

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICE
CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S MEETING WITH EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

6 JULY 2021

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PATHWAY REVIEW

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report is to seek approval to reprocur the Emergency and Extended Supported Lodgings contract element of pathway 2 within the Young Person's Accommodation Pathway.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 The Young People's Accommodation Pathway is a partnership between NYCC Children's and Young Peoples Service, District/Borough Housing Departments and provides preventative and reconnection support as well as supported accommodation to avoid young people becoming homeless. The YPP pathway provision is a service commissioned by NYCC and delivered by NYCC workers, Foundation Housing and SASH supported lodgings providers across three contracts which are as follows:

- Prevention and Reconnection (Pathway 1) – provided by NYCC and Foundation Housing
- Accommodation (Pathway 2):
 - Hostel and dispersed accommodation – provided by Foundation Housing
 - Emergency & Extended Supported Lodgings – provided by SASH

2.2 During 2019-2020, a review of the Young Person's Accommodation Pathway services took place with a view to identifying cashable savings and realign LA and District/Borough service responsibilities. District/Borough Council representatives were involved in developing revised service options within the project Group.

2.3 In September 2020, Management Board agreed the recommended options to take forwards (subject to Executive approval and public consultation) see attached report, however the project was subsequently put on hold for three months due to a request by the Lead Member of Harrogate Borough Council to provide the District and Borough Councils further time to work on an alternative proposal in order to make the required savings.

2.4 At the end of the three month pause a formal response was submitted by the Chief Executive of Harrogate Borough Council requesting that the project was put on hold until the outcome of LGR is known. The rationale for this is that potential savings could still be made at a later date with fewer disruptions and impact on the delivery of service. This was agreed by Management Board on 20th April 2021, with the condition that a working group is established with immediate effect to continue to collaboratively develop accommodation pathway options for the future (post LGR).

2.5 Impact

The impact of pausing the review affected original options for the three current YPP contracts which all end on 30th September 2021. The following advice has been sought from Legal and Procurement:

- Utilise the extension options already available within the current contract arrangements to extend the Pathway 1 Prevention/Reconnection contract and the Pathway 2 Accommodation contract (Foundation Housing) to a 1+1 agreement wef 01st October 2021. This has been approved by the Procurement Advisory Board
- Re-procure the third contract relating to Emergency & Extended Supported Lodgings (currently provided by SASH) on a 1+1 basis. Due to previously extending this contract, procurement is the only available option to maintain service delivery

2.6 The above will enable continued alignment of all services and the ability to align with Health and Adult Services housing procurement timeframes and a wider review of both CYPS and HAS housing contracts with a potential for increased cashable savings.

2.7 Contract Value

The current Emergency & Extended Supported Lodgings contract value is detailed below:

Service	Service Provider	Further Narrative	Annual Cost (£)
Emergency & Extended Supported Lodgings	Safe and Sound Homes (SASH)	Funds 36 units per annum	285,954
Night Stop	Safe and Sound Homes (SASH)	Estimated 3 units per annum (NIGHTSTOP) - up to 800 nights in total	23,829

3.0 **ISSUES AND OPTIONS**

3.1 If approval to procure the current Emergency & Extended and Supported Lodgings (SASH) contract is not agreed the service would cease and a cohort of young people would be at risk of homelessness. Extending the SASH contract enables young adults aged 16-25 to have continued access to Emergency & Extended Supported Lodgings services.

3.2 Re-procuring the Emergency & Extended and Supported Lodgings contract comes with a risk of tight timeframes and limited interest from providers.

4.0 **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

4.1 The YPP Review project will be rescoped to join up with HAS accommodation procurement timeframes and an Operational Group which will involve all District/Borough representatives of each area within the County. A Carbon Impact Assessment will be completed.

5.0 EQUALITIES

- 5.1 An Equality Impact Screening Tool initial assessment was completed and approved as part of the original YPP review. A detailed Equality Impact Assessment reflecting additional savings options will be completed as part of the wider review and a detailed assessment of equality impact for the preferred option would need to be carried out to determine any adverse impact on minority groups.

6.0 REQUIRED DECISIONS

- 6.1 Agreement to re-procure the Emergency & Extended Supported Lodgings service (1+1).

Report written by Mel Hutchinson, Head of Child Permanence and Family Reunification