

Denbighshire County Council (DCC)

HOUSING RELATED SUPPPORT SPECIFICATION

Project Name: **Child Protection Family Support Project**
Project Description: This is a housing related floating support project for families who are receiving statutory services in the areas of child protection and children in need as well as families identified as being in crisis and in urgent need of such statutory services. In addition the service will support young people leaving the care of Denbighshire County Council where a continuing statutory duty exists.

All service users will be homeless or at risk of becoming homeless and will have been identified as needing support in a number of areas to enable them to manage their tenancy independently. Support will be time limited and it is expected that individuals will move on to live independently in the community or onto another community based project with lower level support.

- Project Aims:**
- Preventing people presenting as homeless or potentially homeless
 - Ensuring vulnerable people can move on to more independent living and continuing to live independently after support has been withdrawn
 - Ensuring vulnerable people are supported to access education, employment, training or voluntary work and have the opportunity to achieve their full potential.
 - Generating confidence and housing skills such that families and young people can live independently
 - Supporting families and young people to access other community resources and other agencies.
 - Promoting a more stable lifestyle
 - Contributing to decreased social isolation
 - Contributing to ensuring that families have access to support/ services as soon as a need/ problem arises
 - Ensuring that the welfare of children and young people is safeguarded and they are protected from harm
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- Contributing to the improved performance of Denbighshire County Council Children and Families Services against the following indicators
 - 1) The percentage of referrals that are repeat referrals within 12 months
 - 2) The percentage of referrals during the year where the child had been on the CPR or who had been looked after during the previous 12 month period.
 - 3) The percentage of open cases of children with an allocated social worker where the child is receiving a service in each of the following groups:

- i) Children on the Child Protection Register
 - ii) Children Looked After
 - iii) Children in Need
 - 4) The percentage of open cases of children allocated to someone other than a social worker where the child is receiving a service in each of the following groups:
 - i) Children on the Child Protection Register
 - ii) Children Looked After
 - iii) Children in Need
 - 5) The percentage of young people formerly looked after with whom the authority is in contact at the age of 19
 - 6) The percentage of young people formerly looked after with whom the authority is in contact, who are known to be in suitable, non-emergency accommodation at the age of 19.
 - 7) The percentage of young people formerly looked after with whom the authority is in contact, who are known to be engaged in education, training or employment at the age of 19
- Contributing to the delivery of the Welsh Assembly Government's seven core aims for services for children and young people, i.e. that they:
 - have a flying start in life
 - have a comprehensive range of education and learning opportunities
 - enjoy the best possible health and are free from abuse, victimisation and exploitation
 - have access to play, leisure, sporting and cultural activities
 - are listened to, treated with respect, and have their race and cultural identity recognised
 - have a safe home and a community which supports physical and emotional wellbeing, and
 - are not disadvantaged by poverty.

Project Outcomes:

- Service users will be better able to access and engage with the services they need.
- Service users will be better able to manage their lives and affairs
- Service users will be better able to avoid or cope with crises and other situations which cause stress or anxiety
- Contribute to achieving the following outcomes and actions detailed in Denbighshire's Big Plan:
 - Accessed Education
 - Accessed support for young carers
 - Improved basic skills, life coaching and life skills
 - Improved emotional health and wellbeing
 - Accessed support for post 16 development
 - Accessed parenting education programmes
 - Accessed preventative support for vulnerable individuals and families

Referrals:

Referrals will be accepted from Denbighshire County Council Social Work teams, and other statutory and voluntary agencies via the Denbighshire County Council Supporting People Coordinator.

Refused referrals or those placed on a waiting list will all be promptly referred to the Supporting People Coordinator for possible re-allocation to another project. Any voids or vacancies on the project will be promptly notified to the Supporting People Coordinator and other referrers.

Service users will be selected on needs alone and not on their prospects of successful move on.

NB: if an ongoing support need is established (i.e. a long term requirement for support extending beyond two years), the service users will be referred to a more appropriate low level or non-SP funded service in accordance with Supporting People eligibility criteria.

**Project
Dimensions**

Location: **Denbighshire** (county-wide)
Service Users: Between 59 (minimum) and 100 (Maximum).
Support Staff: The support provider will deliver a minimum of 350 service hours per week, i.e. 10 full time equivalent support workers. The provider must make available a sufficient number of staff to deliver consistently at this level 52 weeks a year.

**Contract
Dimensions**

Start Date: 30th November 2012
Duration: Three years (with an option to extend for a further one or two years)

**Maximum
Contract Price:** **£1,783,911.12 maximum for the full term of the contract (5 years total)**
(£356,782.22 per annum)

**Delivery
Requirements:**

Support staff will work with individual service users to conduct a detailed assessment of need and to develop from this an outcomes-focussed support plan. All support plans will be reviewed regularly with service users. This will include an exit strategy from this support service.

The provider will deliver a housing related support package including all aspects of general support and counselling identified in the assessment of need and support plan and assist the service user to access appropriate move on accommodation.

The project is a floating support project; therefore the support provider will be required to deliver support to service users in their own homes and to assist service users to access appropriate new accommodation where they are living in unsuitable or temporary accommodation.

**Type of
Support:**

The support delivered will be housing related and conform to Supporting People guidance, standards and eligibility criteria. The service should not provide personal care, health care or professional or therapeutic counselling

Out of Hours: Staff will provide a flexible and responsive service during evenings and weekends when required, according to service user needs.

Service User Involvement: Service users will contribute to the review and monitoring processes of this project. Feedback from service users will also contribute to the evaluation of the project and will inform future service improvement and development.