

NORTH YORKSHIRE CHILDREN'S TRUST

Agenda Item Cover Sheet

TITLE OF PAPER: Homelessness Prevention for Young People

DATE OF MEETING: 19th July 2010

ORGANISATION/SUB GROUP: Children and Young People's Service

RELATED CYPP IMPROVEMENT PRIORITY:

5.6 Prevention of homelessness and provision of suitable accommodation for young people

RELATED PERFORMANCE INDICATOR(S): NI141, NI 142, PSA 16

MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS OF PAPER:

1. That progress in reviewing accommodation related services and their governance arrangements for young people be noted.
2. That an overall strategy for the prevention of homelessness and provision of suitable accommodation is produced.

IMPACT ON RESOURCES:

Recommendation	Resource Type	Cost	Benefit
1. The report be endorsed	No additional resource implication		That affordable, consistent and equitable provision of accommodation related support for vulnerable young people to be provided county-wide.
2. Production of an overall strategy for homelessness prevention and provision of suitable accommodation for young people	Officer time	10 days officer time	A single narrative and set of priorities for young people will be secured.

AUTHOUR: David Walker (Education Officer for Social Inclusion)

NORTH YORKSHIRE CHILDREN'S TRUST BOARD

19th July 2010**Review of accommodation related commissioning and governance arrangements (progress report)****1.0 Purpose of Paper**

- 1.1 To inform the Board of progress in securing affordable, effective and sufficient accommodation related services for young people.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Board considers the report
- 2.2 That the Board supports the development of a single Young People's Homelessness Prevention and Accommodation Support Strategy

3.0 Background

- 3.1 A report on the accommodation needs of young people (service review and governance arrangements) was presented to the Board on 22 March. This covered the need for a full review of accommodation related support services for young people (16-25) and their supporting commissioning and governance arrangements.
- 3.2 The Board endorsed a review of housing related support needs and service provision for young people, to include engagement with key groups of young people
- 3.3 Governance Model 1 (as outlined in the minutes of 22 March) was provisionally adopted, to be reviewed and a report to be provided on progress within six months. A full report covering this work will be brought to the Board in September.
- 3.4 Government grants (Supporting People and CLG Prevent Grant) are no longer ring-fenced within the ABG and face significant reduction. The SP central team (administration) grant element of this has ended entirely. These changes confirm the need to press ahead with securing a fair apportionment of funding from the ABG for young people's accommodation related support needs, completion of a full review, re-commissioning of services and the review of governance arrangements.
- 3.5 Overall, outcomes for the prevention of homelessness and provision of suitable accommodation have continued to improve but those specifically for the most vulnerable and chaotic young people remain a cause for concern (see Annexe A – review of CYPP Priority 5.6).

4.0 Progress with the review of service provision

- 4.1 A multi-agency task group has been established to complete a review of accommodation related support services for young people (16-25). This group is looking at all provision provided through SP, CLG Prevent and jointly with CYPS. Terms of reference are attached as Annex B.

- 4.2 It is anticipated that the review will be completed by the end of July 2010. During this period a series of consultation events will be held for senior managers from all agencies involved in preventing homelessness and providing accommodation related support:
- Harrogate and Craven, 16 July
 - Hambleton and Richmondshire, 19 July
 - Ryedale and Scarborough, 22 July
 - Selby, 23 July
- 4.3 A young people's accommodation needs reference group is being formed. This will provide representation at the above events and provide challenge and support to the review task group. The young people's reference group will also support the procurement process.
- 5.0 **Progress towards new governance and commissioning arrangements**
- 5.1 The CT Board's preferred model for governance has been considered by the Supporting People Commissioning Group (SP CG). Minutes are attached (Annexe C).
- 5.2 Following completion of the service review, a report will be produced for consideration by the Children's Trust Board and the SP CG. It is anticipated that following approval by these bodies that new services will be commissioned, with a start date of April 2010.
- 5.3 CYPS will be providing additional capacity to support completion of the re-commissioning within the challenging time-frames. In the event that the SP central team are unable to complete the task (due to the end of their funding) then CYPS will seek to take forward the procurement of accommodation related services for young people, working closely with partners, in particular with the Housing Authorities.
- 5.4 As we seek to secure affordable, consistent and equitable services county-wide for young people, a key task will be to develop an overarching strategy for young people's homelessness prevention and meeting their accommodation needs. Currently there are several separate strategies with priorities for young people, but no single document that provides a full narrative, with agreed priorities and an action plan. The Housing and Homelessness Strategies, Children and Young People's Plan, Supporting People Strategy, Safe and Sustainable Communities Strategy and the Local Area Agreement will provide the basis for this strategy.

Report prepared by:
 David Walker
 Education Officer for Social Inclusion, NYCC
 24 June 2010

CYPP REVIEW

Outcome	ACHIEVE ECONOMIC WELL-BEING
Improvement Priority	5.6 Ensure that children and young people are living in decent, secure and affordable housing and have appropriate support
How well are Outcomes and Improvements being Delivered?	Excellent
<p>Impact Assessment: What difference have we made in 2009-10?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homelessness across North Yorkshire is decreasing. 370 households became homeless in 2009/10 compared to 657 in 2007/8 (Homeless Strategy target for 2009/10 target of 485 households) • Whilst the number of households becoming homeless is decreasing, the number having their homelessness prevented is increasing. In 2009/10, 2651 households had their homelessness prevented as compared to 657 households in 2007/8. (2009/10 LAA2/HS target of 1877 households) • Homelessness amongst 16/17 year olds is also reducing across the County. In 2009/10 30 16/17 year olds became homeless in North Yorkshire compared to 70 in 2008/9. (Homeless Strategy target for 2009/10 is 63) • The number of homeless households living in temporary accommodation across the county is also reducing. As at 31 March 2010, 161 households were living in temporary accommodation compared to 256 households as at 31 March 2008. (Homeless Strategy target for 2009/10 181). • Progress is being made to reduce the number of homeless families living in non self contained or shared temporary accommodation. As at 31 March 2010 24 families were living in non self contained temporary accommodation. Targets and plans are in place to end this use of this by 2012. • Over 98% of offenders were placed in suitable accommodation (up from 96% in 2008-09). • The percentage of care leavers living in suitable accommodation has improved to 94.3% (up from 85.2% in 2008-09). • Inter-agency protocols to prevent homelessness have been refreshed. These aim to secure compliance with the Law Lord's Southwark Judgement in regard to 16 and 17 year olds at risk of becoming homeless. Over 200 front line staff providing accommodation related services have been trained and are applying these arrangements. • A range of mediation services are provided county-wide, that include outreach working with schools in areas of high risk. • 117 affordable homes were developed in 2009-10, including 105 with public subsidy. 	
<p>Achievements: What did we achieve in 2009/10?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key targets to reduce homelessness amongst young people and families are being exceeded and new interventions developed in response to the recession (such as mortgage rescue initiatives are embedded). • Time-out type services (to reduce youth homelessness) are now available in each District and are having a significant impact. • Workforce development has continued • A multi-agency task group has commenced a review of all accommodation related services for young people (16-25 years old) • A Supported Lodgings scheme has been commissioned for young people (Barnardos) • A review of generic services has been completed. This confirmed the need to commission specific services for young people. This process has commenced. 	
<p>Improvement: What could we have done better in 2009/10?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The recession continues to have a negative impact, in particular by preventing the provision of sufficient affordable accommodation. LAA2 targets to increase the supply of affordable housing have not been met (296 new affordable homes were built in North Yorkshire in 2009/10. LAA2 target was 765). 	

- Engagement with young people requires more development.
- Targets to eliminate the use of B&B as temporary accommodation for homeless 16/17 year olds were not met. As at 3 March 2010 there were 2 individuals in B&B (HA target 0). However the direction of travel is still positive. (At 31 March 2008 there were 10 individuals in B&B across the county.

Next Steps

Development: What do we plan to do in 2010/11?

- The Homelessness Strategy refresh will be completed
- New Governance arrangements for commissioning and performance monitoring of accommodation related services will be introduced
- The YP accommodation related service review will be completed and the procurement of new services will be taken forward. Significant progress will be made in securing affordable, equitable and consistent service provision county-wide by April 2011.

Actions: CYPP Targets for 2010/11

- Equitable, consistent and affordable provision of accommodation related support to be secured county-wide.

Prospects and Risk: How do we ensure delivery in 2010/11?

What is the direction of travel / what is the prospect of achieving the three-year targets

- The direction of travel is positive and on track to meet the 3 year targets.

Are there any resource, workforce or other capacity issues

- As resources are reduced (in line with reduced levels of grant and conflicting priorities) it will be important to focus on those ways of working that are most effective and that eliminate any waste. Continuing skills investment is required across the young people's workforce to ensure this.

Are there other risks to delivery (e.g. economic downturn)?

- Supporting People and Prevention of Homelessness Grants are now included in the Area Grant without ring-fence arrangements. The overall levels of funding are reducing rapidly. These constitute severe risks to service provision. The review of governance, service provision and commissioning of new services will seek to minimise the impact of reduced funding during a period of raising demand.

DRAFT

Young people Floating Support Steering Group 2010

Terms of Reference

The Supporting People young people's services support people whose primary client group is homeless young people at risk, young people leaving care, teenage parents; services are delivered across a range of tenures including temporary accommodation. Services include accommodation based services and floating support services. Services support young people from the age of 16-25.

Purpose of the steering group

As part of the supporting people commissioning strategy 2009/10 young people's services need to be reviewed to determine the future procurement across the county. The steering group will determine the overarching focus of the review and draft the specification for future services. The steering group will make a recommendation to the commissioning body in September regarding future procurement of these services for this client group. See also supporting people young peoples services review briefing paper 2010.

Membership

Members of Supporting People Team
 PCT representative
 Housing Authority representatives
 Children & Young People's Directorate representatives
 Youth Justice Service

Service User representation will be through a separate group set up by Children and Young People's Directorate.

Meetings

The Steering Group will meet for a time-limited period between June and September. A minimum of 3 or 4 steering group meetings are envisioned.

Notes will be taken of steering group meetings, outlining the topics under discussion and highlighting decision and actions. Any member of the steering group can request that particular additional details are minuted.

Timescale

June	Steering group initial meeting
July	Consultation
July/August	Draft specification
September	Report recommendations to Commissioning Body And Children's Trust
	Final Specification
October	Start Procurement process

Annexe A

Extract from Minutes of the North Yorkshire Supporting People Commissioning Body Meeting, Wednesday 2nd June

Present:

Colin Dales, CHAIR (Richmondshire District Council)
Debbie Hogg, (Assistant Director, AD Resources, ACS, Accountable Officer)
Alan Jenks, VICE CHAIR (Harrogate Borough Council)
Seamus Breen (AD Commissioning and Partnerships, ACS, NYCC)
David Walker (Children and Young People Services)
Wyn Ashton (Craven District Council)
Julia Jennison (Selby District Council)
Kim Robertshaw (Ryedale District Council)
Wendy Merry (Foundation) Providers Representative
Paul Lightfoot (Broadacres HA) Providers Representative
Julie Botham (Craven YMCA). Providers Representative
Ginny Harrison, (Finance Officer, Supporting People)
Avril Hunter (Strategic Commissioning Manager, ACS)
Gill Warner (Strategy and Policy Manager, Supporting People)

1. Apologies:

Paul Gartland (Horton HA,) Providers Representative
Peter Hart (North Yorkshire Probation Service)
Helen Fielding (Hambleton District Council)
Andrew Stephenson (NHS York and North Yorkshire)
Howard Smith (Children and Young People, NYCC)
Andrew Rowe (Scarborough Borough Council)

Item 6: Governance

AH presented the report which outlined in general terms the issues surrounding governance.

The CB considered an issue prompted by a decision by the Children's Trust to take resources allocated for young peoples accommodation needs out of the SP budget within the ABG and for the Trust to become accountable for said funds. Under the proposal, the SP partnership would commission services on behalf of the Trust and consideration would be given to streamlining the current structure.

David Walker was in attendance to explain the background to the proposal and give the CB some context relating to the Children's Trust statutory status and how it needed to show real outcomes for young people and remove geographical inequalities.

The views of Commissioning Body members can be summarised as follows :

- 1) there was general concern about the proposal and the potential of

a unilateral removal of funding from one interest group to de-stabilise the whole supporting people partnership which continued to be an effective partnership, ensuring a truly strategic response to the needs of all vulnerable people in North Yorkshire, both young and old,

- 2) keeping the supporting people budget fully in tact (i.e. no unilateral removal of funding) will provide the greatest potential to redistribute support funds in response to the tightening financial climate changing strategic priorities and community needs,
- 3) if the key issue is one of concern relating to the speed in responding to Children's Trust priorities , the response is best dealt with via placing priority on re-commissioning services for young people within the supporting people partnership and not moving to a possible "silo" approach ,
- 4) it was essential that the close working relationship between the Children's Trust and the Supporting People Partnership is maintained and David Walker's membership of the CB was welcomed in this respect.