

Report to: Cabinet

Report: 19th July 2012

Subject: Supporting People Review Update Report

Report of: Director of Older People

Wards Affected: All

Is this a Key Decision? No.

Is it included in the Forward Plan? No

Exempt/Confidential No

Purpose/Summary

The purpose of this report is to update Cabinet on the progress of the Supporting People Review. At the 21st June meeting Cabinet requested that a further update report to be brought to this meeting.

Recommendation(s)

Cabinet is recommended to

1. Note the progress on the Supporting People Review;
2. Agree the managed review and re-commissioning processes outlines in Section 5 of the report, including the integrated re-commissioning of all supported/assisted living services; and
3. Request that a further report is made to Cabinet on the 13th September 2012.

How does the decision contribute to the Council's Corporate Objectives?

	<u>Corporate Objective</u>	<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community		√	
2	Jobs and Prosperity		√	
3	Environmental Sustainability		√	
4	Health and Well-Being		√	
5	Children and Young People		√	
6	Creating Safe Communities		√	
7	Creating Inclusive Communities		√	
8	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening Local Democracy			√

Reasons for the Recommendation:

On 21st June 2012 Sefton Council Cabinet considered the report of the Director of Older People which provided an update on the progress of the Supporting People Review and set out the proposed commissioning priorities for the Supporting People Service with regard to the achievement of budget savings required for 2012/13 and 2013/14. Cabinet resolved that:

- (1) approval be given to the adoption of the principles set out in 5.1 of the report;
- (2) Officers be authorised to work with providers, utilising the principles, to formulate reduction proposals to meet the required budget savings in 2012/13 and 2013/14; and
- (3) that a further report be submitted to the next meeting of the Cabinet on 19 July 2012.

This report meets the requirements of point (3) above.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

The March 2012 Council approved a budget reduction of £2m in 2012/13 and a further £1m in 2013/14. The report identifies that this saving is at risk, especially in 2012/13. The Cabinet will need to note that any non-achievement will require additional in year savings to be identified. These will be presented in the next report to Cabinet.

FD 1670/12

(A) Revenue Costs

Implementation of savings proposals for Care & Support Services requires a managed review of approximately 440 individual care and support packages in line with assessed care needs and Fair Access to Care criteria. In order to complete these reviews in a consistent and timely manner, so as to inform the re-commissioning process and enable the earliest possible realisation of savings, it is proposed to draw together a small team of existing staff to undertake the reviews, with minimal back-filling by agency staff to prevent pressures building up within the day-to-day social care workload, delivered within existing resources.

(B) Capital Costs

There are no additional costs associated with this report

Implications:

The following implications of this proposal have been considered and where there are specific implications, these are set out below:

Legal

LD. The Head of Corporate Legal Services has been consulted any comments have been included in the report. (LD1000/12)

The Supporting People grant support (which was formerly aid under Local Government Act 2000, s93) was withdrawn in April 2011 and the monies formerly allocated under this grant are now paid as part of the local authority 'Formula Grant'.

Human Resources

There are no immediate Human Resource implications arising directly from this report. Officers are currently discussing specific reduction proposals with service providers, including some internal service providers. These discussions are likely to identify some human resource implications.

When apparent options come from the review, and Human Resource implications become clearer, these will be subject to as necessary formal consultation with employees and trade unions.

Equality See Section 3

The Corporate Commissioning Team holds the responsibility for taking an overview on Equality Impact Assessments and assessing the impact of decisions. These will be published on the Council website.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. No Equality Implication | |
| 2. Equality Implications identified and mitigated | |
| 3. Equality Implication identified and risk remains | x |

In relation to compliance with the Equality Act 2010, Section 149, Members need to make decisions in an open minded balanced way showing due regard to the impact of the recommendations being presented. Members need to have a full understanding of any risks in terms of people with protected characteristics and any mitigation that has been put in place. Equality Impact Assessments, including consultation, provide a clear process to demonstrate that Cabinet and Council have consciously shown due regard and complied with the duty.

Impact on Service Delivery:

E2.1 - There will be a reduction in the number of clients that will be able to be supported due to a reduction in units available, together with a change in the level of support available. This may have an impact on the community.

There is a related saving (E2.2), to review staffing support for the Supporting People commissioning functions, which will be progressed alongside E.2.1 and as part of a wider review of directorate commissioning resources. This will **potentially** result in a reduction in the number of staff directly supporting the Supporting People commissioning functions. **Trade Unions and employees are aware of this review. When specific options emerge from the review with particular implications for employees these will be subject to formal consultation with trade unions and employees. At this stage the outcome of the process listed in this report is awaited.**

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

Regular and ongoing consultations have taken place with Strategic Directors, Director of Older People, Director of Commissioning, Head of Personnel, Head of Corporate Finance & ICT, Head of Legal Services and Trade Unions.

The methodology used followed Sefton's Public Engagement and Consultation framework and was approved by the Sefton's Engagement and Consultation panel.

A consultation plan was drafted by the Head of Service Commissioning and Partnerships and agreed by the consultation panel on 21st October 2011. It was agreed that the public consultation on the proposal would take place between 21st October 2011 and the 16th January 2012.

Since the Cabinet decision on the 16th February consultation has continued with service providers to identify if and how the in-principle budget reductions can be achieved. Since approval of the Commissioning Principles by Cabinet on 21st June, consultation has focused on more detailed discussions with providers to formulate reduction proposals to meet the required budget savings.

Are there any other options available for consideration?

None.

Implementation Date for the Decision

Following the call-in period for the minutes of this meeting

Contact Officer: Peter Moore
Tel: 0151 934 3730
Email: peter.moore@sefton.gov.uk

Background Papers:

None

1. Introduction/Background

- 1.1 Supporting People is a discretionary programme that funds housing-related support services to help vulnerable people live independently in their own accommodation or to move from temporary accommodation into a more permanent place. The report to Cabinet on 21st June 2012 detailed the specific client groups supported with the funding.
- 1.2 The programme funds a mixture of short-term (from a few weeks up to a maximum of two years) and long-term services, falling mainly into the following categories:
 - *Accommodation-based services* - where the support is linked to the person's temporary or permanent accommodation (e.g. sheltered accommodation, temporary hostels);
 - *Visiting/Floating support services* - where the support is not linked to the person's accommodation but is provided in the person's home; and
 - *Assistive Technology* - a "lifeline" community alarm system provided either as part of the accommodation or within someone's own home.
- 1.3 A more detailed description of the wide range of specific services commissioned through the Supporting People Programme was set out in the report to Cabinet on 21st June 2012.

2. Consultation and Engagement Update

- 2.1 Since the Cabinet decision on the 21st June consultation has continued with service providers to formulate specific reduction proposals, utilising the Commissioning Principles agreed by Cabinet, to meet the required budget savings in 2012/13 and 2013/14.
- 2.2 On 2nd and 3rd July all providers were invited to attend Provider Consultation Meetings. These meetings were organised to address four broad groupings of providers:
 - Older People Services;
 - Excluded Groups - Accommodation-based Services;
 - Excluded Groups - Floating Support Services; and
 - Care & Support Services.

At those meetings providers were presented with: an overview of the Council's budget challenge; an update on the Cabinet decisions; confirmation of the agreed Commissioning Principles; and savings proposals for their particular service area.

- 2.3 Since the above meetings, officers have been meeting with individual providers to discuss and understand the implications of implementing the proposals, to listen to alternatives and to formulate reduction proposals specific to each provider.

3. Impact Assessment Overview

- 3.1 There is a potential that a reduction in Supporting People funding will lead to negative impacts for the vulnerable adults supported by the funded services, including those with protected characteristics of age, disability and gender and those in receipt of a care package for assessed care needs.
- 3.2 The Equality Impact Analysis Reports will be completed during the next stages of the process to enable Cabinet to take account of the potential impacts and identified mitigation against those impacts as part of the decision making process.

4. Risk Management Overview

- 4.1 Details of risks and mitigating actions are being addressed within the developing Equality Impact Analysis Reports to enable Members to weigh up the risks identified.
- 4.2 Members will be aware that there are risks that a significant reduction in access to preventative services funded through Supporting People could increase the pressure on higher-cost statutory services, including, adult and children's social care services and services provided to meet the Council's statutory homelessness duties. These risks can be reduced by a more integrated approach to commissioning and the provision of early intervention and prevention services to ensure the most effective use of the total available resources. Service users with the highest needs will continue to receive services if they meet the social care eligibility criteria for adults or children's services.

5. Budget Reduction Proposals

- 5.1 At the Provider Consultation Meetings referred to in 2.2 above, the following budget reduction proposals were shared with service providers:

Older People Services

- To reduce overall cost by conducting a full service redesign of both hours and hourly rates being delivered into Category 2 Sheltered Housing, and reshaping current service delivery. (This same approach will apply to the single provider of Category 1 Sheltered Housing)
- Explore Value for Money of Community Alarm Services to reduce cost whilst increasing capacity.

Excluded Groups - Accommodation-based Services

- To reduce overall cost by varying hours, hourly rates and reshaping service delivery
- To retain the number of clients accessing a service at any one time
- Increase the throughput of clients by varying the length of stay in a support service

Excluded Groups - Visiting/Floating Support Services

- To reduce overall cost by varying hours and hourly rates and where necessary reshaping service delivery
- To retain the number of clients accessing a service at any one time
- Increase the throughput of clients by varying the length of stay in a support service

Care & Support Services.

- Managed Review of all Care & Support packages in line with assessed care needs and Fair Access to Care criteria.
- Integrated re-commissioning of supported/assisted living services across the People Directorate.

- 5.2 At these meetings providers were asked to consider the information provided; consult with Service Users as necessary to inform their response; comment on how services might be re-modelled in line with savings required; and to comment on the potential impact and mitigation of changes to services. The Provider Consultation Meetings were constructive meetings, with providers seemingly recognising the difficult situation that the Council faces and appearing to want to engage positively in seeking solutions.
- 5.3 As stated above, officers are now meeting with individual providers to discuss and understand the implications of implementing the above proposals, to listen to any alternatives suggested by providers and to formulate the specific reduction proposals for each provider.
- 5.4 Whilst the processes for progressing the proposals in respect of Older People Services and the services to Excluded Groups are similar, the process in respect of Care & Support Services does require a different approach. The Care & Support Services are commonly provided to services users who have assessed care needs and sometimes in support of the package of care provided to meet those needs, hence the need for a managed review of all care and support packages in line with assessed care needs and Fair Access to Care criteria.
- 5.5 There are approximately 440 service users in Supported Living services, of which approximately 200 receive some Supporting People Funding. In order to complete reviews for all service users in a consistent and timely manner, it is proposed that a small team will be drawn together from existing staff resources, with minimal back-filling by agency staff to prevent pressures building up within the day-to-day social care workload. This approach will cost approximately £40,000 but should enable all reviews to be completed by the end of October 2012, thereby informing the re-commissioning process outlined below and enabling the earliest possible realisation of savings.
- 5.6 The second part of the budget reduction proposals related to Care & Support Services is the integrated re-commissioning of supported/assisted living services across the People Directorate. The Directorate currently commissions a range of supported/assisted living services which predominantly provide services for people with learning disability, mental health and physical disabilities to enable

them to live as independently as possible in their own homes. These services are funded by a combination of social care funding; health funding; Supporting People; and Independent Living Fund (ILF). The total gross cost of commissioned Supported Living Services is approximately £15.5m per annum.

5.7 The range of Supported/Assisted Living services commissioned includes:

- **Supported Living** - Services provided around an individual or individuals to assist them live as independently as possible in their own home. Support will range depending upon the level of assessed needs, from assistance to maintain daily living skills to 24 hour support with care needs. Their own home would normally be via a tenancy, (or mortgaged property), which allows them to access wider benefits to enhance lifestyle and provide security of tenure.
- **Outreach or Community support** - Services provided to individuals to enable them to access the community and enhance skills to enable them to function more independently or reduce social isolation. Normally these would be provided outside of the home and could be included as part of a care package.
- **Shared Lives (previously Adult Placement)** - Services provided as part of a family setting which can assist individuals to maintain independence with family type support. Normally the person holds a tenancy within the service and so can access benefits to enhance lifestyle.
- **Domiciliary Care** - Services provided within the home to assist daily living, including personal care to enable the person to live as independently as possible within their own home. These services are separate to the general domiciliary care services re-commissioned in 2011/12.

In addition to the above, individual service users may also be in receipt of complementary Day Care Services offered as part of their care and support package to provide stimulating and meaningful day time activity, reduction of social isolation and provide respite for carers.

5.8 The outline plan for the re-commissioning process is as follows:

	Action	Timescale
Phase One	• Mapping of existing services including hours and costs.	July–September 2012
Phase Two	• Collaborative approach with care management team to review and re-establish service needs and outcomes.	July–October 2012
Phase Three	• Phase One and Two data used to establish forum with provider for pre-commissioning cost negotiation, to achieve in-year savings where possible. • Phase One and Two data used to inform future	September–October 2012 September–October 2012

	Commissioning and procurement activity.	
Phase Four	• Plan commissioning and procurement process and activity.	October 2012 – Jan 2013 – ongoing
Phase Five	• Commence new services	February-April 2013

5.8 Throughout the review and re-commissioning processes outlined above, communication and consultation will be undertaken with service users, providers and other stakeholders.