

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Peter Oakford,
Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services

DECISION NO:

16/00150

For publication

Key decision

Affects more than 2 Electoral Divisions and expenditure of more than £1m.

Subject: Single Source Action Proposal for 24 Housing Related Support contracts for Young People at Risk services (16 – 25 year olds)

Decision: As Cabinet Member for Specialist Childrens Services, I propose to:

- a) **RE-AWARD** 24 short-term interim contracts which deliver a total of 465 Housing Related Support units for Young People at Risk from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018. Including;

Provider	Service Name	Annual Payment
Cantercare	Wincheap	£ 75,369.41
Centra	Overton House	£ 18,223.97
	Bridge House	£ 162,334.76
Chapter 1	Calverley Hill	£ 167,206.72
Depaul Trust	The Grove	£ 66,478.50
Family Mosaic	Old Colonial – Teenage Parents	£ 31,023.30
Golding Homes	Maidstone Teenage Parents Service	£ 91,591.73
Home Group Ltd	Ashford Younger Persons Service	£ 212,757.79
	Daisies	£ 57,614.70
	Trinity Foyer	£ 399,544.65
	Dover Young Persons Service	£ 263,606.81
LIFE Housing	Dartford Life	£ 47,111.10
Look Ahead Care and Support	Shepway Young Persons at Risk	£ 92,166.57
Porchlight	New Town Street	£ 87,787.08
	Porchlight Young Person Hostel	£ 263,714.36
	New Wharf	£ 148,391.74
	Dover Housing Support Services	£ 28,718.71
	Swale Young Person at Risk	£ 125,188.14
Sanctuary Housing Association	Maidstone Housing Supported Service	£ 25,527.74
	Young People Floating Support East Kent	£ 119,974.14
	Young People Floating Support West Kent	£ 92,960.41
West Kent YMCA	Ryder House	£ 245,073.38
YMCA Thames Gateway	YMCA Thames Gateway	£ 141,336.61
	Church View	£ 10,248.64
TOTAL		£2,973,950.96

And **AWARD** a retrospective Single Source Action for the period up to 31 March 2017. The

retrospective Single Source Action figure is Accommodation-Based (12 months) £2,761,015.49 plus Floating Support (6 Months) £106,467.25. Total £2,867,482.74.

b) **DELEGATE** authority to the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, or other nominated officer, to undertake the necessary actions to implement the decision.

Reason(s) for decision:

Thirteen Suppliers have delivered Housing Related Support Services for Young People at Risk on behalf of Kent County Council (Supporting People) since 1st April 2012. Young People at Risk services currently support 16 and 17 year old Children in Care, Care Leavers, vulnerable 16 and 17 year olds (not in care) and 18+ vulnerable young people.

The 16-25 Accommodation and Support Programme has looked holistically at the Accommodation and Support services, including the 24 Housing Related Support services. Supporting People Housing Related Support services for young people were transferred to Specialist Children Services in May 2015. Changes to the current service model were the subject of a 10 week public consultation which took place between 30 November 2015 and 8 February 2016.

It has recently been agreed that a more robust approach to the commissioning of these services would be within the context of a revised and extended Sufficiency strategy which will look at all provision where there is an accommodation component.

The contracts were extended for a further year (as per the contract) from 1 April 2015 to the 31 March 2016. The two Floating Support contract were also re awarded to 30 September 2016.

The accommodation and support pathway for Children in Care, Care Leavers and vulnerable young people is being reviewed to identify a more effective and efficient pathway linked to a new Sufficiency strategy for KCC. Whilst this review takes place, in order to maintain current provision the Authority needs to contract with the existing providers through a Single Source Action (SSA) for 12 months from April 2017 to March 2018 and agree a retrospectively decision for the period March/September 2016 to 31 March 2017 .

All Housing Related Services were expected to be re procured during 2016 as part of a new service .The gap in formal contracts was due to delays in the intention to be in a procurement process .

Providers have continued to maintain service delivery in line with original contracts.

This will rectify the anomalous situation and align the existing contracts with the new programme timetable, support placement stability and gradual transition of service users to new service provider/s should existing providers be unsuccessful in the tendering process.

The Council has a statutory duty to provide suitable and safe accommodation that has the right level of support for Children in Care. KCC must also accommodate 16 and 17 year old child in need (in accordance with Section 20 of the Children's Act 1989), a child / young person to whom Bail has been denied and children remanded to local authority accommodation (RLAA) and 16 and 17 year old Care Leavers (Relevant).

The Council must provide Care Leavers with support and financial support to assist in promoting their welfare, especially in relation to maintaining suitable accommodation and promoting education and training.

A fundamental component of the Care Act 2014 is the 'suitability of accommodation' in meeting the at home care and support needs of vulnerable people. The Act and the accompanying regulations

and guidance outline how housing can support a more integrated approach and sets out local implementation requirements. Of particular note is that housing also includes housing related support or services.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

This matter will be discussed at the Children’s Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee on 16th January 2017, and the outcome included in the paperwork which the Cabinet Member will be asked to sign.

Any alternatives considered:

Consideration has been given to doing nothing. If new interim contracts are not in place service users currently accessing the services may not be able to access the support that they need and may also risk losing their accommodation and becoming homeless.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:

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signed

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date