



Report to Leader (Children's Services and Property & Assets portfolios)

Decision Date: 7 October 2020

Reference number: CS01.20

Title: Development of specialist disability children's home provision

Relevant councillor(s): Councillor John Chilver, Councillor Mark Shaw

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There are confidential appendices to this report, which are exempt by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 because they contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

Recommendations:

Agree to progress with that option 3 of the business case for this project, the completion of a tender process to procure the care and support service for an in-house placement for a young person with complex needs.

Agree that the award of a contract for this care and support service decision be delegated to the Executive Director for Children's Services.

Confirm the decision to allocate the property recommended within the property options appraisal to the development of a specialist disability children's home.

Reason for decision: As set out within the business case for this project, a recent placement search has concluded that there are no existing placements able to meet the needs of this young person and we are therefore proposing working in partnership with the CCG to develop an in-house placement for this young person with a contract for a provider to deliver the care and support.

Content of report

- 1.1 As a local authority we have a duty to provide suitable accommodation for young people in our care. In partnership with the Buckinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group we have identified a need to provide a specialist placement for a young person with complex needs. A tender process recently completed to assess the ability of the market to deliver a block contract placement to meet the needs of this young person confirmed there is no placement able to meet this young person's needs.
- 1.2 This decision now seeks approval to complete the project to develop a specialist placement for this young person within Buckinghamshire with a procurement process to secure a contract for the placement care and support services.

Other options considered

- 1.3 The options considered are set out within the business case for this project; further to the procurement completed in February 2020, the recommended proposal has been determined to be the best way to provide a suitable placement to meet the needs of this individual.

Legal and financial implications

- 1.4 Please see attached business case for financial implications, this information is confidential.
- 1.5 Legal advice has been sought and resource allocated to manage the property, procurement and social care implications of this project.

Corporate implications

- 1.6 This project is in line with our corporate aim to protect the vulnerable. This also aligns with our requirement to deliver our looked after children sufficiency strategy to ensure that we have the right home for all young people who need our support.
- 1.7 The procurement will be carried out in line with the corporate procurement policies to ensure value for money is achieved. A competitive tender will be completed to ensure all providers who are interested in bidding to support the placement are able to be involved in the tender process.

Consultation and communication

- 1.8 Consultation will be completed with the local members once the property has been identified to understand their views on these proposals and to ensure they are kept informed about the service which is being developed in their ward.



Next steps and review

This project will be monitored through the Children's Services Portfolio board meetings and the Looked After Children Project Board.

Your questions and views (for key decisions)

If you have any questions about the matters contained in this report please get in touch with the author of this report. If you have any views that you would like the Cabinet Member to consider please inform the Democratic Services team. This can be done by telephone 01296 382343 or email democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Appendices

Business case – confidential

Property Options Appraisal – confidential

