

By: Anna Taylor, Scrutiny Research Officer

To: Scrutiny Committee – 6 December 2023

Subject: Decision 23/00083 - Supported Accommodation Service 16 – 19 and transitional arrangements.

Status: Unrestricted

Introduction

- 1) On 17 October 2023, following consideration by the Children, Young People and Education (CYPE) Cabinet Committee in September, the Cabinet Member for Integrated Children’s Services took Decision 23/00083 – Supported Accommodation Service 16-19 and transitional arrangements. The Decision involved the following:
 - a) agree to approve the new Supported Accommodation service for young adults up to the age of 19, for those new entrants to the service at the age of 16/17.
 - b) agree to directly award a new contract, under the same terms and conditions to Clearsprings Ready Homes from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2026 for 18+ Shared Accommodation services to support transition.
 - c) agree to delegate to the Corporate Director of Children, Young People and Education, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Integrated Children’s Services, to negotiate, finalise and enter into the relevant contracts with the successful Providers to deliver the Supported Accommodation contract, as detailed in the Key Decision 22/00079.
 - d) agree to delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Children, Young People and Education, to take other relevant actions, including but not limited to, finalising the terms of, and entering into required contracts or other legal agreements, as required to implement the decision.
- 2) A call-in request was submitted in relation to this decision, which was found not to be valid. However, in line with the rights of all Members, it was requested that this issue be placed on the Scrutiny agenda for further discussion and consideration by the Scrutiny Committee.

Key points or concerns raised in relation to this decision

- 3) The approach of the Council in terms of determining savings – concern raised that this decision may offer short term cost savings but will increase cost or demand in the future for KCC and the wider public sector.

- 4) Engagement with the District Councils – it has been suggested since the matter was considered by Cabinet Committee that the proposal and its implications were not adequately discussed with the District Councils at an early enough stage.

Recommendation

The Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider the information provided in response to questions raised during this item and make any comments or recommendations it deems appropriate.

Appendices:

Appendix 1: 23/00083 - Record of Decision.

Appendix 2: 23/00083 - Decision Report.

Appendix 3: 23/00083 - EqIA

Background Documents

Supported Accommodation Services 16-19 and Transitional Arrangements. CYPE Cabinet Committee, 12 September 2023

[Agenda for Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee on Tuesday, 12th September, 2023, 10.00 am \(kent.gov.uk\)](#)

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