

Report To: Cabinet

Date of Meeting: February 28th 2017

Lead Member / Officer: Councillor Bobby Feeley, Lead Member for Social Care & Children's Services / Katie Newe, Supporting People Team Manager

Report Author: Liana Duffy, Commissioning & Tendering Officer

Title: Proposal for DCC Supporting People and Clwyd Alyn Collaborative Agreement

1. **What is the report about?**
Proposal for a DCC Supporting People (SP) and Clwyd Alyn Housing Association (CAHA) Collaborative Agreement, to deliver the Y Dyfodol supported housing project.
2. **What is the reason for making this report?**
A decision is required on SP entering into a partnership with CAHA via a Collaborative Agreement, in order to deliver the Y Dyfodol supported housing project from October 2018.
3. **What are the Recommendations?**
To approve the proposal for this SP and CAHA collaborative agreement.
4. **Report details**
 - 4.1. The CAHA Y Dyfodol project provides 35 units of supported housing for young people aged 16-25, who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in Denbighshire. The current contract is due to end 30th September 2018.
 - 4.2. A Service Review of Y Dyfodol was completed on 11th August 2015, which made a recommendation to remodel. In the meantime, Welsh Government commissioned consultant Anna Whalen to look at ways to improve housing and support options for young people. Anna visited DCC in April last year, and identified the need for SP to be more strategically aligned with Children's Social Services' commissioning.
 - 4.3. As a result, since June 2016, Supporting People have been meeting with key stakeholders (including Children's Services, Housing Solutions, Youth Justice, and representatives from Health, Community Safety, and Education) to develop Denbighshire's 'Positive Pathway' for young people. This includes an over-arching Positive Pathway Group, as well as the Y Dyfodol Remodel Sub-Group. These plans have also been set out as a priority in the 2017-18 Denbighshire SP Local Commissioning Plan.
 - 4.4. It is SP's proposal that we enter into a collaborative agreement with CAHA to deliver the remodelled service, come the end of the existing Y Dyfodol contract (October 2018), instead of running a competitive tender process.

4.5. Approval was sought and granted at Cabinet on the 15th November to investigate further the opportunity to enter into this collaborative agreement. Since this time, SP have had several meetings with Clwyd Alyn, and sought the advice of DCC Legal.

4.5. The following reasons have informed the decision to make this proposal:

4.5.1 As this is a new and developing approach to delivering wrap around integrated services for young people, it is felt that a collaborative agreement would allow for more flexibility and a different relationship with the provider than is afforded within a traditional contracting agreement.

4.5.2. Clwyd Alyn currently deliver the Dyfodol project, and have demonstrated a commitment to explore remodel proposals.

4.5.3. Subject to agreement, remodel changes affecting staff and accommodation could be implemented throughout the remaining 18 months of the existing contract.

4.5.4. Remodel proposals are agreed under the direction of the Dyfodol Remodel Sub-Group; members include Children Services, Housing, and Youth Justice.

4.5.5. This project will support statutory services in meeting several duties, including under the Housing Act 2014, Social Services and Wellbeing Act 2014, and Offender Rehabilitation Act 2014.

4.5.6. Y Dyfodol currently delivers 35 units of supported accommodation, therefore the potential disruption of support, should the project go out to tender, would be significant.

4.5.7. Tender could result in the loss of accommodation, which could also result in a large unused building situated within the West Rhyl regeneration area.

5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?

The proposal will contribute to supporting Denbighshire's Corporate Plan 2012-17 in the following areas:

- Developing the local economy
- People with support needs are protected and are able to live as independently as possible
- Ensuring access to good quality housing
- Modernising the Council to deliver efficiencies and improve services for our customers

6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?

The value for 3 years will be £1,179,618. The annual cost of £393,206 has already been budgeted for in the Denbighshire SP Grant from 2017-18 onwards.

7. What are the main conclusions of the Wellbeing Impact Assessment?

7.1. WIA was completed between 30/01/2017 and 13/02/2017. The proposal scored very well in the sustainability assessment (4 out of 4 stars), and identified positive impacts in all areas, except 1 neutral ('A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving

Welsh language' – while all SP projects are required to have a Welsh Language policy, as this is an existing provider, it is not anticipated that this proposal would bring about any change in this regard).

7.2. Service reviews/contract management throughout the year additionally ensure that any negative impacts can be identified and addressed.

8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?

8.1. During the development of the young people's pathway (and the Denbighshire SP Local Commissioning Plan (LCP), in which this remodelling development is captured), the SP Planning Group has been kept updated and involved in plans. Regular multi-agency meetings have also been held to develop action plans, proposals etc. with a structure including an over-arching young people's pathway group, and an Y Dyfodol remodel sub-group.

8.2. SP have liaised with DCC Legal in developing this proposal, and (should this proposal be approved) Legal will lead on the development of the Collaborative Agreement.

8.3. SP have also commissioned consultation work with young people (to be undertaken by TAPE Community Music and Film), to ensure that young people's views are thoroughly represented in the development of the Positive Pathway, including the remodelled provision from October 2018 onwards.

8.4. The remodel of Y Dyfodol and the overall development of the positive pathway have also been fed back on as part of an extensive consultation on the LCP at the end of last year.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

The cost of the project is a pre-existing commitment within the Supporting People grant.

10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?

10.1. Should there be any risk to the provision of this accommodation, it would be incredibly challenging to secure up to 35 units of accommodation.

10.2. There is also a risk that the current provider may not wish to deliver this service past September 2018. A decision on future commissioning arrangements will need to be made as soon as possible, in order to give maximum time to make alternative arrangements.

11. Power to make the Decision

Public Contracts Regulations 2015, paragraph 12(7)