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To: Supporting People Commissioning Body, 11 October
2012

Subject: 3 – 5 year Commissioning Plan

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Summary

The Commissioning Body agreed the Supporting People Strategy 2010-15. The needs analysis that underpinned the strategy should now be refreshed and the commissioning priorities set out in the strategy reviewed to ensure their continuing strategic fit. This refresh will enable a Commissioning Plan to be drawn up, setting out the commissioning activity that will be undertaken over the next 5 years.

1. Introduction

- (1) The Commissioning Body agreed the Supporting People Strategy 2010-15 (**Appendix 1**).
- (2) The strategy set out the key commissioning actions and priorities that the programme would undertake during that period.

2. Revising the strategy

- (1) There is a need to refresh the strategy to account for the changes in the requirements, demands and capacity of the programme. This will ensure that the programme continues to be able to deliver on its strategic commitments, not least in the light of the economic and funding shifts since the strategy was written and key agendas such as welfare reform.
- (2) The revision will be informed by a comprehensive needs assessment which will be independently sourced and will examine current and projected demands. The assessment will review and examine the strategic relevance of the existing £25.7m investment.
- (3) The assessment will profile and analyse data regarding existing services, current and future demand. It will take into account the views of service users, providers and stakeholders. The Core Strategy Group and Commissioning Body will be involved in the consultation process.

- (4) The assessment will highlight appropriate commissioning models that will inform a comprehensive plan of the commissioning activity to be undertaken throughout the programme over the next 3-5 years. An equality impact assessment will be undertaken as part of this work.
- (5) It is proposed that the envisaged £30k cost of this assessment is met from the reserves and that assessment is concluded by March 2013.
- (6) The needs assessment, revised strategy and commissioning plan will be brought to the Core Strategy Group and Commissioning Body.

3. Consultation

- (1) The needs analysis, revised strategy and commissioning plan will be consulted upon widely with strategic partners, including the Core Strategy Group and Commissioning Body to ensure its relevance.

4. Risk and Business Continuity Management

- (1) A register of any risks associated with the strategy and needs analysis will be retained and reported to the Core Strategy Group and Commissioning Body.

5. Conclusion

- (1) The Supporting People Strategy 2012-15 should be refreshed. The revision will be informed by an independently sourced needs analysis. The cost of the needs assessment should be sourced from the programme's reserve. The assessment will be concluded by March 2013 and reported to the Commissioning Body in April 2013.
- (2) The needs analysis will shape the development of a commissioning plan that will describe the commissioning activity that the programme will undertake over the next 3-5 years.

Recommendations

The Commissioning Body is asked to agree that;

- 1) A needs analysis will be undertaken in order that the Supporting People strategy can be refreshed.

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Appendix 1 Executive Summary Supporting People Strategy 2010-15

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Executive Summary

The Supporting People Programme is a delivery vehicle for the strategic objectives of partnerships across the County of Kent to enable vulnerable people to maintain their housing situation, manage their finances, co-exist successfully in their community, acquire independent living skills, stay safe, liaise with other agencies, and access training, education, and employment. The Programme is closely inter-linked to other statutory and non-statutory agency strategies that aim to achieve similar or overlapping objectives. The Programme facilitates the delivery of the Local Area Agreement and contributes to achieving the Kent Partnership's jointly agreed targets relating to housing and independent living. The strategy will be supported by a Commissioning Plan/Framework that will set out in detail the delivery of the Supporting People Strategy over the next five years based on a strategic review of need, investment and resources.

The assessment of need has identified that the programme for 2010 -2015 must develop additional services for young people at risk, people who have mental health problems as well as substance misuse problems (dual diagnosis), people fleeing domestic abuse, single homeless people and families with support needs. These are set out as the priority area for new service delivery and resource allocation.

The Programme aims to focus services on prevention and provide most services within people's own homes. Resources will be targeted more effectively on those in need of support rather than on people living in particular types of services/accommodation.

Services will be commissioned where there is more emphasis on time limited objectives and interventions that clearly link people to social and economic resources in the community as a route to maximising independence.

Over the lifetime of the strategy, any investment in new services will have to be funded at least in part by savings generated through decommissioning other services and priority will be given to short-term accommodation based and floating support services.

The Strategy will be delivered using a range of mechanisms and tools:

- Keeping service users at the heart of the programme, including capacity building
- Enhanced partnership working, with partners involved from identifying need to commissioning services
- Improving service efficiency, effectiveness and the use of resources
- Benchmarking

The Kent Supporting People Programme will retain the existing governance arrangements.