

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:	2445
Author:	Kay Sutt
Department:	Children and Families
Contact:	Kay Sutt (Job Title: Service Manager for Residential & Targeted Support, Email: kay.sutt@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 01158765667)
Subject:	Modifications to short term children's home, 3 bed
Total Value:	£70,000 (Type: Capital)
Decision Being Taken:	To approve expenditure for modifications to 3 bedded short term children's home to undertake works providing a two storey extension incorporating an additional bedroom, downstairs toilet and wet room facility, and an additional lounge area.
Reasons for the Decision(s)	<p>The authority has identified a need to provide more internal long term placements to offer care to some of our more vulnerable and troubled children and young people with emotional behaviour difficulties (EBD). The current situation is that many of this group will be placed in external residential provision, often at a distance to the City boundary and at great cost to the authority. The proposal is to change the usage of the home from three short term beds to three long term beds which will provide a stable environment in order to support positive outcomes for this cohort and should prevent future placement breakdowns. It will also support more appropriate matching of young people in placement as well as helping to build and maintain positive relationships.</p> <p>The cost of the project will be met from efficiencies in the Service Manager's budget for Childrens Residential.</p>
Briefing notes documents:	Briefing note On Edwards Lane 2015 v6.doc

Other Options Considered:

Where these beds cannot be provided internally we have to go to the external market where the cost of an equivalent bed is £3,502 (correct as at 18/10/2015). Taking into account internal running costs, the cost of an equivalent internal bed per week is £3,151 (at 86.4% occupancy). At 90% occupancy rate this equates to £3,038 per bed, per week. At 80% occupancy rate this equates to £3,430 per bed, per week. In addition this proposal will also offer discreet savings on social work and reviewing officers time and resources by reducing the need to travel to placements at a distance. The main benefit is to keep Nottingham City children and young people within the Nottingham City area close to family links, with consistency in educational, mental health and social care support which can be a challenge when placed at a distance.

For the reasons outlined above, the option to use the external market was discounted.

Background Papers:

Published Works:

Affected Wards:

Sherwood

Colleague / Councillor Interests:

Any Information Exempt from publication:

Yes

Exempt Information:

Description of what is exempt:

Matter relates to a childrens home which has a confidential address.

An appendix (or appendices) to this decision is exempt from publication under the following paragraph(s) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

2 - Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual

The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information because as a children's home, residents(who are children and young people) live at a confidential address which cannot be disclosed to the public.

Documents exempt from publication:

Briefing note On Edwards Lane 2015 v6.doc

Consultations:

Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.

Crime and Disorder Implications:

This proposal is not envisaged to have an impact on crime and disorder. There will be careful consideration and matching of placements for residents at the short term three bedded home. Crime and disorder have not been a problem in the City Council's other long term homes due to stability and support in the placement both internal and external.

Equality:

EIA not required. Reasons: This is an existing established children's home, therefore this decision will not have an impact on EIA.

Social Value Considerations:

This decision will require the contracting of a builder to complete the work within Nottingham City council protocols. The social element is fulfilled in respect of providing stable residential placements to vulnerable children and young people looked after by the local authority.

Decision Type:

Portfolio Holder

Subject to Call In:

Yes

Call In Expiry date:

06/05/2016

Advice Sought:

Legal, Finance, Procurement

Legal Advice:

Whilst the proposal will be beneficial in meeting the needs of our looked after children, I have no specific children's social care legal comments to make.

**Claire Knowles
Team Leader**

Children and Adults Team Advice provided by Claire Knowles (Team Leader)

Finance Advice:

It is proposed to build a two storey extension, including an additional bedroom, at a short term three bedded home.
 It is estimated that the cost of this work will be £70k. This can be funded from in year savings within the premises budget of the internal childrens residential budget
 By providing an additional bed within the internal residential service, the pressure on the external placements budget will be relieved by up to £120k per annum.

Steve Lynk - Finance Analyst
 0115 8763726
 steve.lynk@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
 26th November 2015

Procurement Advice:

After speaking with the client, I understand that the works will be undertaken by NCH, under the scheme of delegation. There are no significant procurement concerns.

Advice provided by Sue Oliver (Category Manager - Procurement) on 18/12/2015.

Signatures

David Mellen (PH Early Intervention and Early Years)
SIGNED and Dated: 27/04/2016
Alison Michalska (Corporate Director for Children and Adults)
SIGNED and Dated: 25/04/2016