

North Yorkshire Council

Executive Members for Children and Families

18 August 2025

Development of Supported Accommodation Service

Report of the Corporate Director Children and Young People's Service

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek a decision regarding not re-procuring the Safe and Sound Homes (SASH) contract for Supported Lodgings and Emergency Accommodation when it expires on 31/01/2026 and to request agreement that CYPS reduce the number of 24/7 Supported Accommodation beds by 15 and the number of Supported Accommodation beds by 14 in the Young People's Pathway 2 contract to be re-procured commencing 01/02/26.
- 1.2 To seek agreement that 16/17 year old provision in both contracts will move to in house Supported Accommodation/Supported Lodgings funded on a cost neutral basis with potential for up to £140k of cost avoidance from the child placement budget.
- 1.3 To seek agreement to expand the number of Supported Accommodation properties by 6 and the staff team to be able to deliver the above proposed changes both within Ofsted regulatory requirements and to deliver a high standard for young people.
- 1.4. To seek a decision on the creation of 2 Senior High Needs Supported Accommodation Workers regardless of the decision made about the proposed Supported Accommodation expansion.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 This proposal aims to bring 16 and 17 year old provision from Young Peoples Pathway 2 and SASH Supported Lodgings and Emergency Accommodation in-house.
- 2.2 This would be achieved by not renewing the SASH contract when it expires on 31st January 2026 and reducing the CYPS share of the Young People's Pathway 2 Contract by 29.
- 2.3 The proposed change would allow us to manage and control our own provision, which would lead to an increase in placements/accommodation availability, a higher quality of support and generate potential cost avoidance within Child Placement budgets and deliver better value for money for the local authority through increased placement options/bed numbers for 16/17 year olds. It will also increase placement stability and emergency provision for Care Leavers.
- 2.4 To achieve this, we will need to increase the number of Supported Accommodation properties taking on a proposed 6 additional properties providing 24 new placements (the average occupancy rate for 16/17 year olds in YPP 2 was 14 young people at any one time) and boost staffing levels to ensure suitable and sufficient support for young people. It will also ensure compliance with regulatory requirements and ensure appropriate management oversight, supervision and support for staff.

Additionally, by adapting the use of some of our existing provision we will be able to offer a more flexible range of accommodation that can be tailored to meet the diverse needs of the young people we support.

- 2.5 This proposal will operate with the existing budget with a pressure of £ 86k but will cost less than if services/contracts remain as they currently are. The proposed change is cost neutral if you

take in to account cost avoidance within the child placement budget and it will deliver a higher number of bed nights/placements than the existing contracts making it better value for money with potential to avoid costs up to £140k from the child placement budget.

- 2.6 If implemented these proposed changes promise to increase capacity, reduce impact on other service areas (e.g. fostering/residential) and provide more timely access to appropriate accommodation with high quality support for young people while delivering more efficient use of local authority resources.

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The existing contract for Young People’s Pathway 2 has been in place since January 2021 with the same lead provider for at least the last 10 years. SASH who are the provider for Supported Lodgings and Emergency Accommodation have also held their contract for the same period.

- 3.2 Despite efforts by procurement colleagues to pull in a broader range of providers through market engagement and utilising the option to offer lots rather than a single large contract it is expected based on current market research that should we re-procure it is primarily the existing Lead Providers who would tender again for the contract and those, they currently sub-contract too. While there was some engagement from 2 other providers, one wanted substantial additional funding above the budget if they were to tender and the other has no staff, services or properties in North Yorkshire at the present time. Except for the current provider of the Young People’s Pathway 2 contract no other provider was proposing to tender for all the Lots so there is a risk of not getting providers in the areas we require if we weren’t to use the existing provider again. No other providers engaged in market research in relation to Supported Lodgings/Emergency Accommodation.

- 3.3 This provision is for young people who are:
- 16/17 year old Children in Care
 - 16/17 year old young people in receipt of Section 17 Child in Need support
 - 18 - 25 year old Care Leavers
 - 16 - 25 year old young people who are not involved with Children and Families Services.

3.4 Current Contract

- 3.5 Provision/delivery of current contracts

Provision	Contracted bed nights	Delivered bed nights	Shortfall to contract	Contract costs 2025/6	Budget
YPP 2	62,012	58,132	3889	£1,314,417	50:50 CYPS/ Housing
SASH UASC	2920	1944	976	£374,284	CYPS
SASH Supported Lodgings	10,220	3,777	6,443		
SASH Nightstop	528 – 640 (480 – 560 Low/Medium need and 48 – 80 High Need*)	493	35		

3.6 2024/5 Annual Number of Young People in accommodation/placement types using based on data

Provision	16-17 year olds	18 – 21 year old	22 – 25 year old	Total
Supported Lodgings placements	9	8	1	18
Young People's Accommodation Pathway Placements	37	52	7	96
Emergency Accommodation Referrals*	35	64	18	117
Existing in-house Leaving Care Supported Lodgings	0	4		4
TOTAL	81	126	28	235

* On average over the year only 58.3% of emergency provision offers were taken rather than the offer up meaning the amount of provision delivered was more likely in the region of 21, 32 and 11. Respectively. Bed nights are not broken down by age group whereas referrals were.

3.7 While some elements of the two contracts meet contractual expectations, some areas are not, and we remain 11,343 bed nights short of the number specified in the contracts that is approximately 31 units/placements, we are not receiving but are paying the providers for.

3.8 Other challenges are also present in the delivery of these two contracts that impact on both access to service and contribute to poor outcomes for young people these include:

- 19 Young People being evicted across the 2 contracts by SASH and Foundation Housing.
- 10 occasions where SASH had no Emergency Accommodation available to offer
- Increasing challenges securing accommodation across both SASH and Foundation Housing for 16/17 year olds now providers must meet the Ofsted Supported Accommodation regulations/manage inspections. This has also led to an increase in Supported Accommodation referrals to YPP 2 for 16/17 year olds being declined or delayed till a young person reaches 18.
- Due to the new Regulations referrals to both Foundation Housing and SASH for 16/17 year olds are taking much longer to be progressed/responded to causing stressful and difficult delays for young people.
- There have been 58 occasions where referrals were declined for Emergency Accommodation in the last 2 years, these primarily appear to be High Need referrals based on the reason they were declined.

3.9 SASH Supported Lodgings and Emergency Accommodation

3.10 SASH is currently only delivering 37% of the Supported Lodgings provision in the contract and while the provider maintains they are working to improve this there has been a consistent decline in provision over 2023/4 and 2024/5 dropping from 71% in Q2 of 2023/4 to just 37% by the end of Q4 of 2024/5.

3.11 The decline in hosts especially for under 18's is reflected in the national trend for similar placement types following the introduction of the Supported Accommodation Regulations in October 2023. This is partially because of Ofsted requiring Supported Lodgings Hosts to meet the same regulations in their family home as are applied in Supported Accommodation settings and to the professional staff working there and partially due to the ongoing

recruitment recovery following the pandemic when many people dropped out of hosting. Because of this we propose replacing hosts for under 18's with supported accommodation supported by staff.

- 3.12 While the primary focus of this report is on 16/17 year old support/accommodation there is consideration needed for Leaving Care and Housing who also have young people accessing Supported Lodgings however, the data from 2023/4 and 2024/5 shows that there was never more than four 18 – 25 year olds in Supported Lodgings in any quarter.

Leaving Care have their own existing Supported Lodgings provision with capacity of 4 beds and funding for these already sits within Leaving Care. Housing will have additional capacity for their young people due choosing to take on the 29 additional beds for 18 – 25 year olds that CYPS propose not to re-procure.

- 3.13 Leaving Care's Supported Lodgings Hosts are currently all in the east of the county so we would look to recruit 2-3 more hosts, preferably with capacity for a minimum of 2 placements across the west/central areas.

3.14 Emergency Accommodation

- 3.15 Emergency Accommodation is part of the SASH Contract and is the emergency provision for 16-17 year old Children in Care and 18–25 year old Care Leavers. It also provides for 16-25 year olds referred by Housing Pathway 1 who are who are not known to Children and Families Service.

- 3.16 CYPS funds 100% of the SASH contract which also provides provision to housing for 16-25 year olds referred through Pathway 1.

- 3.17 At present only 58.3% of Emergency Accommodation referrals are successful. The service feels high need placements are not being delivered based on the reasons referrals haven't progressed e.g. offending behaviour, challenging behaviour, alcohol/substance misuse, exploitation risks – all behaviours recognised as "High need".

3.18 Young People's Pathway 2 Contract

- 3.19 Currently the Young People's Pathway 2 Contract provides accommodation with support for young people between 16 and 25. There is a Lead Provider (Foundation Housing) and a group of sub-contractors delivering this service. This Supported Accommodation is a mixture of 24/7 staffed Supported Accommodation and dispersed Supported Accommodation properties comprising currently of 102 general units and 70 units of 24/7 staffed Supported Accommodation. The Housing Service, within Community Development, lead on managing this contract.

- 3.20 Since LGR Derwent Lodge is part of NYC and provide up to 7 beds within Young People's Pathway 2 for 16/17 year olds but unlike the procured provision it sits within our C & F Ofsted Registration for 16/17 year old provision. It also delivers a broader provision for 7 adults/Care Leavers. Derwent Lodge was previously part of Ryedale District Council and part of the above sub-contract arrangements. Following LGR it became part of NYC and funding was separated from the YPP 2 contract with Derwent Lodge now having it's own budget.

3.21 Supported Accommodation Service – In-house provision

- 3.22 The in-house Supported Accommodation Service for 16 and 17 year-olds was created in 2023 in response to the requirements of the Supported Accommodation Regulations 2023 and the need to think differently about how provision was delivered to UASC Young People in meeting our obligations under the Home Office's National Transfer Scheme while limiting

the impact on sufficiency of wider child placement provision. It has grown significantly since then from 2 properties providing 6 placements for UASC and 2 properties providing 4 placements for NWD to 12 properties providing up to 46 placements across the county. This has given the service experience of being able to scale and grow rapidly to meet demand and this places us in a good position to be able to expand further at pace.

3.23 Staffing

- 3.24 The Supported Accommodation Team currently consists of 1 FTE Group Manager (who also acts as the Registered Service Manager), 1 FTE Deputy Manager and 1 FTE Handy Person.
- 3.25 Staff delivering the floating support to young people in existing provision are drawn from the Minority Inclusion Support Team (MIST) for UASC (6 FTE workers) and NWD for their supported accommodation properties. There is an informal Matrix Management style approach to the oversight and delivery of Supported Accommodation as all these workers are line managed from teams outside of Supported Accommodation.
- 3.26 Both NWD and MIST are operating at capacity and could not absorb further work if Supported Accommodation was expanded. Should a move to in-house provision be agreed then additional staffing resource would be required to ensure compliance with the regulations, meet the required levels of management oversight, deliver the Keyworker role and provide high quality support to young people.
- 3.27 A proposed staffing structure and costings (compiled with a CYPS accountant) can be reviewed in **Appendix D**.
- 3.28 A report was submitted to CYPLT last year by the Head of Service for Placement Support requesting additional staffing resource to meet the existing needs of the Supported Accommodation Service. This report included a request for 2 senior work posts that were to be funded from the UASC budget which the service was asked to return to CYPLT at a later point for a decision. This request is now included in this report rather than returning separately for that decision. The need for the 2 Senior Worker posts existed prior to this new proposal and should the proposed growth of the Supported Accommodation Service they continue to be vital.
- 3.29 A decision is needed regarding these posts regardless of the outcome of this new proposal as they were already required for the existing provision to help ensure compliance with regulatory requirements which state:

“The registered provider must ensure that the registered service manager can effectively supervise the management of all the settings in the service and will also be accountable if the registered service manager fails to do this. The registered provider must have an appropriate structure in place, including leadership and management arrangements, that considers and reflects the breadth, scope and geographical reach of the service being offered”.

The original proposal by the Head of Service for Placement Support was that the funding for these 2 posts come from the UASC budget and that remains the same. The CYPS Senior Accountant has confirmed that the funding for these 2 posts can be comfortably covered by the UASC budget and still leave the budget with a surplus.

- 3.30 We expect to potentially experience scrutiny from Ofsted around our staffing structure as staffing doesn't directly report through the Supported Accommodation chain to the Group Manager allocated as the Registered Service Manager. Our structure is unusual within the sector with many providers opting to have 24/7 staffed sites (with concierge security or sleep in staff overnight in properties with floating support) as a minimum, with many having individual Managers or Team Leaders in each individual property or groups of properties in

addition to the Registered Service Manager. In not following the norm, we need to ensure that the staffing structure clearly demonstrates how we ensure strong communication and robust management oversight of both the support to young people and support to staff.

4.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 Option 1 – No change - Continue with the plan to re-procure the Young People’s Pathway 2 contract and the SASH contract on a “like for like” basis to commence on 1st February 2026 with those contracts lasting until at least 2029 with the option to extend by 1 year twice potentially taking the contracts to 2031. Price increases are possible at the point of extension and Service charges and rents can be subject to increase at any time.

If no changes are made this option will put budget pressures of £311k additional budget required, but also additional cost pressure on child placements budget in the region of £149k. This is an overall budget pressure to C&F Service of £460,142.

4.2 Option 2 – Only bring SASH Supported Lodgings and Emergency Accommodation in house - Continue with the plan to re-procure the Young People’s Pathway 2 contract on a “like for like” basis. We will expand our in-house Supported Accommodation Service to replace the Supported Lodgings and Emergency Accommodation provision at the end of the existing contract on 31st January 2026. This will create additional Supported Accommodation capacity in-house but will not provide any 24/7 staffed provision for our most vulnerable and high need young people.

This option would require additional budget of £85k and would result in a potential cost pressure of £ £111,691.50 on the wider child placement budget. This is an overall budget pressure to C&F Service of £ £196,292

What in house provision would look like

Option 2

Age	Supported Accommodation 16/17/UASC (floating support)	High Need Supported Accommodation (24/7 staffed)	Dedicated UASC Supported Accommodation (floating support)	Supported Lodgings beds	Total bed nights*
16/17 year old CiC, CIN, Care Leavers	40 Placements	7 placements (Derwent Lodge)	19 placements	N/A	21,780
No Wrong Door (16/17 years)	4 Placements	N/A	N/A	Potential for 4 NWD SL placements in future	1,320
18 – 25 years Care leavers and YPP	Access to YPP 2	Access to YPP 2	Access to YPP 2 & private rented for NLR YP	7 (LC)	2,310

4.3 Option 3 – Bring the SASH Contract for Supported Lodgings and Emergency Accommodation and the 16/17 year old provision from Young People’s Pathway 2 contract in house – The Supported Accommodation service will expand to offer alternative Supported Accommodation provision that better meets young people’s needs and CYPS will only re-procure the Young People’s Pathway 2 contract for 18 – 25 year old care leavers. This will leave just Derwent Lodge in Pathway 2 that will offer some of its provision for 16/17 year olds under the CYPS Ofsted registration.

This option would be an additional budget requirement of £86k but this is a lower cost than option 1 or 2 and should mitigate against the additional costs that options 1 and 2 place on the child placement budget creating potential cost avoidance of up to £148,922.00 on the child placement budget.

**What in house provision would look like
Option 3**

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5.0 DEVELOPMENT OF SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION SERVICE: PROPOSAL TO BEING SERVICES IN HOUSE

5.1 The average age for a child to leave home and move to their own accommodation in the UK is 24 and most of those young people do so with the ongoing support of a loving family that teaches them the skills they need to become independent and settle into adult life and to fall back on when things are difficult. As our young people experience this challenge much earlier in their lives and before often before they are even an adult it is vital that the Supported Accommodation provision being offered to them delivers more than just accommodation. We need to be good corporate parents ensuring our young people are getting all the support and preparation we would want for our own children and ensuring we are there for them both to support them when they experience challenges/difficulties in this transition and to celebrate their successes with them.

This proposal outlines delivering in-house provision that provides caring support based on strong trusting relationships and meaningful support to prepare young people for the transition to adult life. Most importantly it will lead to improved outcomes and greater placement options for young people at a significant point of transition in their lives ensuring we prepare them and that they have the required skills to support their transition to adulthood. Our in house services are more able to support young people with complex/high needs and manage/respond to risk in a positive way that supports young people to progress.

5.2 We propose to not renew the Supported Lodgings and Emergency Accommodation contract when it expires on 31st January 2026 and that CYPS procures 14 units less in the Young People’s Accommodation contract re-procurement for the new contract that starts on 1st February 2026. These will then be replaced by in house provision.

- 5.3 Our proposal is to take on a further 6 properties across the county creating an additional 24 Supported Accommodation beds and 2 “Safe Stay” beds. This provision will merge with our existing provision creating 68 Supported Accommodation placements altogether for 16/17 year olds. We would then deliver 24/7 staffed Supported Accommodation, Supported Accommodation with floating support and Safe Stay Emergency Accommodation placements. Supported Lodgings provision will be provided for Leaving Care young people as well as Safe Stay hosts providing emergency accommodation for 18-25 year old Care Leavers and 18-25 year old Housing Pathway 1 referrals.
- 5.4 Based on the data from 2023/4 and 2024/5 the proposed number of placements will be sufficient to replace the previously precured provision and create additional capacity in the region of 10 placements and increase Emergency Accommodation bed nights
- 5.5 See Financial cost table **Appendix E** for costings for this provision.
- 5.6 Leaving Care currently have 4 Supported Lodgings placements for 18 – 25 year old Care Leavers. These are all based in the East of the county. We propose recruiting a further 2-3 supported lodgings hosts in the West/Central areas of the county. Based on last year’s data the number of Care Leavers in Supported Lodgings provision in any single quarter was 3 at the highest and 1 at the lowest so this would create additional capacity and support us to keep Care Leavers living in their communities.
- 5.7 There will be no change to how Young People 18 – 25 will be referred, assessed and provided with accommodation through the Young People’s Accommodation Contract. The procurement of the new Young People’s Accommodation contract will ensure that suitable and sufficient accommodation is available. Housing have made the decision to purchase the 14 units we have reduced by to be used by themselves for 18 – 25 year olds increasing provision for this age group.

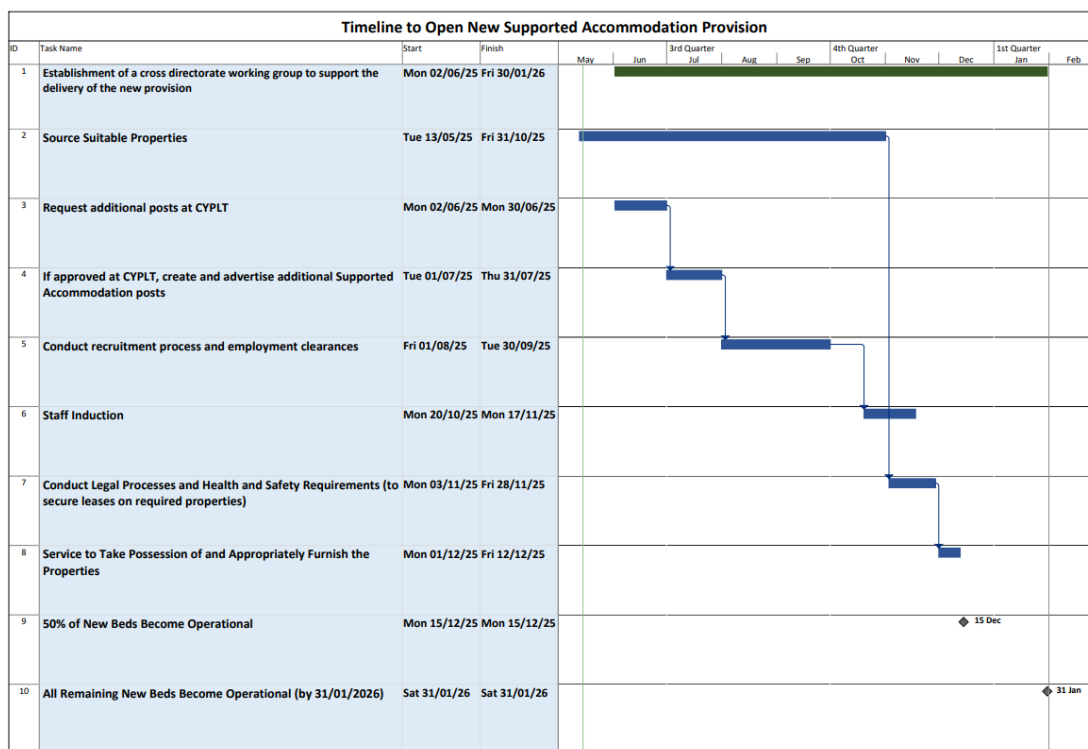
6.0 STAFFING

- 6.1 To deliver the proposed service, staffing equivalent to 19 FTE will be required. The proposed staffing structure and associated costs can be seen in **Appendix D**. This would be an overall service increase of 15 FTE as 4 FTE post already exist. Recruitment would commence in late August/Early September with a proposed start date of 1st December 2025 to allow for training ahead of some beds available mid-December 2025

7.0 ADMISSION TO SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION PLACEMENTS

- 7.1 To effectively provide increased in-house supported accommodation for 16 and 17 year olds we need to be sure that only the right young people are living in this type of accommodation and for it to be successful it doesn’t become a placement type that young people are placed in even if it doesn’t meet their needs or to ease challenges in other service areas.
- 7.2 There must be a commitment from senior leaders to support only the appropriate use of this placement type to ensure its success. We must ensure we complete appropriate matching of young people to accommodation especially in shared accommodation and that those living there are assessed as needing support and not care. As we wouldn’t “evict” young people from this service there would need to be an agreed transitions process for any young person who is found to have care needs rather than support needs and a clear timely process to support a move back into a care placement to ensure the young person’s needs are met and that there isn’t impact on other young people they may share accommodation with. This is especially important in properties that receive floating support only and where adult supervision is limited.

8.0 PROPOSED BASIC PROJECT TIMELINE:



9.0 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN AND RESPONSES

9.1 We have consulted with colleagues from Housing, Leaving Care and No Wrong Door and all are supportive of the proposal. The proposal was also taken to CYPLT and positively received.

Colleagues in Legal, Finance and HR were also consulted and have contributed to this report.

10.0 IMPACT ON OTHER SERVICES/ORGANISATIONS

10.1 When the current SASH Contract expires on 31/01/26 there would not be a new procurement process so the provider of that contract would not be able to tender to re-procure that contract as we would then move to an in-house service. There may be a small number of TUPE posts (See HR advice section).

10.2 There is impact on Housing due to a change in how Emergency Accommodation will be delivered from 1st February 2026 and bringing 16/17 year old provision in house. This has been discussed with the AD and HOS for Housing Needs and agreement has been given to proceed with our proposed changes if approved.

11.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

11.1 If we do not make changes and continue a “like for like” basis (Option1) has the following costs:

New SASH Cost estimate = £398,051
 New Foundation estimate = £828,000
 SASH Rent & Eligible Service Charge = £311,220
 Estimate of costs due to providers still 16/17 declining YP = £148,922

TOTAL = £1,686,193

Total costs charged directly to YPP budget = £1,226,051

Total costs incurred within the wider Placements budget = £460,142

- 11.2 The actual 2025-26 CYPS Young People's Accommodation budget currently in place as of now is £1,244,100, which is very similar to expected costs of the SASH and Young People's Pathway 2 contracts if Option 1 was taken.
- 11.3 Option 3 avoids costs of £374,299 compared to Option 1 (See **Appendix E**) or £252,306 as compared to this budget figure. This is unlikely to be a cash budget saving but instead a decrease of some pressure on the Placements budget which is expected to significantly overspend in 2025-26.
- 11.4 See **Appendix E** for financial costs relating to the 3 options
- 11.5 See **Appendix C** for incidental savings, qualitative and strategic value and case studies demonstrating potential cost avoidance and how young people may have had better experiences/support if the proposed provision had been in place.

12.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 The statutory duty to house homeless 16 and 17 year olds primarily falls to Children and Families Service rather than housing.
- 12.2 Without agreeing the additional staffing capacity, the council is vulnerable to failing to meet statutory responsibilities under the Supported Accommodation Regulations 2023 and risks significant reputational damage through poor Ofsted inspection outcomes.
- 12.3 Advice was sought from the Senior Solicitor for Property who advised that any property rental or purchases would need to be progressed through the Estates Team to ensure the Property Procedure Rules were followed. After which, Estates would pass the arrangements to Property Legal Services to arrange any leases.
- 12.4 Advice sought from the Senior Solicitor for Contracts/Procurement advised that in respect of procurement and contract legal advice, there are no legal implications for the report. She recommended that we would need to consider the current contract and whether there is an exit strategy – which there is. She also highlighted there may be TUPE implications (See HR section).
- 12.5 To ensure that no young person can claim legal tenancy rights to our accommodation all the supported accommodation placements must not charge rent. However, contributions to utilities may be charged as is current practice.

13.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 13.1 See **Appendix A** for the Equalities Impact screening form.
- 13.2 There is no potential Impact or adverse effects on people with any protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, or NYCC's additional agreed characteristics in relation to this proposal.

14.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

14.1 This proposal has limited impact on the environment but none of these are likely to result in a negative impact on the council or county (see initial CCIA **Appendix B**) and does not require a full CCIA completing.

15.0 HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

15.1 There may be TUPE implications for three external posts. Due diligence would need to be undertaken but consideration would need to be given to the three posts being slotted into the overall service increase of 15 FTE.

15.2 No internal consultation required for existing staff. Proposal does provide career opportunities for internal staff.

15.3 Support from the Pay and Reward team identified for job evaluation of new roles identified.

16.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

16.1 The service recommends option 3 for the following reasons:

- To be able to control our own placements and decision making and provide supported accommodation on a wider scale ensuring our most complex young people are not declined a service from contracted providers.
- Quicker referral and decision making processes and a more responsive service
- The service can confidently work with safe uncertainty and complex risk in a positive and proactive way which will open the service up to a wider range of young people and result in no young person under 18 experiencing evictions. Instead, a process will be put in place to support young people who are found to require care rather than support to transition positively into a care placement if Supported Accommodation isn't meeting their needs.
- Deliver faster decisions and access to placements through in-house provision reducing homelessness and short term emergency placements.
- Safe Stay beds will allow young people 16/17 in crisis to remain in their accommodation and receive support from staff during the day unlike Provider 1 emergency provision that requests young people leave the placement and offer no support between 9am – 5pm.
- To provide a more cost effective use of financial resources and potential savings to the child placement budget of around £140k
- Safe stay beds will provide an increase in the number of available bed nights
- The in-house provision will provide a regulated placement option that will divert some 16/17 year olds who are assessed as requiring support rather than care from high cost and highly sought after placement options such as a NWD children's home placements or bespoke packages of care. This means that those beds can be kept available for the use of the children and young people who require them the most. This will also lead to cost avoidance as some external provision won't be required as a result.

17.0 RISKS/BENEFITS OF EACH OPTION

17.1 Option 1

Benefits	Risks
Commissioned service (YPP 2 and SASH) where providers have responsibility to deliver the different types of supported accommodation.	Providers don't deliver the full expectations of the contract, and we don't have enough provision leaving C&F service to find and fund an alternative for the shortfall.
Avoids recruitment, training and management of staff.	Due to the new Supported Accommodation Regulations providers are refusing more and more 16/17 year olds due to their interpretation of the new regulations leaving CYPS to find/fund alternatives. The number of young people this relates to is increasing.
Budget is predictable.	The re-procurement is going out in "Lots" and there may not be interest in all areas based on Procurements Market research outside of the current lead provider. We may not get providers where we want them to best meet need.
	There is a lack of alternative providers engaging with procurement market engagement so there is a significant chance it will be the same main providers who tender for the new contracts – this could mean there is little change in provision/delivery.
	Not in control of the provision we need.
	Are not the decision makers about which young people should be offered accommodation or where.
	Slow turn around at times for referrals in urgent need in both YPP 2 and SASH supported lodgings.
	Additional pressure on C&F budget of £460,142.00

17.2 Option 2

Benefits	Risks
We manage some of our own supported accommodation provision and decisions regarding referrals	There is still no in-house High Need 24/7 Staffed Supported Accommodation
Quicker decision making processes for referrals/emergencies to in-house accommodation	Slow turnaround of referrals/placement requests for Pathway 2 accommodation
Referrals to in-house supported accommodation with floating support will only be declined based on assessed care need	Provider(s) of pathway 2 accommodation doesn't deliver the full expectations of the contract, and we don't have enough High Need 24/7 staffed provision especially for 16/17 year olds.
Manage the quality of support through better trained/skilled staff in in-house supported accommodation with floating support	Due to the new Supported Accommodation Regulations providers are refusing more and more 16/17 year olds due to their interpretation of new regulations and concerns around Ofsted inspections

	leaving CYPS to find/fund alternatives accommodation/placements for some young people.
In-house service has sufficient accommodation to ensure matching and to safely manage complexities of Supported Accommodation with floating support Placements	The re-procurement of YPP 2 is going out in "Lots" and there may not be interest in all areas based on Procurements Market research outside of the current lead provider.
Less evictions/no intentional homelessness from in-house provision	Poor matching in in-house accommodation could create an unsettled accommodation
Safe Stay beds will not leave young people with nowhere to go between 9am and 5pm instead they can stay and will be offered floating support.	Risk of multiple complex young people living in a single area/locality
Young People living in in-house Supported Accommodation with floating support will be able to complete ASDAN short awards to support future tenancies and employment	Ensuring suitable transition to 18+ accommodation for young people coming from in-house provision.
Commissioned service (YPP 2) where the provider has responsibility to deliver pathway 2 accommodation	Additional pressure on C&F budget in the region of £196,292.50
Avoids recruitment, training and management of staff relating to YPP 2 provision	
YPP 2 budget is predictable	

17.3 Option 3

Benefits	Risks
We manage our own provision and decisions regarding referrals	Careful matching would be needed to avoid unsettled accommodation
Quicker decision making processes for referrals/emergencies	Risk of multiple complex young people living in a single area/locality
Referrals will only be declined based on assessed need	Ensuring suitable transition to 18+ accommodation within NYC housing, private landlords or social housing or return to family
Manager the quality of support through better trained/skilled staff	
Sufficient properties to ensure matching and to safely manage complexities of placements	
No evictions/no intentional homelessness	
Safe Stay beds will not leave young people with nowhere to go between 9am and 5pm	
Young People will be able to complete ASDAN short awards to support future tenancies and employment	
Mitigates against the pressures option 1 and 2 put on the C&F wider placement budgets	

18.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)

18.1 The Service recommends:

Option 3 – Bring SASH contract and 16/17 year old provision from Young People’s Pathway 2 contract in house – The Supported Accommodation service will expand to replace these contracted provisions, and CYPS will only re-procure the Young People’s Accommodation contract for 18 – 25 year olds.

This option will contribute to cost avoidance for CYPS in the region of £140k and provide the full range of required Supported Accommodation placement options.

The service recommends agreeing the additional 2 Senior Supported Accommodation posts to be funded from the UASC budget regardless of the outcome of the proposal to bring services in-house as they are required for the existing service regardless of potential service expansion.

APPENDICES:

Appendix A – EIA Screening

Appendix B – CCIA Initial Screening Form

Appendix C – Incidental savings, Qualitative and Strategic Value

Appendix D – Proposed staff structure and costs

Appendix E – Financial Costings

Sir Stuart Carlton

Corporate Director – *Children and Young People’s Service*

County Hall

Northallerton

12/08/25

Report Author – *Teri Owens*

Presenter of Report – Rosie Appleby, Head of Service – Placement Support and *Teri Owens, Group Manager – No Wrong Door & Supported Accommodation*

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