

Appendix 2 - Consultation Plan for Housing Related Support funding changes and savings – November 2016.

1. What is the consultation about and why?

Name of Consultation: Housing Related Support funding changes and savings proposals.

This consultation includes the following programmes:

- Action Housing, Arbour– High Risk Offenders
- Action Housing MISS – Medium Intensity drug and alcohol users
- Riverside Centenary House – High Intensity drug and alcohol users
- Riverside - Young people at risk
- Derby Homes – Homeless shelter, Single point of access
- Refuge - Domestic Violence Refuge

Key Messages

The Council is considering making changes to services it currently funds known as “Housing Related Support” to assist with managing its overall financial position.

One of the services has agreed to cease operating with effect from December 2016 due to performance issues - this is Action Housing’s medium intensity drug and alcohol accommodation based service.

For the remaining services, the Council is seeking views and feedback on the impact of the following proposals:

1. That, on the Council’s behalf, Derby Homes continues to support the delivery of the service provided by Refuge, and also the support service at Milestone House, and the Single Point of Entry, within their available resources. This would be as part of their Housing Options offer.
2. That by April 2017, Public Health will take over the commissioning and funding of Centenary House, strengthening it to become focused more on supporting people with complex alcohol and mental health issues to avoid hospital admission, or to exit hospital more quickly. This change would be achieved by varying the existing contract and extending it for up to three years.
3. That the by April 2017, the Council will cease to fund the following two contracts, and these will not be renewed or retendered:

Action Housing High Risk Offenders	Accommodation and support services for Housing Related Support for High Risk Serious Offenders.
Riverside Young People	An emergency crisis intervention accommodation based service for young people at risk between the ages of 16 and 18.

Why consult?

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- To involve service users, stakeholders and local providers in the proposed changes to the provision of services and the impact of the reduction in funding.
- To gauge the equalities impact of these proposals

Key Stakeholders

Housing related support plays an important role in promoting links between health, housing, probation, social care, the police and other stakeholders for the planning and delivery of services for vulnerable people.

Impact on decision making:

Modifications to the proposed specification/service design for transforming non statutory services and the budget reductions identified could occur as a consequence of the consultation findings.

2. Who is consultation aimed at?

We will be consulting with.....

- Service users and general public, especially those “seldom heard” groups who constitute a significant proportion of service users, including BME groups, those with drug and alcohol issues, carers, older people and those with learning differences.
- Service providers affected by the transformation – in the public, private and voluntary and community sector.
- Partners and other local stakeholders, such as the police, health and community and voluntary sector umbrella organisations.
- Internal staff working with user groups.

3. How will we do this?

In addition to being part of the wider budget Big Conversation we propose to carry out the consultation via the following methods:

a) Summary of the proposed changes;

A user friendly summary of the proposed transformation will be presented in plain English and available online or by email, via:

- Mail out (to users on database).
- Information on the website (with possible banner on home page).
- Email circulated to partners and stakeholders.

b) Online and paper based surveys;

This will take the form of a survey developed for the general public (non users), service users, stakeholders and service providers. Specifically:

- For the general public on the proposals looking at:

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- Awareness of and perceived importance of the housing related support service
- For current and recent (within the last 12 months) service users looking at:
 - the difference the service has made to them,
 - how they would improve the service,
 - potential impact cessation of services on users (where decommissioning is proposed),
- For current providers, looking at:
 - The overall value organisations feel their service provides to Derby,
 - Any added value provided by their service,
 - Importance of their service to its users and its potential impact on the lives of vulnerable people,
 - Potential impact of cessation of their service to the organisers and its users (where decommissioning is proposed)
 - Their contingency plans for funding changes , opportunities for service improvements which they have identified
 - Feedback on the proposed service transformation.
- For stakeholders and partners which will look at:
 - Perceived impact of changes on local residents and their organisations,
 - Opinions on proposed transformation,
 - Any potential gaps in the service.

c) Equality Impact Assessments (EiA) Workshops

Separate EiA workshops will be held to look at the impact of the proposals for each one of the key projects. Providers and service users will be represented at the workshops.

4. How much will this consultation cost?

In terms of financial implications it is not anticipated that significant funding is required.

The EiA workshops will be held at council premises to reduce costs and some small expenditure on refreshments may be required.

The most significant resource required to undertake the consultation will be the staff time required to undertake the consultation. Staff resources will be required for:

- The design and publishing of the online and paper survey.
- Writing of the plain English summary of the proposals
- Ensuring information and the online surveys are available on the Council website

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- Data input of any paper surveys
- The running/facilitation of the EiA workshops and any customer events
- Analysis and report writing.

5. Outcomes

A comprehensive written report will be produced containing the findings from the consultation. The report will inform the Cabinet when they consider the proposal and will ensure they understand the impact of the changes.

6. Timescales

Activity	Outline Timescale
Cabinet Report seeking approval for the start of Consultation	09 November 2016
Call In Period	Until 19 November
Formal Consultation period <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Web presence launched- Survey live- Workshops and customer meetings- EiA's- Ongoing data input of surveys	Eight Week Consultation launch 21 Nov - 13 Jan
Data input/headline analysis	14 th January onwards 2017
Draft consultation report	By 25th January 2017