are there any exclusions 'no-no's' for bids?	Bids cannot be for services/activities that are already funded by the Council. Activity must be new/reach additional groups where there is a prevention case. Bids must be for areas that the Council has a responsibility for.
Can the funding be used to 'capacity build'?	No. The prevention pilot funding must be used to provide support to Sutton residents and demonstrate impact through outcomes.
Can bids have an element of overhead costs?	Yes this is acceptable providing that such overheads are not already covered by funding or that they are excessive in proportion to the activity proposed and the bid value.
Do bids have to be new or innovative?	A bid can be an existing service that is seeking funding to enable it to reach out to new groups of people where there is a preventative case.
What is the Age UK safer homes scheme?	This is funded by a separate funding stream but here is a summary of its scope: Prevention and Home Safety Service - Life Links