

North Yorkshire Council

Executive Member Meeting

2nd July 2024

Young People's Pathway

Report of the Corporate Director -Nic Harne and Stuart Carlton

The appendices to this report contains information of the type defined in paragraphs 1-3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 Agreement for proposals for Pathway 1- see Appendix A report which contains exempt information.
- 1.2 To agree the re commissioning of Pathway 2 for 2+1 years

2.0 BACKGROUND SUMMARY

Services are currently provided by other commissioned organisations as well as North Yorkshire Council. There are currently two distinct pathways for which NYC has responsibility for. These are known as Pathway 1 and Pathway 2.

Pathway 1 is the prevention arm of the service. Pathway 1 is an innovative approach to the prevention of homelessness prior to the entrance to statutory services for both CYPS and Housing. This allows the increased capacity for the prevention of youth homelessness through mediation, negotiation and individual bespoke wraparound support. This has been effective in reducing the need for provision of accommodation under Pathway 2 as shown in the data where Pathway 1 had a success rate in family reunification of 80% of young people in 22/23.

Pathway 2 is where accommodation is provided with support. The Pathway 2 offer is an accommodation offer to avoid the use of statutory services for vulnerable young people. Where Pathway 1 has not been successful, the young person is referred to a Hub Coordinator through the Housing Options teams across North Yorkshire. The Hub Coordinator assesses the situation to ensure that all preventative initiatives have been explored. This enables a coordinated approach across the council and an equitable service delivery.

The Pathway is a fundamental and crucial element of the Council's approach to meeting its wider statutory responsibilities under both children's and homelessness legislation. Effectively the Pathway alleviates the pressure on the Council's homelessness service through the provision of a bespoke and more cost-effective solution to meeting need than the statutory homelessness process. Any reductions in capacity within the Pathway are likely to be costly and have negative outcomes for young people overall, adding pressure and cost on the Council's homelessness service. As a result, more young people are likely to require assistance and the provision of temporary accommodation.

3.0 SUBSTANTIVE ISSUE

- 3.1 To reach a position to re procure Pathway 2 for the end of the current contract January 2025.
- 3.2 Agreement for proposals for Pathway 1see Appendix A which contains exempt information.

4.0 CONTRIBUTION TO COUNCIL PRIORITIES

4.1 To safeguard children, as well as supporting families in difficulty to ensure they receive help at the earliest opportunity and working with families to set clear outcomes to enable them to stay together.

Our Looked After Children's strategy sets out how we will deliver our duties as corporate parents. Where it is unsafe for a child to remain at home, we will provide safe, stable and secure permanence arrangements and ensure that children are well supported to leave the care system.

To deliver a successful transformation programme now and in the years to come, maximising the benefits of bringing eight councils into one to improve services for residents.

To help maintain housing supply, both market and affordable housing, whilst improving the quality of new homes.

To prevent and tackle homelessness

To help meet housing needs, including those of vulnerable households and those with specific needs.

To help ensure that people have a decent home to live in that facilitates their health and wellbeing

5.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

A working group from both directorates has met over a period of months to formulate these proposals.

6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

A procurement process would be initiated.

7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 By agreeing the recommendations proposed CYPS and Housing services will be able to more efficiently meet their statutory responsibilities.

7.2 Meeting the contractual legal expectations through a procurement exercise for Pathway 2.

8.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

8.1 An Equality Impact Assessment screening tool has been completed

9.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

9.1 A Climate Change Impact Assessment screening document has been completed and agreed that a full assessment is not required.

10.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

10.1 A Data Protection Impact Assessment Screening tool has been completed

11.0 RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

11.1

Risk or Issue	Description & Consequence
Risk	There is a risk that we will be out of tender and the procurement of the new service will not be done in time.

Risk	There is a risk that we do not have a clear expectation of what the service should look like on a reduced budget.
Risk	There is a risk that the changes to the current contract will destabilise the contracts
Risk	There is a risk that there is a lack of resource and capacity to realise the project requirements.
Risk	There is a risk that due to the length of the current contract and new procurement could see a substantial increase in cost for the contract or a significant decrease in the number of units for 16/17 year olds.

12.0 HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

12.1 There are no HR implications to the procurement of Pathway 2

12.2 The proposal for Pathway 1 contains exempt information contained in Appendix A

13.0 ICT IMPLICATIONS

13.1 Access to LCS by housing services staff to be further explored.

14.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

14.1 Work is underway to support the development of a new vision and key priorities for future commissioning arrangements for supported housing

14.2 An enhanced offer for vulnerable young people is at the forefront of this thinking.

<p>15.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)</p> <p>i) To agree the proposal for Pathway 1 contained in Appendix A exempt information</p> <p>ii) To agree the re-procurement of Pathway 2 for 2+1 years with a view for Housing to consider the wider Housing requirements under the housing strategy.</p> <p>iii) For Funding of Pathway 2 to be shared on a 50/50 share between Housing and CYPS for the 2+1 recommissioning reflecting the demand for under 18 young people and over 18 young people.</p>
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APPENDICES:

None

Stuart Carlton Director- Children and Young People's Service
 Nic Harne Corporate Director – Community Development
 County Hall
 Northallerton

Report Author – Judith Russ and Kim Robertshaw
 Presenter of Report – Mel Hutchinson Assistant Director Children and Families and Andrew Rowe
 Assistant Director Housing

Note: Members are invited to contact the author in advance of the meeting with any detailed queries or questions.

PLEASE ALSO NOTE THAT IF ANY REPORTS / APPENDICES INCLUDE SIGNATURES THESE MUST BE REMOVED / DELETED PRIOR TO SENDING REPORTS / APPENDICES TO DEMOCRATIC SERVICES. Appendices should include an Equality Impact Assessment and a Climate Impact Assessment where appropriate