

Rt Hon Suella Braverman KC MP



Member of Parliament for Fareham
HOUSE OF COMMONS

Councillor Liz Fairhurst
Executive Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health
Hampshire County Council, The Castle
Winchester SO23 8UJ

20th May 2024

Dear Councillor Fairhurst,

Re: Cessation of Funding for Non-statutory Homelessness Services

We are writing to object to Hampshire County Council's decision to terminate the funding of non-statutory homelessness services. Should this decision go ahead, we would like to know what contingency plans have been prepared to support the many vulnerable homeless people who rely on the essential network of homelessness services that are currently funded by Hampshire County Council.

I have great admiration for the brilliant work undertaken by Two Saints. On my most recent visit to 101 Gosport Road, I had the opportunity to see how their services provide a lifeline to the people they support. Their 19-bed facility serves around 40 people each month. It provides a vital space for care, shelter and, most importantly, a place to help homeless people get back on their feet and rebuild their lives.

If 101 Gosport Road shuts down, which it will if Hampshire County Council terminates funding, where will these people go? What will happen to them? Rough sleeping in Hampshire is rising faster than the national average, and Fareham Borough Council has already written to the Chancellor, warning that the surge in demand for temporary accommodation is crippling them financially.

We understand there is a scrutiny committee meeting on 18 June 2024 to review the recommendations and a cabinet meeting on 9 July 2024 to make the final decisions. We request a meeting with you to make our objections clear before the initial meeting on 18 June 2024.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Suella Braverman".

Rt Hon Suella Braverman KC MP
Member of Parliament for Fareham

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donna Jones".

Donna Jones
Police & Crime Commissioner for Hampshire & Isle of Wight