

Report to Cabinet

Date: 8th September 2016

Part I - Item No.

Electoral Division affected:

All

Supporting People Savings and Prevention and Early Help Fund

(Appendices 'A' – 'O' refer)

Contact for further information:

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Executive Summary

This report informs Cabinet of the outcomes of the consultation on the proposed savings to the Supporting People budget; describes the work of the Prevention and Early Help Cabinet Member Working Group and outlines their recommendations in relation to the allocation of the Prevention and Early Help Fund.

Recommendation

Cabinet is requested:

- (a) To agree to the proposal to cease the funding of the non-statutory Supporting People services as set out in the Report.
- (b) To agree an annual budgetary provision from the Prevention and Early Help Fund of:
 - up to £500k for crisis support
 - up to £1.25 million for domestic abuse services, comprising refuges, medium to high risk victim services and perpetrator services
 - up to £1.25 million to services for homeless people with complex needs.
- (C) To utilise up to £1 million of the planned underspend from the 2016/17 Prevention and Early Help Fund budget during 2017/18 to facilitate:
 - the reconfiguration of housing and support pathways / services for care leavers and young people who are homeless; and
 - the development of commissioning intentions and re-procurement of services for homeless households with complex needs

1.0 Background and Advice

This report informs Cabinet of the outcomes of the consultation undertaken in relation to the proposed savings to the Supporting People (SP) budget (including refuges, sheltered accommodation, supported accommodation, floating support) and describes the work and recommendations of the Prevention and Early Help Cabinet Working Group.

In January 2015, Cabinet agreed savings to the SP budget of £4.8 million to be implemented by April 2017. Subsequently, in November 2015, Cabinet also agreed that all Supporting People funding for non-statutory services cease with effect from 1st April 2016. Reserves of £10.15m were earmarked for use in 2016/17 to fund a 12 month 'transition period'. The proposed savings were subject to consultation being undertaken to fully understand the impact of the proposals, with the outcomes to be reported back to Cabinet and to be used to update the Equality Analysis reports previously presented.

In addition, it was also agreed by Cabinet in November 2015 that the Care and Urgent Needs (CaUNSS) service and a number of public health grants would cease, and that a Prevention and Early Help Fund (PEHF) be established from the 1st April 2016, with an indicative annual revenue budget of £3m.

2.0 Member Working Group - Prevention and Early Help Fund

The Cabinet Working Group (CWG) was established to consider the impact of the decision of Full Council to cease the CaUNSS Service and the proposals to cease the non-statutory elements of the Supporting People Service and to consider the use of the PEHF.

The Working Group has considered information presented about CaUNSS, SP and Domestic Abuse services. They have deliberated over the consultation and engagement exercise feedback and assessed the findings against agreed criteria with the aim to mitigate and minimise impact on the most vulnerable people.

The Working Group adopted the following criteria in order to assist in determining the allocation of funding:

- Immediate crisis need is resolved
- Improved self-sufficiency with the aim to prevent future crisis
- Prevent or reduce demand on statutory services
- Ensuring that services are not being duplicated
- Maximising other sources of funding

In particular, the Working Group was keen to ensure that the commitment to funding being targeted at prevention of future crisis be noted, together with the need to maximise opportunities afforded by working closely with partners, and in particular the voluntary, community, faith sectors (VCFS), to ensure best value and local connectivity.

The CWG utilised information about the current CaUNSS and domestic abuse services, together with feedback from the consultation on the de-commissioning of non-statutory SP services, to agree the recommendations for consideration by Cabinet in relation to the utilisation of the PEHF.

The following sections describe the services that have been considered as follows:

- Section 3: Care and urgent needs support scheme
- Section 4: Sheltered housing
- Section 5: Supported accommodation for people with mental health issues
- Section 6: Floating support
- Section 7: Refuges
- Section 8: Supported accommodation for young people and teenage parents
- Section 9: Supported accommodation for people who are homeless including supported housing for those with a history of offending; people with substance misuse issues; single people who are homeless; homeless families and floating support for Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA)
- Section 10: Support for older people with sensory disabilities
- Section 11: Domestic abuse services

Each section includes a description of the service, the original proposal, the engagement / consultation process, feedback and the Cabinet Working Group's recommendation.

In addition, a report summarising the findings of the consultation, and an equality analysis, are available for all services in the attached appendixes.

In view of the scale of the consultation response, it has not been possible to redact personal information from hard copy responses or electronic submissions, therefore full individual responses are restricted to County Councillors only and are not available to the public.

3.0 Care and Urgent Needs Support Scheme/Crisis Support (Appendix A refers)

Description

- In 2013 the national Discretionary Social Fund (including the community care grant and crisis loan schemes), administered by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) was replaced with discretionary local provision, administered by top-tier or unitary local authorities.
- In response Lancashire County Council established the CaUNSS service, helping people hit by severe financial hardship in meeting their immediate and short term needs for subsistence and to maintain their independence within the community.
- The scheme provides two types of assistance either urgent needs or care needs awards, through the provision of, for example, food, essential household goods and heating for individuals and families at times of crisis.

- There are a number of contracts currently being managed in order to deliver the CaUNSS model. These include contracts to provide recycled furniture and household goods, a contract for the information system used by staff who administer the service, and grant agreements with local foodbanks to provide food parcels, plus a contract with Paypoint for clients to access cash as a last resort.
- To be eligible for assistance people must be over 16 years and living in Lancashire, receiving benefits or able to demonstrate that they do not have the immediate resources to meet their basic needs or those of their dependents.
- In 2015/16 approximately 4,500 people were supported through CaUNSS with the total scheme cost being around £1.1 million (including staffing costs).

Original Proposals

Cease funding the current service.

Engagement Process

An engagement process has taken place with current providers, key officers, district council representatives, and other stakeholders e.g. DWP, with the aim of capturing the strengths of the scheme, scoping potential future models, identifying opportunities to work together across the system and identifying risks.

Engagement Feedback

Feedback resulting from the engagement process has demonstrated that crisis support is highly valued by partners and that this type of support (to meet peoples basic needs such as food, fuel and furniture) is not duplicating other provision and is essential in supporting residents and preventing demand on other services including social care services, health services, district councils, the criminal justice system and the third sector.

Concerns were expressed about the sustainability of some voluntary sector provision such as furniture recycling organisations, if this funding is withdrawn. Key points from the feedback are:

- It is important that any scheme continues to provide support for those experiencing the greatest need and, meets the anticipated need moving forward.
- Longer term support is essential to prevent people coming back to the service.
- Work with services from the VCFS, including social enterprises, as this helps address crisis, empowering and improving deprived communities and retaining investment locally. It is also important to maximise social value e.g. up to the end of 2015 CaUNSS had supported the diversion of 250 tonnes of reusable furniture from landfill by enabling reuse through local social enterprise.
- A consistent model across Lancashire is essential.
- A simple clear model is required that can be easily accessed, is well communicated and has minimal administration costs.

Recommendation

That Cabinet agree to utilise up to £500k of the PEHF to design crisis support which captures the key points collated from the engagement exercise, streamlining and simplifying the current service to reduce costs and maximise social value whilst continuing to meet crisis needs. It is anticipated that the issues to be supported are food, fuel and furniture provision for individuals and families at times of crisis. It is recognised that engagement of service users with existing services such as the Wellbeing Service and supporting wider VCFS provision will be crucial in preventing recurring demand.

Although the CWG proposed this recommendation, County Councillor Gina Dowding requested that her preference for the support to be wholly administered and delivered by district councils or the VCFS sector be noted.

4.0 Sheltered Accommodation and Community Alarms (Appendix B and C refers)

Description

- Sheltered accommodation provides accommodation and support for older people. Rents/housing benefit pay for the accommodation and housing management, and the SP budget funds housing related support
- The support element includes the support delivered by scheme managers and the emergency alarm monitoring service
- Around 14,000 people are receiving a service. Historically around 12,000 people received financial assistance
- £2.5 million annual budget

Original Proposals

To cease SP funding for housing related support service with effect from 31st March 2017

Consultation Process

- All current service users were sent questionnaires to their home (13,369 plus around 1,000 extra questionnaires were made available so that couples could also make a response)
- 5,448 questionnaires were returned
- All district councils and provider were sent the link to electronic questionnaires. Responses were received from 14 providers (including 2 district councils which provide services), 8 district councils and 3 other stakeholders. Other responses received include: 3 MPs letters, 6 specific responses to the consultation undertaken in advance of Full Council (in addition to the more generic responses) and a response from the Over 50s Forum

Consultation Feedback

Service user

- Respondents were most likely to say that the following are important aspects of the service: visitor calls from support worker (70%); help in emergencies (68%);

help with reporting repairs (61%); and support to maintain personal safety and security (59%)

Provider plans for services and impact on providers

- Withdrawal/change in support services (7 providers)
- New or increased charges (7 providers)
- Don't know/currently reviewing position (6 providers)
- Exploring alternative funding such as housing benefits (5 providers)
- Reduced staffing/redundancies (7)
- Issues with rent or voids (6)

Impact on service users and community (from providers, districts and stakeholders)

- Loss of, or reduced, support (16) and independence impacted (4)
- Health and wellbeing impacted (13) and increased social isolation (5)
- Unaffordable for people on low incomes (4)
- Pressure on public services (hospital admissions, GP, social care) (20)
- Cutting preventative services is false economy and will cost more in long term (7)
- Less of a community hub (6)

Recommendation

Cabinet are recommended to agree that funding ceases at the end of March 2017. Where individuals meet the national eligibility criteria as defined in the Care Act then they will be able to access domiciliary care and telecare service. Tenants who do not have an assessed statutory need would nevertheless be able to access the Lancashire Wellbeing Service which helps people to deal with the underlying causes that are affecting their ability to manage their health and wellbeing.

5.0 Supported Accommodation for People with Mental Health Issues

(Appendix D and E refers)

Description

- This service offers housing and support to people with a history of mental health needs who require support to live in the community. The service focusses on maintaining skills, or promoting the recovery of skills, required for coping with the demands of everyday life.
- Currently the accommodation is funded from rents and housing benefit and the support is funded from the SP Budget
- Annual budgetary spend is £1.53m
- Approximately 239 units/bed spaces available

Original Proposals

To cease SP funding for housing related support service with effect from 31st March 2017

Consultation Process

- All current service users were given questionnaire, and 125 questionnaires returned
- All district councils and providers were sent the link to electronic questionnaires. Responses were received from 5 providers and nil districts
- A range of stakeholders were sent the link to an electronic questionnaire. 9 responses received

Consultation Feedback

Respondents were most likely to say that: support to become generally more confident and happy (98%); support to access training and education (96%); support to get a job (91%); support to gain awareness of personal safety and security issues (93%) and support to access community facilities (93%) are important aspects of the service to them.

Provider plans for services and impact on providers

- Intensive housing management (2),
- Contract is ending and individuals will be signposted (2) and
- Seeking proposal to work alongside housing providers (2).

Impact on service users and community (from providers, districts and stakeholders)

- Support not available/ gap / less support (5),
- Increased homelessness (7),
- Lead to deterioration in health (4)
- Reduced independence (3).
- Pressure on other services (GP, Acute, Social care, VCFS) (9)
- ASB / community safety/neighbourhood issues (7).
- Withdraw housing supply if support not in place (2)
- Increased unemployment 4)

Recommendation

Cabinet are recommended to agree that funding ceases at the end of March 2017. Where individuals meet the national eligibility criteria as defined in the Care Act then they will be able to access domiciliary care. Tenants who do not have an assessed statutory need would nevertheless be able to access the Lancashire Wellbeing Service which helps people to deal with the underlying causes that are affecting their ability to manage their health and wellbeing. In addition, people who are homeless with complex needs would be able to access the provision described in Section 9 below.

6.0 Floating Support (Appendix F and G refers)

Description

- A short term visiting support service to assist people with housing related issues develop the skills to live independently with the aim of preventing homelessness
- Generic countywide service
- £1.3 million annual budget

Original Proposals

To cease SP funding for housing related support service with effect from 31st March 2017

Consultation Process

- All current service users were sent questionnaire to their home (1200)
- 81 questionnaires returned
- All district councils and the provider (Calico) were sent links to electronic questionnaires. Responses were received from Calico and 7 district councils.
- A range of stakeholders were sent the link to an electronic questionnaire and 2 responses were received
- One response, which included detail information on floating support, was received in advance of Full Council.

Consultation Feedback

Service users

- Respondents were most likely to say that the following are important aspects of the service to them: support to claim the right benefits (75%); support to learn to budget properly and pay (70%); support to find, set up and maintain your home (69%); support with managing a short-term personal crisis (66%); and support to improve mental health (60%)
- Respondents were most likely to say that if this service ended then they would: seek help from CAB (Citizen Advice Bureau) or another advice agency (58%); seek help about housing from their local district council (57%); stay in unsafe/inappropriate accommodation (53%); seek help from family/friends (48%).

Provider plans for services and impact on providers

- Seeking alternative funding; however if not successful the service will cease
- 57 people likely to be made redundant

Impact on service users and community (from providers, stakeholders and districts)

- Increase in homelessness/accommodation issues (8)
- Vulnerable people will no longer receive support/less support (7)
- Increase in debt (6), reduced access to benefits and increased sanctions on benefits
- Increased demand to district for housing advice and support (6)
- Increased community safety issues /local crime rates will increase (8)
- Shift the volume and cost of providing support to Lancashire's most vulnerable people to other budget-pressured and in-demand public services (housing, social care, health, mental health teams, Drug & Alcohol Teams, A&E departments, GP, public health, criminal justice, voluntary sector provision) (8)
- Impact on clients' abilities to overcome issues that stop them being safe and more productive citizens. (provider)
- Exacerbation of mental health issues with a potential of fewer opportunities to regain/retain independence. (provider)

- Without help, the chance to change for individuals and families is restricted. (provider)
- Service users with learning disabilities and literacy issues will struggle to maintain benefits, housing and other crucial correspondence without the help to complete forms, attend appointments and engage effectively with other services thus increasing homelessness and need for response from statutory agencies (provider)

Recommendation

Cabinet are recommended to agree that funding ceases at the end of March 2017 and that there is further exploration to determine the elements of the service which may be able to be provided by the Lancashire Wellbeing Service or universal services.

7.0 Refuges

(Appendix H and I refers)

Description

- A short/medium term safe and secure accommodation and support providing a place of safety and the appropriate support for those who have experienced, or who are at risk of, domestic abuse and/or harassment e.g. honour based violence, forced marriages, female genital mutilation.
- Currently the accommodation is funded from rents and housing benefit and the support is funded from the SP Budget
- Annual budget is £870,507
- 77 units/bed spaces

Original Proposals

To cease SP funding for housing related support service with effect from 31st March 2017

Consultation Process

- All current service users were sent paper questionnaires (77) via their support providers and 63 questionnaires were returned
- All district councils and the providers were sent links to electronic questionnaire. Responses were received from all 5 refuge providers and 7 district councils
- A range of additional stakeholders were also sent the link to an electronic questionnaire, but only 1 response was received
- There were 12 letters sent to the County Council regarding the proposals including 5 from MPs, 3 from members of the public and 1 from a District. 11 responses to the consultation undertaken prior to Full Council in February were also received.
- Petition to save all refuges within Lancashire signed by 8,831 people.

Consultation Feedback

Service user

- Respondents were most likely to say that: accommodation (63); support to keep you safe and to avoid harm caused by others (61); support to claim right benefits (61); dedicated support team within the accommodation/project (60) are important aspects of the service to them.
- Respondents were most likely to say that if this service ended then they would; stay in unsafe/inappropriate accommodation (51), sleep on the streets/homeless (37), seek help from Lancashire County Council (social services) (29) and seek help from the police (28).

Provider plans for services and impact on providers

- Cease service (6) or services at risk (5) and reduction in staffing and services (5)
- Seeking alternative sources of funding (5)

Impact on service users and community (from providers, stakeholders and districts)

- More suicide /murders of women and children/ongoing risk of serious harm to more women and children/rising domestic abuse and women stay in abusive relations/children affected by seeing domestic abuse (12)
- Unable to support most vulnerable (no recourse to public funds) (3)
- Increase demand on other public sector (police, NHS,CSC) (13)
- No specialist dv services (4)
- Increase in homeless presentations

Recommendation

That Cabinet agree to implement the savings to the SP budget as proposed, but to allocate from the PEHF up to £1.25 million annually to domestic abuse services including refuges, medium to high risk victim services and perpetrator services. The budget allocation for refuges is anticipated to be in the region of £800k, which reduces the current allocation by approximately £70k. If agreed, it is proposed that contract variations are negotiated to bring current spend within the proposed budget. It is also proposed that value for money be maximised by encouraging service providers to work together more effectively

8.0 Services for Young People and Teenage Parents (Appendix L and M refers)

Description

- The service provides short term housing and support to young people who are vulnerable and unable to live independently in the of community, thereby enabling them to develop some of the skills required to move on successfully to more independent living or to return home to family where this is a safe and appropriate outcome.
- Currently the accommodation and housing management is funded from rents and housing benefit and the support is funded from the SP Budget
- Annual spend is £2.4million
- 77 units for young people and 24 for teenage parents

Original Proposals

£1.35 million has been identified as funding for supported accommodation for 16 and 17 year olds to whom the County Council owes a statutory duty

Consultation Process

- All current service users were sent paper questionnaires (227 young people and 24 teenage parents)
- In total, 163 completed questionnaires were returned. 158 responses were received from young people and 5 responses were received from teenage parents
- All district councils and the providers were sent links to electronic questionnaires. Responses were received from 8 providers and 8 district councils.
- A range of stakeholders were sent the link to an electronic questionnaire and 4 responses were received.
- 33 responses were received in advance of Full Council in February 2016 from a range of Lancashire residents including one MP; a Hyndburn Borough Council Councillor; 6 service users; members of voluntary and community organisations and employees of providers and representatives of district councils. There were 7 anonymous comments. A large number of responses related to one particular service.

Consultation Feedback

Provider plans for services and impact on providers

- Examining options for alternative delivery methods (6)
- Seeking alternative funding (6)
- End of service (6)
- Service to be reviewed (5)
- Financial/ management risk(4)

Impact on service users and community (Providers, district and stakeholders feedback)

- Increase in homelessness, rough sleeping, sofa surfing, difficulty accessing accommodation without support (17 young people and 5 teenage parents)
- Impact on demand for children's social care (8 young people and 2 teenage parents)
- Community safety (9)
- Increased use of temporary accommodation/B&B/financial implications (8 young people and 6 teenage parents)
- Domestic abuse (5)
- Increased vulnerability to sexual exploitation/ other abuse (6)
- Lack of support to develop life skills and tenancy skills (8)
- Increased substance misuse and mental health issues(8 young people and 4 teenage parents)
- Impact on acute services (7 young people and 2 teenage parents)

- Impact on EET (9)
- Less support services (14)

Recommendation

Cabinet are recommended to agree to implement the proposed savings to the SP budget, but to make available up to £500k of underspend from the 16/17 PEH budget, to be used in 2017/18. This is to facilitate the reconfiguration of housing and support pathways and services for care leavers and young people who are homeless.

It is also recommended that the £1.35m SP monies, retained to meet the statutory duty of LCC to 16 and 17 year olds, will be considered in conjunction with resources currently being used for emergency placements by CSC. This is to enable a more sustainable and planned approach to meeting the needs of care leavers and homeless young people. Pooling budgets and reconfiguring pathways and services is projected to deliver an overall saving to the Council.

9.0 Services for people who are homeless including supported housing for those with a history of offending; people with substance misuse issues; single people who are homeless; homeless families and floating support for Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) (Appendix J(i), J(ii) and K refers)

Description

- Single people who are homeless – 4 services, £667,610
- People who have a history of offending – 2 services, £538,435
- People who have substance misuse issues – 2 services, £127,980
- People who are homeless (including families, people who are homeless, young people) – 4 services, £732,828

The services provide a short to medium term housing and support service

- Services for people who are homeless (single people or families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and who are vulnerable and need support) – aimed at enabling individuals to develop or regain the skills required to live more independently in the community,
- In addition, substance misuse services are aimed at assisting people who are abstinent to develop the skills required to live independently in the community, thereby assisting their recovery,
- In addition, offender services are aimed at people with a history of offending who present a high risk of harm and/or high risk of re-offending and require a high level of ongoing supervision and support. This includes those who have more complex or challenging needs e.g. substance misuse, mental health needs or mild learning disabilities whilst recognising the need to provide and maintain a safe living environment for all users of the service.

Original Proposals

Cease funding from SP budget for housing related support service with effect from 31st March 2017

Consultation Process

- All current service users were sent paper questionnaires (240)
- 131 questionnaires were returned
- All district councils and the provider were sent link to electronic questionnaire. Responses were received from 10 providers and 9 districts
- A range of additional stakeholders were sent the link to an electronic questionnaire, but only 1 response was received
- 7 responses specific to services for people who are homeless and 1 more generic response, which addresses issues relating to a particular scheme, were received in advance of Full Council in February 2016 from 4 Lancashire residents and 3 providers.

Consultation Feedback

Provider plans for services and impact on providers

- Examining options for alternative funding (6)
- Services to be reviewed (5)
- Service ceases (6)
- Service at risk (4)
- Welcome opportunity to discuss with LCC the option of a contract cut and for the provider to seek match funding (1)
- Exploring housing management only (i.e. no support) (4)

Impact on service users and community (from providers, stakeholders and districts)

- Disagree with Funding cuts (8)
- Increase in homelessness/accommodation issues (17)
- Increased community safety issues /local crime rates will increase (15)
- Shift the volume and cost of providing support to Lancashire's most vulnerable people to other budget-pressured and in-demand public services (housing, social care, health, mental health teams, Drug & Alcohol Teams, A&E departments, GP, public health, criminal justice, voluntary sector provision) (14)
- Exacerbation of mental health issues with a potential of fewer opportunities to regain/retain independence. (4)
- Impact on ability of individuals to access and maintain employment, education and training(5)
- Risk to individuals (5)
- Impact in relation to substance misuse issues(9)

Recommendation

Cabinet are recommended to agree to implement the proposed savings to the SP budget, but to allocate from the PEHF up to £1.25 million annually for services for homeless people with complex needs. Whilst it was originally envisaged that these services would primarily be aimed at single people, it is recognised that the needs of homeless families with complex needs are not fully understood.

Consequently, in order to ensure that we utilise this funding most effectively, we are also proposing to extend supported housing contracts for this group of services

(with the exception of the MAPPA floating support service) until September 2017 to provide sufficient time to determine our commissioning intentions and to procure services. It is proposed that £500k of underspend from the 16/17 PEH budget is used in 2017/18 to fund the contract extensions

In the event that this review leads to the withdrawal of funding from specific supported housing services, the Cabinet Member will be provided with details of the review and approval will be sought for the recommendation.

10.0 Services for Older People who have a Sensory Disability (Hearing Impairment) (Appendix N and O refers)

Description

- This service is a specialist housing related support service for older people with a sensory disability (hearing impairment) who require support and are living in 13 dedicated flats within a sheltered housing scheme in Preston.
- £84,653
- 13

Original Proposals

To cease SP funding for housing related support service with effect from 31st March 2017

Consultation Process

- All 13 current service users were sent paper questionnaires via their support providers and 13 questionnaires were returned
- All district councils and the provider were sent links to electronic questionnaire. Responses were received from 1 provider and 1 district.
- A range of stakeholders were sent the link to an electronic questionnaire. 1 response was received

Consultation Feedback

Provider plans for services and impact on providers

- Cease service
- Seek alternative funding if there is any
- Explore social care to provide services who are eligible.
- Unable to support vulnerable people and risk of redundancy

Impact on service users and community (from providers, stakeholders and districts)

- No staff available in scheme or part time staff with no sign language skills
- Increased potential for misunderstanding within the scheme between tenants who cannot communicate with each other
- Risk to maintaining tenancies without the support and concerned about health and wellbeing of a very vulnerable group
- Negative impact on other public services (health, benefits, police etc.) as they rely heavily on this service to communicate with service users

Recommendation

Cabinet are recommended to agree that funding ceases at the end of March 2017 and that there is further exploration to identify the elements of the service that may be able to be provided by the Lancashire Wellbeing Service, statutory services and telecare

11.0 Domestic Abuse Services

Description

- Currently the County Council acts as lead commissioner on behalf of partners for domestic abuse services comprising medium / high risk victims and perpetrator services; together with support to the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) process and workforce development initiatives. The total value of these jointly funded elements of domestic abuse provision amount to approximately £1.3m per year.
- This partnership approach has been in place for just over three years, with the contracts for the currently commissioned services coming to an end on 31 March 2017.

Consultation Process

Historically the County Council has been the lead commissioner for these domestic abuse services on behalf of partners including the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC), district councils, and health services.

Consultation Feedback

The OPCC has agreed to take the role as lead partner for future commissioning that is done jointly for DA provision in relation to medium / high risk victims services. This will facilitate integration with wider victims' services commissioned by the OPCC such as general victim support, hate crime etc. on a pan - Lancashire basis. This will provide the necessary capacity to work with partners to secure funding contributions and to undertake the work required to commission services from 1 April 2017.

12.0. Recommendations for the Allocation of the Prevention and Early Help Fund by the Cabinet Member Working Group

The outcomes of the consultation undertaken in relation to the proposed savings to the Supporting People budget are outlined above. The CWG utilised information about the current CaUNSS and domestic abuse services, together with feedback from the consultation on the de-commissioning of non-statutory SP services, to agree the recommendations for consideration by Cabinet.

In conclusion, the Working Group recommended allocating the PEHF as follows:

- up to £500k for crisis support
- up to £1.25 million for domestic abuse services, comprising refuges, medium to high risk victim services and perpetrator services

- up to £1.25 million for services for homeless people with complex needs

The Working Group also recommended Cabinet to utilise up to £1 million of reserves to facilitate:

- the reconfiguration of housing and support pathways / services for care leavers and young people who are homeless; and
- the development of our commissioning intentions and re-procurement of services for homeless households with complex needs

Implications

Legal/Procurement

It is proposed that existing Supporting People contracts for supported accommodation (excluding floating support) for people who are homeless (single people and homeless families), people with substance misuse issues and people at risk of offending will be extended until 30th September 2017, where contract extensions are allowed for under the current contract terms.

This will provide sufficient time for the County Council and partners to determine the most appropriate approach to allocating the £1.25 million in terms of location and needs of households (single, homeless families) and to re-procure services as required.

In addition, it is also proposed that supporting people contracts for supported accommodation for young people and teenage parents will also be extended to enable the reconfiguration of housing pathways and services, where contract extensions are allowed for under the contract terms.

Financial

The proposal can be funded from base budget provision and will fully commit from 2017/18 the recurrent £3m Prevention and Help Fund budget. This budget is forecast to significantly underspend in 2016/17 and therefore £1m can be transferred to reserves to support in 2017/18 the reconfiguration of housing and support pathways and services for care leavers and young people who are homeless, and to provide sufficient time to determine our commissioning intentions and re-procure services for households with complex needs

Equality and Diversity/Consultation

Consultation findings and Equality Analysis are attached as the following appendixes.

Appendix A:	Crisis Support: Equality Analysis
Appendix B:	Sheltered Housing and Community alarms: Consultation Report
Appendix C:	Sheltered Housing and Community alarms: Equality Analysis
Appendix D:	Supported Accommodation for People with Mental Health Issues: Consultation Report
Appendix E:	Supported Accommodation for People with Mental Health Issues: Equality Analysis
Appendix F:	Floating Support: Consultation Findings

Appendix G:	Floating Support: Equality Analysis
Appendix H:	Refuges: Consultation Findings
Appendix I:	Refuges: Equality Analysis
Appendix J (i):	Supported Accommodation for People who are Homeless including supported housing for those with a history of offending; people with substance misuse issues; single people who are homeless; homeless families: Consultation Findings
Appendix J (ii)	Specialist Floating Support (MAPPA and IOM): Consultation Findings
Appendix K:	Supported Accommodation for People who are Homeless including supported housing for those with a history of offending; people with substance misuse issues; single people who are homeless; homeless families and specialist floating support (MAPPA and IOM): Equality Analysis
Appendix L:	Supported Accommodation for Young People and Teenage Parents: Consultation Findings
Appendix M	Supported accommodation for Young People and Teenage Parents: Equality Analysis
Appendix N;	Supported Accommodation for Older People with Sensory Disabilities: Consultation Findings
Appendix O:	Supported housing for Older People with Sensory Disabilities: Equality Analysis

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Directorate/Tel
N/A		