

Name of meeting: Corporate Parenting Board
Date: 18th December 2019
Title of report: Supported Lodgings Scheme

Purpose of report

To inform the Corporate Parenting Board of Kirklees Council supported lodgings scheme.

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	NA
Key Decision - Is it in the Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)	NA
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	NA
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	Tom Brailsford for Mel Meggs (6.12.19)
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance IT and Transactional Services?	NA
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning Support?	NA
Cabinet member portfolio	Cllr V Kendrick Childrens Portfolio

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: No

Public or private: Public

(Have you considered GDPR?)

Yes GDPR has been considered. The information in this report does not identify any individuals.

1. **Summary**

This report is provided for information after a request by the Corporate Parenting Board, to better understand what supported lodgings provide. Kirklees Council has a duty to offer a supported lodgings scheme for our Children in Care. This report outlines the scheme and how it functions.

2. **Information required to take a decision**

No decision is required, this report is submitted at the request of the Corporate Parenting Board for information.

3. **Implications for the Council**

3.1 **Working with People** Not applicable

3.2 **Working with Partners** Not applicable

3.3 **Place Based Working** Not applicable

3.4 **Improving Outcomes for Children**

We provide supported lodgings provision post 16 to twelve of our young people placed.

The aim of the scheme is to offer young people the opportunity to live in the home of an approved person who will help them prepare for independent living. This will be a safe and supported environment where a young person can develop the practical skills, confidence and emotional maturity to move on and cope with living independently.

Most of the young people placed in supported lodgings will have been living in care, some may have been at risk of homelessness. They will all be 16 or older and encouraged to be engaged in, or actively seeking education, training or employment.

Supported lodgings providers offer opportunities for young people to develop the life skills and confidence needed to move onto independent living. They provide a spare room and some meals for each young person, but also support and assistance - to make a difference.

Kirklees Council recruit people who live in Kirklees, who have a spare room in their home, a positive attitude towards young people and a commitment to helping a young person become more independent. They must have suitable accommodation and the skills and abilities to offer both emotional and practical support.

We encourage families, couples or single people to apply, they can work full time, part time or be in receipt of benefits. The most important thing is that they like being around teenagers and have an understanding of some of the issues they may face, as well as the time and flexibility to offer advice and support.

Most young people who need supported lodgings placements have been through some difficult and challenging times and may have some specific support needs. Providers will be required to work closely with various professionals to provide for the needs of young people.

The kind of help we would expect to be provided includes:

Some meals - this should reduce in frequency as the young person becomes increasingly more independent and prepares meals for themselves

Support to gain the practical skills e.g. shopping, cooking, budgeting etc. that young people will need to achieve successful independent living

Support and guidance regarding money management and budgeting to enable the young person to pay their bills, live within their means and access any benefits they may be entitled to. Advice and support to achieve and maintain a reasonable level of personal and household hygiene.

Advice and guidance to maintain positive health and wellbeing which may involve supporting the young person to register with a GP, dentist and/or to attend medical appointments

Our supported lodgings carers are provided with allowances, training and support they receive a supported lodgings rate of £218.29 per week, made up of:

£100 per week skills payment one per household.

£118.29 per week maintenance allowance in respect of each young person

When there is no young person in placement, but the provider remains available to take placement, the skills element will continue to be paid.

3.5 Reducing demand of services

Not applicable

3.6 Other (e.g. Legal/Financial or Human Resources)

Not applicable

4. Consultees and their opinions

NA

5. Next steps

N/A

6. Officer recommendations and reasons

That the report be noted.

7. Cabinet portfolio holder's recommendations

Not applicable

8. Contact officer

Andy Quinlan, Service Manager

9. Background Papers and History of Decisions

N/A.

10. Service Director responsible

Tom Brailsford, Service Director (Resources, Improvement and Partnerships)