



Leicester
City Council

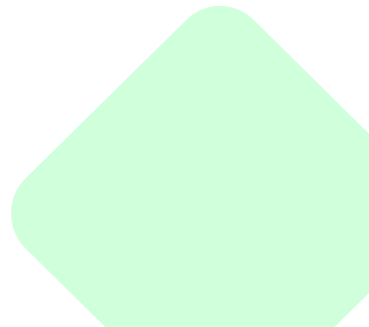


Funded by
UK Government

Crisis and Resilience Fund

Overview Select Committee
8th July 2026

Cory Laywood, Head of Revenues
& Transactional Finance



A stable, long -term approach to address poverty

Before April 2026:

- **Household Support Fund (HSF)** - short-term, reactive cost-of-living help
- **Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP)** - housing costs for benefit households only

From April 2026:

- **Crisis and Resilience Fund (CRF)** - focus on low-income households' immediate financial crisis support alongside building long-term financial resilience
- Replaces both **HSF** and **DHP**
- **£25m** over three years (until March 2029)
- No more than **£750k** a year can be spent on Housing Payments

Our plan for the Fund: direct application support

- **One simple online application** for the full CRF offer.
- **Fast decision and payment**, with straightforward awards paid within **48 hours**.
- Typical awards between **£100 and £250**, depending on household need.
- Applicants can also be **signposted to wider support** to help build longer-term resilience.

Next steps: direct application support

The CRF application process will evolve into **a more intelligent referral hub**, using each resident's circumstances to identify the right support. This will include:

- **maximising benefit** entitlement
- **offering** budget and debt management advice
- **referring** resident to appropriate support agencies
- **capturing household and** demographic data to better understand resident needs

This approach will help provide **longer-term solutions**, **strengthen financial resilience**, and **reduce repeat crisis demand**.

Our plan for the Fund: Resilience Services

For 2026/27:

- **Social Welfare Advice** (£487k) to enable a continuation of the work that Citizens Advice LeicesterShire provide
- **Housing-related Resilience Services and Community Coordination Projects** (£2.1m) these include 14 community-based projects to tackle the underlying causes of homelessness and support the formation of the Income Management Team's **Tenancy Stability and Resilience Project**
- **Staffing & Administration** (£400k) to enable us to deliver the crisis application and support the delivery of the non-application funding

Any questions?

