

## Resident Impact Assessment

### Procurement of Assessment and Progression Support Service for Single Homeless People Age 16-25

#### Service Area: Strategy & Commissioning, People Directorate

## 1. What are the intended outcomes of this policy, function etc?

In April 2013 The Single Homeless Project was commissioned to provide the Barnsbury Park Assessment Centre, a supported housing service for young people. The aim is to deliver accommodation and a high quality assessment and housing support service for homeless people age 18-25 in order to assess their housing and support needs and move them onto appropriate housing.

The re-procurement of the service will allow the council to ensure that Young People continue to receive a service that allows them time to be supported and assessed before moving onto housing appropriate to their needs. We intend to procure the service as an Assessment and Progression Service for Single Homeless People Age 16-25; see Procurement Strategy for more information.

## 2. Resident Profile

Who is going to be impacted by this change i.e. residents/service users/tenants? Please complete data for your service users. If your data does not fit into the categories in this table, please copy and paste your own table in the space below. Please refer to **section 3.3** of the guidance for more information.

|        |          | Borough profile       | Service User profile |
|--------|----------|-----------------------|----------------------|
|        |          | <b>Total: 206,285</b> | <b>Total:</b>        |
| Gender | Female   | 51%                   | 45.0%                |
|        | Male     | 49%                   | 55.0%                |
| Age    | Under 16 | 32,825                | 0                    |
|        | 16-24    | 29,418                | 100%                 |
|        | 25-44    | 87,177                | 0                    |
|        | 45-64    | 38,669                | 0                    |

|                           |                              |                |             |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
|                           | <b>65+</b>                   | <b>18,036</b>  | <b>0</b>    |
| <b>Disability</b>         | <b>Disabled</b>              | <b>16%</b>     | <b>0</b>    |
|                           | <b>Non-disabled</b>          | <b>84%</b>     | <b>100%</b> |
| <b>Sexual orientation</b> | <b>LGBT</b>                  | <b>No data</b> | <b>1%</b>   |
|                           | <b>Heterosexual/straight</b> | <b>No data</b> | <b>99%</b>  |
| <b>Race</b>               | <b>BME</b>                   | <b>52%</b>     | <b>64%</b>  |
|                           | <b>White</b>                 | <b>48%</b>     | <b>36%</b>  |
| <b>Religion or belief</b> | <b>Christian</b>             | <b>40%</b>     | <b>36%</b>  |
|                           | <b>Muslim</b>                | <b>10%</b>     | <b>36%</b>  |
|                           | <b>Other</b>                 | <b>4.5%</b>    | <b>0</b>    |
|                           | <b>No religion</b>           | <b>30%</b>     | <b>28%</b>  |
|                           | <b>Religion not stated</b>   | <b>17%</b>     | <b>0</b>    |

### 3. Equality impacts

It is not anticipated that the changes will be discriminatory for service users with a protected characteristic. The purpose of the change is to ensure that there is continued open access to an assessment service for young people, regardless of their personal profile.

With regards to the current service in relation to service users with a protected characteristic, current monitoring data shows that people from BME communities make up 64% of service users, compared with 52% of the local population. As the rate of young people in the care system is higher within BME communities in Islington, this demonstrates that the service is supporting the aim to engage with under-represented communities.

Data on physical disability is not currently reported by the service – we intend to begin recording this systematically. Data on religion and sexual orientation reported by the service shows accessibility to the service as at 1% LGBT, with 99% identified as heterosexual.

Data gathered from the service shows 36% identify as Christian, 36% muslim, and 28% have no religion.

Compared with borough profile the accessibility of the service is higher in some protected characteristics than other. This is something we will investigate during our re-procurement exercise.

The service will be open access which means that any individual following an assessment will be supported based on their individual level of need, and will be subject to an individual assessment which service users will be supported to be involved in, including the support of an advocate where required.

Currently, people are able to access the service via both Housing Needs and Children's Social Care, depending on age and the legislative framework underpinning their referral into the scheme (e.g. if the young person is a Looked After Child and/or is being housing under the Housing Act 1996). Referrals into the scheme are ultimately managed by Housing Needs, in close partnership with Children's Social Care.

These referral routes will not change in light of this procurement, meaning that all young people accessing the Council with housing related support needs – either via Children's Social Care or Housing Needs – will be able to be supported to meet these needs.

Engagement exercises will be carried out with current service users the current service users before the final proposals are agreed. Steps have been taken to ensure the consultation process is accessible to service users, including providing an accessible version of the basic information they require to engage with the consultation..

The engagement will take place to find out what is most important to service users and how they think the service could be improved.

As it is anticipated that there will be some changes to the service when it is recommissioned, the engagement will focus on the areas where service users can meaningfully effect change. This will include the following:

- Which aspects of existing services are most used or valued
- What could improve existing services
- What should be prioritised

All service users will be given the opportunity to provide feedback, via email, survey, on a 1-1 basis or via house meeting. This exercise is expected to take place over a minimum of two months. This will allow sufficient time for service users with additional accessibility needs to access the support they require and engage with the process

It is not anticipated that the proposed changes to the service will have a negative impact on equality of opportunity for service users with protected characteristics.

The existing service is based on an assessment of an individual's needs in order that appropriate, tailored support can be offered. This will continue with the new service.

As part of the procurement of the service, there will be opportunities for service user representatives to be part of the procurement evaluation panel, and work with commissioners to evaluate the tenders and have input into the decision to award the contract. This will allow young people to have a say in the in the future delivery of services for themselves and their peers.

It is also expected that service users will be involved in the future monitoring of the service, reporting back to commissioners on areas of improvement, as well as good practice. This is a continuation of what currently happens in the monitoring of this service area.

With regards to service delivery, there will be an expectation that work will be undertaken by the service provider to engage hard to reach groups and improve levels of access.

It is not anticipated that the proposed changes to the service will have any impact on good relations between service users and the rest of the population. The existing service has been established in the borough for several years and regular performance monitoring by commissioner has not identified any negative impact on communities with protected characteristic or the wider population.

As this service area is one that works with vulnerable young people to ensure their housing related support needs are met, and supports young people into independent living, this is a service that firmly meets the Council's strategic objectives.

## 4. Safeguarding and Human Rights impacts

There are no anticipated safeguarding risks attributed to this contract. All providers are contracted to work within Islington's Safeguarding Procedures for Adults and Childrens and are required to ensure that all Staff complete both internal and LBI safeguarding training every three years which is monitored as part of contract monitoring.

There are no anticipated Human Rights Breaches as a result of this contract as the proposal is not to change the current service offered to clients

**If potential safeguarding and human rights risks are identified then please contact [equalities@islington.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@islington.gov.uk) to discuss further:**

## 5. Action

How will you respond to the impacts that you have identified in sections 3 and 4, or address any gaps in data or information?

For more information on identifying actions that will limit the negative impact of the policy for protected groups see the [guidance](#).

| Action  | Responsible person or team           | Deadline                  |
|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ensure that service users are able to take part in preliminary engagement exercises with commissioners and the provider including focus groups, surveys, 1/1 engagement and house meetings. | Wil Lewis, Jane Watson, Kate Thomson | September 2021            |
| Ensure service users are able to take part in the evaluation and on-going monitoring of this service after it has been procured.  | Wil Lewis, Jane Watson, Kate Thomson | December 2021<br>On-going |

|   |                                      |               |
|---|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Ensure the new service records statistics on service users with a disability. | Wil Lewis, Jane Watson, Kate Thomson | December 2021 |
|---|--------------------------------------|---------------|

Please send the completed RIA to [equalites@islington.gov.uk](mailto:equalites@islington.gov.uk) and also make it publicly available online along with the relevant policy or service change.

**This Resident Impact Assessment has been completed in accordance with the guidance and using appropriate evidence.**

**Staff member completing this form:**

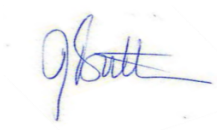
Signed:



Date:

27/04/2021

**Head of Service or higher:**



Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date:

20/07/2021