

PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL

Subject:	Young Person's (Aged 16-25) Accommodation Commissioning Plan
Committee:	Cabinet
Date:	12 March 2013
Cabinet Member:	Councillor McDonald
CMT Member:	Carole Burgoyne (Director for People)
Author:	Sophie Slater, Commissioning Officer
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Ref:	Young Persons Accommodation Commissioning Plan
Key Decision:	Yes
Part:	I

Purpose of the report:

The purpose of the commissioning plan is to set out Plymouth City Council's commissioning intentions for young people's accommodation based services for the period 2013-2020. Supported accommodation, where support is provided within an accommodation based service, provides a young person with a living environment that enables them to successfully transition into adulthood equipped with independent living skills.

Adult Social Care fund contracts for two supported accommodation services for young people due to expire on the 31 March 2013 and one for young parents due to expire on the 31 March 2014.

The commissioning plan proposes to remodel services and realign the accommodation pathway to address these issues and improve value for money by:

- Ensuring that there is a single shared pathway where resources are used most effectively and are available for those most in need
- Ensuring that there is sufficient capacity in the system and appropriate levels of support for the most 'troubled and troublesome'
- Reducing blockages in the system so that throughput is increased by developing suitable independent move on options.

Corporate Plan 2012-2015:

Delivering growth, by increasing the range and quality of housing in safe, inclusive and sustainable communities

Raising aspirations, by supporting 16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment (NEET)

Reducing inequalities, by reducing child poverty

Providing value for communities, by increasing the value of commissioned goods and services by the third sector.

**Implications for Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:
Including finance, human, IT and land**

The estimated annual value of the commissioning recommendations for young people's accommodation services is £564,465, which is being met within the existing budget.

The total financial envelope of this procurement and its processes will ensure that paying a living wage will be taken into account when identifying the successful provider(s).

Other Implications: e.g. Child Poverty, Community Safety, Health and Safety and Risk Management:

This plan contributes towards the priority to reduce Child Poverty.

An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed. No adverse impact was identified as a result of this however contract monitoring arrangements will continue to assess any impacts post contract award.

Equality and Diversity

Has an Equality Impact Assessment been undertaken? Yes

Recommendations and Reasons for recommended action:

It is recommended that Cabinet approve the Young Persons (Aged 16-25) Accommodation Commissioning Plan because the current contracts are due to expire during the financial year 13/14 and there is an opportunity to:

- Align services along the pathway and make the HUB the single point of access into supported accommodation so that young people are accessing the service most appropriate for their needs
- Increase supported provision at the high support 'front end' of the pathway to provide more intensive support to a greater number of young people
- Remodel provision for young parents to ensure that services are able to support young parents and families
- Remodel provision for young people with high support needs to ensure that there are robust, secure, appropriate accommodation options in order to decrease the likelihood that young offenders will be remanded into expensive custody placements unnecessarily
- Increase the provision available for young people on a low income, to reduce bottlenecks in supported accommodation and homelessness as a result of insufficient independent accommodation.

The recommended actions will help people to achieve positive outcomes and support people to move more effectively through the pathway. One outcome will be to free up capacity within supported accommodation, so increasing overall capacity and diverting vulnerable young people from less suitable placements including bed and breakfast.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

The option of renewing the existing contracts in their present format was considered, however the commissioning plan has identified that the current provision is not fully meeting the needs of young people and therefore a review to remodel the sector appropriately is required.

In addition, PCC standing orders require a competitive procurement for contracts with a value above £100k.

Published work / information:

Equality Impact Assessment:

http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/young_persons_supported_accommodation.pdf

Background papers:

None

Sign off:

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Originating SMT Member: Pam Marsden													
Has the Cabinet Member(s) agreed the contents of the report? Yes													