

Corporate Parenting Board

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 28 March 2019

Report of the Head of Service, Policy, Information and Commissioning (Start Well)

Electoral Division affected: (All Divisions);
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Supported Accommodation for Care Leavers

Contact for further information:

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Executive Summary

The County Council currently supports a range of accommodation for homeless young people and care leavers and recognises that there is more that we need to do to improve the quality and range of accommodation available and to ensure that the support on offer helps to improve outcomes.

Recommendation

The Corporate Parenting Board is asked to note the current plans to recommission provision and to comment on and to inform our plans for a wider strategic review.

Background and Advice

The County Council currently supports a range of accommodation for homeless young people and care leavers. Our *Children Looked After Sufficiency Strategy 2017-2020*, agreed by Cabinet in October 2017, recognised that there was more that we need to do to improve the quality and range of accommodation available and to ensure that the support on offer helps to improve outcomes.

Moving forward, we have shared feedback from young people and our design objectives with potential service providers and are finalising our plans to recommission these services. We want services to:

- Prevent homelessness
- Ensure sufficient emergency accommodation is available to meet need if homelessness cannot be prevented
- Ensure a range of appropriate housing and support options are available for care leavers to move on to in a planned way
- Ensure that the geographical location of services enables young people to be able to maintain links with family, friends and college

- Ensure that services are available for young people with a range of needs including individuals with complex needs including teenage parents, pregnant young people and offenders
- Ensure that services meet the cultural needs of young people
- Ensure that the level of staffing within services and the knowledge, skills and values of staff meet the needs of the intended client group
- Ensure that young people are able to move on from services at an appropriate time to a suitable setting
- Deliver value for money

The Corporate Parenting Board will receive a presentation highlighting:

- Some of the issues associated with current provision
- The current work to recommission supported accommodation for care leavers and young people who are homeless
- Plans for a wider review of accommodation for care leavers and young people who are homeless, to ensure that we have long term arrangements which are fit for purpose