

Enhancing the accommodation options for 15+ Care Leavers

Nottingham City Council
Quality and Commissioning



Current situation: Background

- In August 2010 work commenced on developing the accommodation and support options for Nottingham City's Care Leavers.
- Currently Nottingham's market is characterised by a diverse range of providers all operating under different rules of engagement and agreements.

These include:

- Private organisations
- The Local Authority (LA)
- Registered Social Landlords (RSLs)

Current situation: Strengths and Weaknesses

Strengths

- Mixed market of provision offering a range of different accommodation types.
- Experienced providers.
- Some excellent services.
- Improvements in internal processes (NCC)
- Some excellent practice.
- Good relationship with some providers.

Weaknesses

- Absence of a business relationship with providers.
- Lack of clear guidelines around our quality expectations.
- Lack of robust Quality Assessment Frameworks to ensure services are providing excellent care and value for money.
- Demand out weighs supply
- Want of real choice in the range, location and style of accommodation.
- Lack of service user involvement in the development and appraisal of provision.
- Lack of process around planning for care leavers means market model operates in reverse.
- Lack of bridging services to enable a phased move to independence.
- Lack of real needs data to enable good forecasting and to identify what young people really want.



Drivers for change

- Provide better value for money.
- To stop being financiers and become investors in young people and providers.
- To develop a business relationship with providers.
- To co-produce services with children in care and providers.
- Increase the volume and choice of provision we have to offer care leavers.
- To improve outcomes for young people.
- Provide more stable placements.

Outcomes

- Better value for money.
- Wider menu of accommodation.
- Increased volume of accommodation.
- Improved relationship with the provider sector.
- Enhanced pathways planning process.
- Better able to meet the following National Indicators:
 - NI 147, NI62, NI 99, NI 100 and NI 101.

Proposals

To work with providers and operational staff to develop a pool of accommodation and support services for Care Leavers 16+. By working collaboratively, strategically forecast need and develop services in accordance. The result is a commissioning and procurement process which will enhance Pathways Planning and accommodate care leavers in a timely way.

3 stage process:

- 2011: Initially develop some provision to deal with the current pressures which include immediately moving 17 + care leavers into more appropriate accommodation.
- 2011/12: Working with the operational 15+ team the process is developed. We can inform providers within an agreed timeframe (6 months) what accommodation is required. Providers can prepare accommodation to move the 16+ group into.
- 2012/13: Process and pool matures. Those who are turning 16 can move into pool.



Model

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Supported Lodging | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodation within a family home. • The purpose of which is to provide a supportive home environment for care leavers. • 16+ age range. • Maximum stay of 2 years. • High level of support -16 hours per week. • Standard level of support - 8 hours per week. |
| Small shared homes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 3 units per building. • Higher level of support. • Younger clients 16-17. • Sleep in cover . • Expected level of support 20 hours per week. • Maximum stay of 1 year. |
| Semi-independent accommodation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mixed style of provision (self-contained or shared). • Purpose is to provide a supportive environment for CL to develop independence. • 16+ age range. • Approximately 4 - 15 hours of support per week. • Visiting or on site support. • Maximum stay of 2 years. |
| Training accommodation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mixed style of provision • Purpose is to provide a training type facility for young people to enhance their independent living skills. • Older group 17+ • Visiting / floating type support . • Approximately 4 hours of support per week • Maximum stay of 6 months |



Need

Analysis is intended to meet need over next 2 years. Data on those aged 15+ has been used as they are the current and future group. There are difficulties with the data sets used.

1. There is a lack of robust needs data outlining what support needs are.
2. Length of stay is difficult to predict given the above as we do not know if service users have moved on because need has been met or if the accommodation was unsuitable.
3. We don't know if service users would have moved on sooner if there was more choice.

Some assumptions could be made:

Style of accommodation

- Those in foster placements will want to continue with this type of accommodation and therefore a percentage of foster placements can be converted to Supported Lodgings

Length of stay could driven by

- The section they are accommodated under.
- The age of the individual e.g. those who are 16 will need to stay within the service for a minimum of 1 year.

Future Need

| | 15-16 Years | 17 Years | 18 Years |
|---|-------------|----------|----------|
| City (Internal) Fostering | 43 | 13 | 0 |
| External Residential | 21 | 11 | 4 |
| Independent Fostering Agency | 42 | 16 | 1 |
| Internal Residential | 23 | 11 | 0 |



Immediate Need

2011: to deal with the current pressure we require:

- 10 units of semi-independent accommodation based services.
- 15 units of training accommodation.
- 35 units of supported lodgings.

2012: by working with the 15+ team we will be able to identify within a 6 month period when care leavers will be exiting care services and be able to shape accommodation in accordance with their needs and wishes. This will help us to develop a wider and more appropriate range of services.

Support elements

These will need to be flexible enough to deliver the following outcomes:

| Outcomes | Support elements |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Stay Safe | Help in establishing personal safety and security Help maintaining the safety and security of the dwelling |
| Enjoy and Achieve | Support the young person in the development of non-vocational skills and activities. This may include social; sports; leisure; artistic; religious; and cultural activities. |
| Making a positive contribution | Actively help young people to develop oral and written communication skills. This will enable young people to develop positive relationships with their support services, family and friends, peers and the wider community. |
| Achieving economic well-being | Encourage and facilitate young people wishing to enter employment by giving both practical and emotional support in finding work. |
| Being Healthy | Give information, encouragement and practical support to help young people make positive choices about health and lifestyle. |



Contracting options

| Contract type | Operational Detail |
|--|---|
| <p>Block contract services This is where providers are guaranteed a certain amount of business and are paid regardless of whether the service is used or not.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support and accommodation are tied together. • Support hours are flexible enough to meet most needs in services. • Services are split between standard and high levels of provision |
| <p>Framework contract services This is where providers are part of an pool of accredited providers. When services become required they undertake a mini tendering exercise to provide the required service.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support and accommodation are tied together. • Support hours are flexible enough to meet most need in services. • Services are split between standard and high level of provision |
| <p>Framework contract services. Accommodation and support within separate frameworks</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodation and support are separate. • The YP pulls off the type of support they are interested in and the type of accommodation they require. |



Costs

| Type of service | Type of client | Support Provided | Length of stay | Hours of support per person per week | Cost per unit per week |
|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Floating / visiting support Service | 16+ Those ready to move to independent living. | Visiting support | Max of 2 years | 1 - 4 | £145 - £200 |
| Supported Lodging Standard | 16+ Those needing a standard level of support. | On site support | Max of 2 years. | 8 | £140 - £165 |
| Supported Lodgings High | 16+ Those needing a high level of support. | On site support | Max of 1 year | 16 | £205 - £230 |
| Training accommodation | 17+ Those who need a safe environment to enhance independent living skills. | Visiting support | 6 months | 1-4 | £145- £195 |
| Semi-Independent | 16+ Those who need accommodation with standard level of support. | Visiting or on site | Max of 2 years | 4 -12 | £140 - £355 |
| Small Shared Houses | 16+ Those needing a high level of support. | Sleep in cover | Max of 1 years | 15 – 20 hours | £640-£720 |



Next steps

| TASK | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | April | May | June | July | August | Sept |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|-----|------|------|--------|------|
| Provider Engagement Event. Presenting collaborative working proposal. | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14th January Market feedback closed. | | | | | | | | | | |
| 17th January - Corporate Parenting Board. Presentation to initiate project. | | | | | | | | | | |
| PQQ 18th January 2011 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Evaluate PQQ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Develop paper for Exec board | | | | | | | | | | |
| Exec Board: for agreement to go ahead with procurement. | | | | | | | | | | |
| Invitation To Tender | | | | | | | | | | |
| Evaluation of tenders and agree preferred providers. | | | | | | | | | | |
| Begin to operate & move 17+ group into services | | | | | | | | | | |





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