

## **Crisis and Resilience Fund - partner briefing 27 March 2026**

The Crisis and Resilience Fund (CRF) is a new three-year Government initiative running from **1 April 2026 to 31 March 2029**, replacing the Household Support Fund (HSF) and Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP) which will end on 31 March 2026.

Since 2021, HSF has provided vital support for tens of thousands of residents facing rising food, energy and essential living costs. It enabled targeted help delivered with partners and established strong collaborative working arrangements.

**The Crisis and Resilience Fund builds on this foundation**—supporting households in immediate hardship while strengthening longer term financial resilience. The Government has also recently announced additional funding for vulnerable households facing rising heating oil costs as part of CRF.

Local authorities have flexibility in deciding how to deliver the fund and a scheme for North Yorkshire is being developed in line with national guidance.

### **Interim approach – continuity of support**

Our priorities in the interim are to maintain continuity of crisis support, provide clear information for partners and frontline teams and work with key stakeholders to shape the new scheme. The following three funds will operate from 1 April 2026:

#### **Housing Payments**

Housing Payments will replace Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP), offering ongoing targeted help for people who are struggling with housing costs, such as rent shortfalls or arrears, and support them to stay in their homes.

Through the Crisis and Resilience Fund, Housing Payments will now sit within a wider framework combining housing help with other support to address both immediate needs and reduce the risk of future financial problems.

#### **Crisis Payments**

Emergency support for residents facing an unexpected financial crisis, such as a sudden loss of income or unavoidable costs, will be delivered through the North Yorkshire Local Assistance Fund (NYLAF), following existing processes during transition.

#### **Support with heating oil costs**

Our aim is that North Yorkshire residents who are struggling with the cost of heating oil and solid fuel will be supported during the interim period through established local schemes, subject to final delivery arrangements.

Citizens Advice North Yorkshire also continues to have Household Support Fund (HSF) funding available until 31 March, enabling residents to access crisis support now for energy and fuel costs.

## Next steps for the development of CRF

The following components of the Crisis and Resilience Fund are still in development and will be introduced at a later stage:

### Resilience services

Support may include money and debt advice, income maximisation, energy efficiency measures, budgeting and community-based skills or learning opportunities. Resilience services will align with the CRF aims of moving from short-term crisis responses toward prevention and longer-term financial stability.

### Community coordination

Work to strengthen local networks and partnerships so organisations can support residents more effectively.

## Communications and engagement

To ensure residents, partners and staff understand what support is available we will:

- Publish interim information from 1 April setting out what support people can access now including eligibility criteria at [www.northyorks.gov.uk/CRF](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/CRF).  
***Please note this web page will not be live until 1 April.***
- Issue regular updates throughout the design phase.
- Publish and promote the full scheme once approved.

## How to get involved or contact us if you have any questions

Your involvement is essential in shaping an effective local scheme. To contribute to the discussions, or if you have any questions, please email [stronger.communities@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:stronger.communities@northyorks.gov.uk)

People can call our customer service centre on 0300 131 2 131 Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 9am to 5pm, Wednesday 9:30am to 5pm and Friday 9am to 4:30pm if they need support before 1 April asking for 'crisis and resilience' when prompted.

**We will share another update next week. Thank you.**