



# Notice of a public

# Decision Session - Executive Member for Housing and Safer Neighbourhoods

**To:** Councillor Craghill (Executive Member)

**Date:** Thursday, 9 February 2023

**Time:** 10.00 am

**Venue:** The Thornton Room - Ground Floor, West Offices (G039)

### **AGENDA**

# Notice to Members – Post Decision Calling In:

Members are reminded that, should they wish to call in any item\* on this agenda, notice must be given to Democracy Support Group by **4:00 pm** on **Monday, 13 February 2023**.

\*With the exception of matters that have been the subject of a previous call in, require Full Council approval or are urgent which are not subject to the call-in provisions. Any called in items will be considered by the Customer and Corporate Services Scrutiny Management Committee.

Written representations in respect of items on this agenda should be submitted to Democratic Services by **5.00 pm** on **Tuesday**, **7 February 2023**.

#### 1. Declarations of Interest

At this point in the meeting, the Executive Member is asked to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests or other registerable interests she might have in respect of business on this agenda, if she has not already done so in advance on the Register of Interests.

**2. Minutes** (Pages 1 - 4)

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 20 October 2022.

### 3. Public Participation

At this point in the meeting members of the public who have registered to speak can do so. Members of the public may speak on agenda items or on matters within the remit of the committee.

Please note that our registration deadlines are set as 2 working days before the meeting, in order to facilitate the management of public participation at our meetings. The deadline for registering at this meeting is **5:00 pm** on **Tuesday**, **7 February 2023**.

To register to speak please visit <a href="https://www.york.gov.uk/AttendCouncilMeetings">www.york.gov.uk/AttendCouncilMeetings</a> to fill in an online registration form. If you have any questions about the registration form or the meeting, please contact Democratic Services. Contact details can be found at the foot of this agenda.

# **Webcasting of Public Meetings**

Please note that, subject to available resources, this meeting will be webcast including any registered public speakers who have given their permission. The meeting can be viewed live and on demand at <a href="http://www.york.gov.uk/webcasts">http://www.york.gov.uk/webcasts</a>.

During coronavirus, we made some changes to how we ran council meetings, including facilitating remote participation by public speakers. See our updates (<a href="http://www.york.gov.uk/COVIDDemocracy">http://www.york.gov.uk/COVIDDemocracy</a>) for more information on meetings and decisions.

# 4. Update on the Resettlement Pathway

(Pages 5 - 20)

The report provides an update on work in progress to review the single homeless resettlement pathway which is developing the early intervention and intensive support approach for single people who become homeless or are rough sleeping. The report sets out the review findings, gives an update on external funding secured to support homelessness and rough sleeping initiatives and presents an update on existing service delivery arrangements and their outcomes.

# 5. Urgent Business

Any other business which the Executive Member considers urgent under the Local Government Act 1972.

### **Democracy Officer:**

Louise Cook

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For more information about any of the following please contact the Democracy Officer responsible for servicing this meeting:

- Registering to speak
- · Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports and
- For receiving reports in other formats

Contact details are set out above.

# This information can be provided in your own language. 我們也用您們的語言提供這個信息 (Cantonese)

এই তথ্য আপনার নিজের ভাষায় দেয়া যেতে পারে। (Bengali) Ta informacja może być dostarczona w twoim własnym języku.

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

(Urdu) یه معلومات آب کی اپنی زبان (بولی) میں بھی مہیا کی جاسکتی ہیں۔

**T** (01904) 551550

City of York Council	Committee Minutes
Meeting	Decision Session - Executive Member for Housing and Safer Neighbourhoods
Date	20 October 2022
Present	Councillor Craghill (Executive Member)
In Attendance	Michael Jones, Head of Housing Delivery and Asset Management Andrew Bebbington, Housing Policy Officer Tracey Carter, Director of Housing, Economy and Regeneration

# 5. Declarations of Interest (10:00)

The Executive Member was asked to declare at this point in the meeting any disclosable pecuniary interests or registerable interests that she might have in the business on the agenda, if she had not already done so in advance on the Register of Interests. None were declared.

# 6. Minutes (10:01)

Resolved: That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 14 July 2022 be approved and signed as a correct record by the Executive Member.

# 7. Public Participation (10:02)

It was reported that there had been no registrations to speak at the meeting under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

# 8. Retrofit Programme - Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Strategy Update (10:02)

The Executive Member considered a report that provided an update on the progress on delivering retrofit works following the success of attracting grant funding to support cross tenure improvement works.

The Head of Housing Delivery and Asset Management highlighted the retrofit work completed to date and the works planned under Local Authority Delivery Phase 3 (LAD 3), the

Home Upgrade Grant 1 (HUG1) and the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund Wave 1 (SHDF W1) programmes.

#### He also stated that:

- A new round of SHDF Wave 2 funding presented the opportunity to accelerate the council's ambitions to deliver significant retrofit works to council housing stock. If successful, the £1m grant would be match funded by the Housing Revenue Account (HRA), therefore delivering over £2m of retrofit work to council houses over a twoyear period, starting in April 2023.
- £60,000 could be allocated from the existing HRA retrofit budget to deliver 'quick win' improvements to around 250 tenants this winter. These works would not require a high level of specialist knowledge and much of the work would be rolled out from a single visit by a handyperson.
- The Retrofit Action Plan was under consultation and would be considered by Executive later this year.

The Executive Member noted the full spend profiles for the £2m Retrofit budget, which was approved by Executive in December 2020 and that should the application be unsuccessful, a further business case would be developed to support the allocation of these funds to retrofit works.

In answer to questions raised, officers confirmed that the handyperson vacancy was being advertised and the Executive Member commended the continuing progress being made to deliver and implement retrofit energy efficiency measures, particularly in council homes.

The Executive Member supported the ambition to scale up the retrofit programme to meet the council's climate change targets, improve the thermal comfort of people's homes and to support some of the council's most vulnerable tenants in the short term through a series of 'quick win' measures.

#### Resolved:

 That the progress on delivering retrofit works following the success of attracting grant funding to support cross tenure improvement works, be noted.

- ii) That the allocation of £1.015m from the existing Housing Revenue Account (HRA) retrofit budget to match fund government grant under the Social Housing Decarbonisation Wave 2 Fund, be approved. That the proposed details of the submission of a grant bid of around £1m, therefore enabling a £2m retrofit project, be noted.
- iii) That the full expenditure allocation for the £2m HRA Retrofit Fund approved by Executive in 2019/20, and the associated improvement of 190 low performing council homes to at least EPC C standard once this funding programme was complete, be noted.
- iv) That the allocation of £60k from the existing retrofit budget to deliver around 250 'quick win' retrofit works this winter to support some of our most vulnerable residents this winter, be approved.

Reason: To deliver the council's ambitions for minimising tenants' energy bills and supporting health and wellbeing, building the local green economy, and retrofit supply chains, and reducing carbon emissions in the city.

Cllr Craghill, Executive Member [The meeting started at 10.00am and finished at 10.10am].

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# Decision Session – Executive Member for Housing and Safer Neighbourhoods

9 February 2023

Report of the Director of Housing, Economy and Regeneration

### **Update on the Resettlement Pathway**

# **Summary**

1. The report provides an update on work in progress to review the single homeless resettlement pathway which is developing the early intervention and intensive support approach for single people who become homeless or are rough sleeping. The report sets out the review findings, gives an update on external funding secured to support homelessness and rough sleeping initiatives and presents an update on existing service delivery arrangements and their outcomes.

#### Recommendations

- 2. The Executive Member is asked to:
  - i) Note the ongoing review of the Resettlement pathway and the interim contractual arrangements that have been put in place to continue the existing service until the pathway review is concluded and a future delivery model is agreed.
  - ii) Implement the first phase of the review findings and seek a waiver to financial and procurement rules to extend the contract for the Early Intervention & Prevention Service for 6 months to allow for the phased implementation of changes to the Early Intervention and Prevention services.
  - iii) Conclude the review of the resettlement pathway and bring back to Executive a report setting out the new delivery model and the transition into new delivery arrangements.

Reason: To ensure ongoing service resilience and the delivery of early improvements during the next phase of the review of the delivery model for homelessness resettlement.

# **Background**

# **Resettlement Pathway**

- 3. The resettlement pathway refers to the specialist services offered to single homeless people with often complex needs, living chaotic lives. These people may have histories of substance misuse and mental health problems and have often been in and out of hostel accommodation for many years.
- 4. The council were early developers of a resettlement pathway and York also led the way nationally with a successful Housing First programme that is in its' 5th year of this which has been introduced elsewhere in the county in following years based on the learning. This model proposed that a home was a necessity for dealing with this range of complex problems. A residential placement was seen as a first step for more intensive individual support to equip individuals to maintain a long-term tenancy and break the cycle of recurrent homelessness.
- 5. The context of the pathway has changed significantly over the last 5 years with the introduction of the Homeless Reduction Act 2017 which identified additional responsibilities for local authorities for dealing with homelessness and rough sleeping. The additional services that are needed to meet the new duties placed upon local authorities are funded through the Rough Sleeping Initiative Grant funding and the Homeless Prevention Grant.
- 6. This has led to the introduction a more formal structure for homelessness services and CYC have worked intensively in partnership with DHLUC to develop the model of specialist housing and support and maximise grant funding, working with a wide range of agencies to develop a tiered approach to resettlement to deliver better outcomes and prevent people from circulating from rough sleeping into hostel accommodation and then back onto the streets again.
- 7. The pathway is made up of
  - Tier 1 supported accommodation traditionally described as hostels with 24-hour on-site support and provision to provide extra emergency beds

- b. Tier 2 which is comprised of shared houses and
- c. Tier 3 which is more permanent housing with varying levels of support in social housing and the private rented sector.

# **Review of the Resettlement Pathway**

- 8. In 2021 a review of the resettlement pathway was initiated as four Community Wellbeing Service (CWS) contracts were reaching the end of their initial 5-year term in early 2022 with the Early Intervention & Prevention (EI&P) contract ending in March 2023. Given the significant changes in the landscape since these services were last commissioned in 2016 (CWS) and 2018, a one-year contract extension for the four CWS contracts was granted so as to enable a whole-system review of the resettlement pathway and related services and support.
- 9. This review so far has been overseen by a multi-agency Project Board and a series of on-line workshops were arranged in 2022 to form the 'spine' of the review and to ensure that a wide range of stakeholders have the opportunity to engage in the process and offer their experience and views. The workshops were well attended with around 50 60 delegates attending.
  - Workshop 1 16 Feb Where are we now?
  - Workshop 2 10 Mar Where do we want to be?
  - Workshop 3 6 Apr Taking stock / sifting / prioritising ideas
  - Finance / Commissioning Workshop 16 May This was poorly attended by organisations invited to contribute to the process.
- 10. Following the departure of the Head of Adult Social Care Commissioning the review process was paused and Adult Services extended existing contract arrangements ahead of a decision on future procurement.
- 11. A summary of the findings of the review to date are attached at Annex A. The tasks of a reformed core Project Board through 2023 will be to:
  - Agree the findings of the review to date
  - Review the contracts, assets supporting the future pathway and to decide on the future delivery model
  - Engage with partners to review finances and governance arrangements
  - Develop an outcomes focussed performance framework for the pathway

12. The Resettlement Pathway review was considered by the Housing and Community Safety Scrutiny Committee in January 2023, and it is anticipated that the next phase of the review will be brought back to Scrutiny to help shape the future delivery model, leading to a report to Executive in the autumn.

# **Current provision**

- 13. There are over 350 people within the resettlement pathway at any one time and this fluctuates daily as people move into more permanent accommodation and other people come into the service. The current resettlement pathway is made up of a range of services, buildings and contracts with other wider services, such as health, probation and substance misuse services, contributing to the management and wellbeing of those involved in the pathway.
- 14. CYC directly provide the majority of homeless residential services with hostel provision at Peaseholme, Howe Hill and James House, the Housing Options Service, Housing First and the successful introduction of the Rough Sleeper Housing Navigators whose work is highlighted below.
- 15. There are 2 main commissioned Community Wellbeing Contracts in place contributing to the Pathway, procured by Adult Social Care. There is also a legacy Early Intervention & Prevention (EI&P) contract procured by Housing Services and delivered by the Salvation Army which provides relatively light touch support for rough sleepers and has historically been part of our work engaging with people sleeping rough.

# Implementation of Phase 1 of the Review

- 16. The concept of the Housing Navigator was devised by DLUHC during the Rapid Rehousing Pathway funding bid process, but only as an 'idea' with each authority developing the roles themselves. Whilst there might be similarities in other LA's each LA will have a varying range of tools to use to engage rough sleepers through this role. DLUHC work with local authorities to bring best practice to localities which are tailored by local partnerships.
- 17. York's success in attracting new funding for homelessness prevention year on year indicates the esteem that DLUHC have for the work we do in York, and this has been conveyed directly to officers in the regular meetings that we have with them. We want to build on this success by

expanding the successful and pioneering approach offered by our Rough Sleeper Housing Navigators who deliver bespoke support to those rough sleeping and/or at immediate risk of rough sleeping, by working alongside a customer and bringing the support to them. Engagement and support is open-ended and non-conditional. By having regular daily presence on the streets, engagement can happen in situ. The 'as and when' required support provided by Navigators enables quick responses to emerging needs and ensures a flexible approach and supportive framework around rough sleepers. This means that if the rough sleeper states they are "not yet ready for accommodation", we can mobilise quickly when they are.

- 18. The more intensive support and engagement delivered by the Navigator team has led to many entrenched rough sleepers being brought into ongoing contact with resettlement services many of whom have been successful in maintaining Housing First accommodation. This is housing for our most chaotic and vulnerable people, with bespoke wraparound support. The first stage of the review of the pathway has identified that a more intensive first point of contact delivers better outcomes and greater clarity for service users and partners.
- 19. The new Navigator model is longer term, intensive, persistent and tailored to individual needs. This model is more effective with people who are unwilling or unable to engage The Navigators follow complex clients through the pathways and into more permanent accommodation options, working with landlords, and mobilising other agencies into action and generally co ordinating support packages and taking ownership to increase the chances of success.
- 20. The value of the EI&P contract is £93k paid for from the General Fund. This contract is due to end in March 2023 and there is no scope within the existing contract to extend it. However, if the contract ends in March there is little time to work with the current provider on closing this contract, dealing with any potential TUPE implications of alternative delivery arrangements and managing any change to customer interactions. A waiver is therefore sought to continue the existing contract for 6 months to ensure an effective transition to the new model of early intervention as the first phase of the implementation of the resettlement pathway review.

# **Funding**

21. The Council and partners have successfully bid on an annual basis for RSI money and developed a range of services using this to support

people who have slept rough. The latest round of RSI from DHLUC is a 3-year award from 22/23 – 24/25. This provides some stability to better shape services going forward. The relationship with DHLUC is an important one that helps shape the service model to meet needs as part of a national approach to homelessness and the direction of travel for future homelessness grant funding clearly follows the early intervention intensive support model being developed as part of the Resettlement Pathway review. Funding elements for more traditional light touch approaches have been rejected by DHLUC over the last few months.

- 22. In addition to RSI money the Council receives Homeless Prevention Grant (HPG) which contributes to homelessness services and initiatives generally. HPG this financial year was £392,145. We receive a yearly allocation however the criteria continue to evolve with a focus on those areas with the most challenging housing pressures linked to H-CLIC (homeless statistics for government). Its' purpose is to prevent or manage homelessness under the Homeless Reduction Act 2017 and the extra burdens it brings. Indicative amounts for coming years are £408,545 and £430,080.
  - 23. An additional £61,015k has just been awarded to deal with winter pressures. This is used to prevent homelessness, pay for B&B, hotels etc where we need these and have a shortfall in Housing Benefit or where we have to pay fully for accommodation.

#### Consultation

24. Consultation has been undertaken with external stakeholders, Health services, Mental Health services, providers and people with lived experience of the resettlement pathway. This input has already contributed to the Resettlement Pathway review.

#### **Council Plan**

25. The resettlement Pathway aligns with objectives within the Council Plan.

# Risk Management

26. If a waiver is not agreed to allow the extension of the Early Intervention & Prevention Service contract there is a risk that the council may not be able to comply with the requirement to consider whether TUPE applies to some or all of the staff currently undertaking work as part of that contract. There is also the risk of a disruption to services to homeless people if the

- end of the contract is not managed effectively. These risks will be mitigated by extending the contract and managing the transition to a new arrangement.
- 27. There is a risk of failing to secure government funding if the model of delivery is not aligned to the DHLUC priorities. The review of the resettlement pathway will consider this as part of the further work to reshape the pathway.

## 28. Implications -.

- Financial The request to extend the Early Intervention & Prevention contract can be met from existing budgets.
- Human Resources (HR) Any changes to future service provision
  will need to consider whether TUPE legislation applies and whether
  any staff currently contracted to deliver these services through a
  third-party contract would need to be transferred to a new provider or
  to the council should services be transferred in house.
- Equalities The Council is mindful of the Public Sector Equality Duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 (to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other prohibited conduct; advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it and foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it in the exercise of a public authority's functions). There are no adverse impacts expected in terms of equalities from the decisions in this report.
- Legal Legal Advice on potential future TUPE implications needs to be sought once a future service model is agreed.
- Procurement Procurement have considered and approved the request for a waiver of CPR 11.3.2. for the extension of the current Early Intervention and Prevention Service for Homeless Persons to be contracted for a further 6 months beyond its expiry for the period from 1st April to 30th September 2023 at a total cost of £46,638.50. Procurement supports this waiver request to enable the conclusion of the review and full consideration of the implications for the current service and service users, to be completed within the 6 months extension of the current contract.

- Crime and Disorder An effective outreach service intervening early in rough sleeping and engagement in intensive working before entering service or while in service will help reduce crime and disorder and the perceptions around 'street culture' in the city.
- Information Technology (IT) there are no IT implications.
- Property there are no Property implications.

#### **Contact Details**

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Report Date 30/1/23 Approved

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#### **Annexes:**

Annex A – Summary of the first phase findings of the review of the Resettlement Pathway

Annex B – Summary of the current model of Resettlement provision

#### **Abbreviations:**

CWS - Community Wellbeing Service
DLUHC - Department of Levelling up Housing and Communities
EI&P - Early Intervention & Prevention
H-CLIC - The Homeless Case Level Information Collection
RSI - Rough Sleeper initiative
TUPE - Transfer of Undertakings Protection of Employment



# Annex A – Findings of the first phase of the Resettlement Pathway Review

# Brief re-cap on review process so far

- Key questions of the review
- The process and timeline
- Emerging key themes

# The key questions we are looking to address from this review

- Can we articulate a clear and bold vision for the future of York's Resettlement Pathway?
- 2. Which model(s) might be developed in order to realise this vision (and what can be learned from elsewhere to inform this)?
- 3. What commissioning or changes are needed which would be step changes towards this vision/model?

# **Key review inputs**

- Snapshot data of 323 people living within the resettlement pathway (Jan 2022).
- 100 interviews with people with direct experience of the pathway (living/working within).
- External expertise from Nicholas Pleace / Imogen Blood fresh eyes, challenge, knowledge and experience from elsewhere in UK and further afield.

# Emerging key themes People would like to see (across the <u>whole</u> system)...

- Us build on the great stuff that is already happening across the city (fund more of what works!)
- Greater clarity and transparency around what is available
- Greater consistency of approach across partners / providers
- Greater consistency of support for the people being supported, and for staff
- Better coordination and/or more integration of support
- Greater shared ownership of this whole agenda: homelessness is a social problem with a housing dimension, not a housing problem with a social dimension
- Us make better use of existing resources, but also bring in more resource to support this whole agenda

· Us recognise housing as a right not a reward

# Accommodation profile - what people would like to see...

- Accommodation is more often about availability than suitability. We need to address availability as more choice is needed
- · Less reliance on hostels
- Move away from shared housing for several people
- More social housing needed
- Greater incentives needed for private landlords
- More Housing First
- Specialist MH supported housing remains a significant gap in the city

# Nature of the support we'd like to see...

- Made more available where the people needing support are living (e.g. drop-ins for specialist support at the hostels – MH, D&A)
- Not time-limited
- Extra support for transitions not 'cut and run', especially for YP moving from children's services to adult services
- More floating support needed drop-off in support after Tier 1 is huge
- Strengths-based, focus on people's strengths
- Consistent support ideally one support worker for the whole journey?
- Flexible, and tailored to individual's needs and circumstances

# Immediate next steps

- Convene a smaller project board to deliver the findings
- Agree step changes timetable based on the findings, budgets, resources and current priorities.

# **Elements of the resettlement pathway**+ related services & support

### **Referrals from**

- CYC Adult Social Care, C&YP Social Care, Housing, Statutory Homeless
- Criminal Justice Prisons, Probation, CRC, Boroughbridge Rd
- Drug & Alcohol Service
- NHS GPs, York Hospital, Foss Park Hospital, TEWV CMHTs
- Other e.g. Bridge The Gap, IDAS, Refugee Action York, Salvation Army, Survive, Travellers Trust

Single Access Point (SAP)

Tier 1 - Hostels			
Hostel	Provider	Resident Type	Places
Union Terrace	Changing Lives	Males + Couples, 18+	35
Robinson Court	Changing Lives	Females + Young People 16+	19
Peasholme	CYC	Mixed, 16+	21
Howe Hill	CYC	Young People	30-35
22 The Avenue	СҮС	Mental Health, Mixed 18+	7

# **Supported Lodgings (& Nightstop) for Young People**

**Outreach Teams** Team/Provider No. of staff **Total Caseload** N/A EIP, Salvation Army 2 Making Every Adult 40 4 Matter (MEAM), (15 Housing First) **Changing Lives** MH Housing First, 8 **Changing Lives** 5 40 Navigators (RSI Co-Ord), CYC

Tier 3 - Floating Housing Support			
Service	Provider	Referrals in 2021/22 to date	
Adults CWS	Changing Lives	34 current cases	
Adults CWS (Mental	Community Links	22 current cases	
Families CWS	Community Links	46	
Intensive Housing Mgmt	York Housing Association	11	
Helping Hands (Older People)	Yorkshire Housing Association	27	
Local Area Coordinators	CYC	3	

Tier 2 – Shared Housing		
Provider	No. of Properties	Total Places
Changing Lives	9	31
Restore	10	39
Changing Lives	1 (Scarcroft)	9
CYC	1 (Evelyn Crescent)	4
York Housing Association	3	10

Tier 2 – Self-contained flats		
Provider	No. of Properties	Total Places
Changing Lives	2 x Trainer Flats	2
York Housing Association	7 x Shipton Rd flats	7

Colour Key
Adult pathway
Mental Health pathway
Young People pathway

Specialist Mental Health Housing & Support Proposed and in development – available late 2024?		
Provision	Places	
<ul><li>2 x Specialist MH Supported Housing schemes</li><li>Crombie House</li><li>Woolnough House</li></ul>	11 11	
<ul><li>Satellite flats supported from each scheme</li><li>Crombie House</li><li>Woolnough House</li></ul>	6 6	
Mental Health Housing First places	21	
TOTAL	55	

Key related services and support			
	Provider	Commissioned by	
Department for Work & Pensions	Central Government		
Drug & Alcohol Services	Changing Lives	CYC Public Health	
Health Services	GPs, York Hospital	Vale of York CCG	
Mental Health services	TEWV	Vale of York CCG	
Probation Service	Central Government		
Women's Wellness Centre	Changing Lives	Office of Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner	

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