

Children and Young People's Home and Community Support Proposal January 2023

- To: Children and Young People Committee
- Meeting Date: 17 January 2023
- From: Will Patten (Service Director, Commissioning) - Children's Commissioning
- Electoral division(s): All
- Key decision: Yes
- Forward Plan ref: KD2023/035
- Outcome: Improving capacity and quality of Home and Community Support services for children and young people with disabilities by the Implementation of a Home and Community Support Dynamic Purchasing System for children and young people with disabilities and by tendering for Home & Community Support block contracts.
- Recommendation: The Committee is recommended to:
- a) Approve Cambridgeshire County Council being named in the tender process for a Home & Community Support Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS), and thereafter to make call-offs from the DPS.
 - b) Delegate authority to the Service Director for Commissioning, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Children and Young People Committee, to approve the award of the DPS on behalf of CCC.
 - c) Approve going out to tender for two £50,000 block contracts for Home & Community Support.
 - d) Delegate authority to the Service Director for Commissioning, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Children and Young People Committee, to award two £50,000 block contracts for Home & Community Support.
- Voting arrangements: Co-opted members of the committee are eligible to vote on this item.

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1. Background

1.1 Purpose

1.1.1 The purpose of this paper is to seek approval from the Cambridgeshire County Council's Children & Young People Committee to open a Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS), with parallel block contract options, for the commissioning of Home & Community Support for children & young people with disabilities and/or complex needs across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

This includes seeking approval from Committee around the procurement process; as detailed in this report. Cambridgeshire City Council will procure the Home & Community Support block contracts whilst, Peterborough City Council will run the procurement for the DPS on behalf of CCC.

Therefore, the specific requests to CYP Committee are around:

- delegated approval for Cambridgeshire County Council to be named in the tender process for a Home & Community Support DPS, and thereafter to make call-offs from the DPS.
- delegated approved for the award of the DPS on behalf of CCC to the Executive Director in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair.
- delegated approval to go out to tender for 2 £50,000 block contracts for Home & Community Support.
- delegated approval to award for 2 £50,000 block contracts for Home & Community Support.

1.1.2 The People & Communities Joint Commissioning Board (P&C JCB) have given approval for these proposals for both Cambridgeshire and Peterborough; from a financial, procurement and legal perspective; as of 30.11.22. The DPS element will be shared across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Peterborough City Council (PCC) will hold overall responsibility for the DPS as PCC commissions a greater proportion of Home & Community Support externally. However, CCC will undertake the call offs for Cambridgeshire children/young people; having individual placement agreement (IPAs) contracts in place directly with providers. The details of these arrangements will be outlined in an access agreement; agreed upon by both CCC Pathfinder Legal and PCC Legal. Once procured, the DPS will be opened periodically for new providers, as managed by Children's Commissioning; in response to the capacity of the market. Whilst a light touch approach will be taken, questions will be posed to providers when opening the DPS to ascertain their suitability, in relation to their experience of supporting children/young people; with Due Diligence undertaken following award. These due diligence processes, alongside ongoing contract monitoring, will be managed by Children's Commissioning and Children's Brokerage functions.

1.1.3 Approval is being sought from CCC's Children & Young People Committee as the proposals represent a key decision for Cambridgeshire; this is because the proposals will result in CCC incurring expenditure, in related series of transactions, in excess of £500,000. This is not new expenditure as budgets are already committed for these services; approval is being sought for the proposed changes to the commissioning arrangements for Home & Community Support.

1.2 Introduction

1.2.1 This paper outlines the proposal to:

- implement a DPS with a contract term of 5 + 5 years and an overall contract value (including extension period) of £10,000,000; £2,000,000 for Cambridgeshire specifically
- include within this DPS separate lots for Home Care & Community Support, both of which would have separate pricing schedules for 'generic' and 'complex'.
- go out to tender for 2 £50,000 Home & Community Support CCC block contracts, totalling £100,000 per annum; all of which would have a contract term of 3 + 2 years (with an overall contract value, including extension period, of £500,000).

1.2.2 The Commissioning Management Team (CMT) and the P&C JCB are in support of this request and have had oversight over the review of current arrangements which took place in early 2021 and the work undertaken thereafter; Appendix 1 provides a full chronology of this workstream.

1.2.3 Children's Home & Community Support, commissioned from the external market, forms an integral part of the provision available for children/young people with disabilities and their families; the activity and spend for the entirety of this provision is recorded within the Children with Disabilities [\(CWD\) Dashboard](#). Home & Community Support is, therefore, one of several services available to meet the needs of children/young people with disabilities.

1.2.4 This workstream, and proposal has been informed by the [Sufficiency Statement for Children & Young People with Disabilities & Complex Needs](#) and therefore, sits within the Children with Disabilities (CWD) Development Programme; the progress of which is reported to the CWD Development & Delivery Board and managed via the CWD Operations Group. Separate Project Group meetings have been set up, specific to this proposal, including Procurement and Legal representatives.

1.3 Context

1.3.1 Home Care & Community Support refers to the support provided to children/young people with disabilities and complex needs. Home Care usually relates to the provision of personal care; help with washing, dressing and toileting. Community Support refers to supporting a child/young person to access the community. This type of support is accessed by children/young people who are open to 0-25 Disability Social Care; these children/young people are considered 'Children in Need' (CIN) under the Children Act 1989. Home & Community Support is therefore a statutory service and a key part of the provision offered to children & young people with disabilities and complex needs, and their families.

1.4 Current Arrangements

1.4.1 Home & Community Support is currently procured through an All Age Home & Community Support DPS; this is used to procure support for both children/young people and adults. This DPS started in 2017, with a contract term of 10 years (October 2017-October 2027).

1.4.2 The initial intention behind the All Age Home & Community Support DPS was to enable cross functional packages of care, particularly for remote areas where providers could support a range of service users; including adults, children/young people and those with learning disabilities/mental health needs. This has not been realised due to several factors;

including the limited shared market, the organisation of the commissioning functions and the need to differentiate the skill set between Home Care and Community Support.

- 1.4.3 Within Cambridgeshire, Home & Community Support is provided both internally (in house) by the Community Support Service. The budget for CSS and for externally commissioned Home & Community Support sit within 0-25 Disability Social Care.
- 1.4.4 This paper is focused on CCC's external commissioning arrangements; these have been informed by the strategic direction of internal provision, in terms of investing in internal provision whilst increasing the capacity of the external market. Investment into both external and internal Home & Community Support provision is required to meet increasing demand and increasing complexity; balancing internal and external provision prevents reliance on a single market and helps to avoid risks around monopolisation, alongside promoting choice for families. In terms of respective advantages, internal provision can afford more flexibility, responsiveness and consistency of quality alongside interplay with other internal provision, including the Residential Support Services and Link Care. External provision can provide choice, different specialisms, support through transition into adulthood; alongside alleviating pressure on internal services to meet increasing demand.
- 1.4.5 Within Cambridgeshire, the in-house service CSS, accounted for 64% of spend in 2021-22. Table 1 outlines the comparison of internal and external provision in more detail; further illustrating the emphasis on internal provision within Cambridgeshire.

Table 1 – Internal & External Home & Community Support Spend/Activity 2021-22		
		Cambridgeshire
Internal	Spend	£406,130
	No. Children & Young People	110 CYP
	Hours Delivered	16,245 hours
External	Spend	£229,844
	No. Children & Young People	53 CYP
	Hours Delivered	9,190 hours

1.5 Activity Levels

- 1.5.1 Table 2 below gives an overview of externally commissioned activity levels for Home & Community Support; in terms of the number of children/young people supported and hours delivered, alongside spend.

Table 2 – Overview of Home & Community Support Activity Levels 2021-22 (Cambridgeshire)			
Quarter	CYP supported	Hours delivered	Spend
Quarter 1	53	3,510	£87,669.53
Quarter 2	50	2,546	£63,659.94
Quarter 3	52	1,912	£47,938.95

Quarter 4	49	1,222	£30,575.94
Average per Quarter	51	2,297.5	£57,461.09
Total	53*	9,190	£229,844.36
*53 individual children/young people were supported in CCC across the year. The individual quarterly figures include some of the same children/young people.			

1.5.2 Table 3 gives an overview of the activity levels for the first two quarters of the current financial year (2022-23) with forecasts for the financial year spend. Due to the limited capacity rather than decreasing demand, the number of hours delivered significantly reduced across 2021-22; this has continued into 2022-23. These forecasting figures have informed the block contract proposal; to introduce 2 £50,000 block contracts for Cambridgeshire.

Table 3 – Overview of Home & Community Support Activity Levels 2022-23 (Cambridgeshire)			
Quarter	CYP supported	Hours delivered	Spend
Quarter 1	44	1,510	£38,484.59
Quarter 2	36	1,431	£36,352.46
2022-23 forecast			£149,674.10*
*CCC forecast is based on the average of Q1 and Q2 being the spend for Q3 and Q4.			

2. Main Issues

The key issues which have informed this strategic direction and current proposal are outlined in Table 4, below.

Table 4 – Key Issues
The current Home & Community Support DPS is not meeting the Home Care needs of children & young people within Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.
This is reflected by only having 30 providers contracted to work with children/young people on the current Home & Community Support DPS, of 140 overall providers. Of those 30, only 9 providers are actively supporting children/young people.
This is also evidenced by the number of children & young people waiting for a package of support to commence, due to challenges sourcing providers with capacity. Currently there are 18 children/young people on the waiting list within Cambridgeshire (as of November 2022).
There is increasing demand for Home & Community Support in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.
For Cambridgeshire, the increasing demand is being disguised by the limited capacity within the market. In Q3-Q4 2020-21 12,663 hours were delivered, compared to 10,559 in Q3-Q4 2021-22. However, as mentioned above, there are 18 children/young people waiting for a package of

support (as of November 2022); this equates to 11,047 hours of support per annum, or 2,761 hours per quarter on average.
An increase in complexity of presenting need.
In Cambridgeshire, for children/young people receiving support from external providers, the average package size has increased.
There remains reliance on expensive external providers with inflated rates and higher costs due to limited/under-utilised capacity within the market.
In 2021-22 a single provider in Cambridgeshire delivered 24 of 53 packages, equating to 39% of activity. This provider's hourly rate was £25.17, compared with the average hourly rate for other external providers in Cambridgeshire being £23.77.
Adults Commissioning are looking to introduce the Zoning Model for Adult Home Care.
There is limited evidence to demonstrate that implementing the Zoning Model would be successful for children & young people Cambridgeshire. This has been reflected by findings from other local authorities; Hertfordshire County Council, Kent County Council & Northamptonshire County Council have faced challenges implementing a zoning/lead provider model for children/young peoples' Home & Community Support (as detailed within Appendix 2).
The focus of the Home & Community Support DPS remains primarily on the provision of Home Care to adults and therefore the skillset/experience this entails.
The current DPS does not reflect the differentiation in skill set, knowledge and experience when providing Home Care to children & young people with disabilities. Other local authorities, including Bedford Borough Council, Plymouth City Council, Milton Keynes Council, have found similar challenges; also choosing to have separate arrangements for children/young people and adults (as detailed within Appendix 2).
The Home & Community Support DPS does not differentiate between Personal Care and Community Support.
Market engagement undertaken (Appendix 3) suggests the market for each of these service areas is different.
Adults Commissioning are also pursuing separate arrangements for Peterborough and Cambridgeshire.
This is not the strategic direction for Home & Community Support for children & young people and would not afford Children's Commissioning with the required buying power.

2.1 Risks

- 2.1.1 The risks inherent within this proposal include the following; mitigations for these have been considered:
- Decreasing buying power by introducing arrangements separate from those for adult home care

- 2.1.2 However, despite current shared DPS arrangements, very few providers support both cohorts of service users:
- Exacerbating transitions for young people moving into adulthood; this was noted as a risk by CMT.
- 2.1.3 This could be mitigated by extending the age range up the new Home & Community DPS up to 25. This activity would need to be scoped within the function of a future Transitions Broker; this post would focus on brokerage of support to aid transition for young people into adulthood.
- Decreasing the sharing of providers across the children/young people and adult markets
- 2.1.4 Effective communication with the markets, and continued communication between adults/children's commissioning and adults/children's brokerage will help to encourage the sharing of interested providers.
- Procurement of a new brokerage platform
- 2.1.5 Steps are being taken to ensure that the new brokerage platform will have the ability work across different DPSs whilst taking into consideration the requirements of brokering support specifically for children & young people.
- Creating a perception of specialism within the children/young people's market; Home & Community Support tends to be paid at a higher hourly rate than Adult Home Care.
- 2.1.6 The proposals have been made with the intention of introducing competition within the market. Differentiating between Home Care and Community Support, and generic/specialist should also help to manage the perception of support for children/young people being more specialist than that of adult care and support. This perception has decreased more recently as hourly rates within the adults market have increased and hourly rates within the children/young people's market have remained fairly static. The current ceiling rate, for adults, is £20.16 in Cambridgeshire and £17.54 in Peterborough; more comparable to the average generic hourly rate of £19.08 and average complex rate £24.18 for children/young people.
- 2.1.7 The wider risks within the Home & Community market have been outlined further within Appendix 4.

2.2 Opportunities

2.2.1 The key opportunities that inform these proposals include:

- + Developing strategic relationships and partnerships that drive market improvement and responsiveness.
- + Ensuring sufficiency by increasing the number and breadth of providers.
- + Increasing buying power within the market with a shared Cambridgeshire & Peterborough DPS; a market demonstrably separate from the Adult Home Care market.
- + Introducing children/young people specific commissioning arrangements that more accurately reflect need and demand.
- + Creating more opportunities for competition by introducing a children/young person's specific DPS and parallel competitive tender for block contracts.

- + Differentiating between Home Care/Support and Community Support; reflecting the differences within the market.
- + Enabling closer liaison between providers and Children's Commissioning/Brokerage; thereby fostering strategic relationships and increasing flexibility/proactivity.
- + The opportunity for the DPS to be reflective of the separate brokerage teams; the brokering of Home & Community Support for children/young people is managed by the Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Access to Resources Team (SEND ART) who focus solely on children & young people.
- + Extending the age range of the DPS up to 25 to ensure young people can remain with the same providers into adulthood.
- + The utilisation of corporately owned properties, to use as a base for Home & Community Support providers. This is beneficial for children/young people in terms of broadening the range of activity and socialisation opportunities; it also reduces the activity costs of support and can reduce the need for 2:1 staffing ratios. Formalising the use of PCC's property, Derby House, and sourcing a CCC owned property is being supported and governed by the CWD Development & Delivery Board.

2.2.2 These opportunities, and overall proposal, has been informed by ongoing market engagement since the initial review of Home & Community Support arrangements in Jan-March 2021. This market engagement has illustrated that:

- There are providers in the market intent on increasing Home & Community Support capacity for children/young people in Peterborough & Cambridgeshire, as part of their strategic direction.
- Providers would be interested in a children/young people specific DPS.
- All active providers are interested in moving to a new Home & Community Support DPS to continue supporting children/young people in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.
- Existing providers would consider bidding for a block contract; particularly those wishing to develop specifically in the children/young people market.
- Block contracts may reduce hourly rates/help to stabilise.
- Providers new to Peterborough & Cambridgeshire would require a block contract, with guaranteed spend, to set up an infrastructure.

2.2.3 A full overview of the recent Soft Market Testing exercise, that formed part of the overall market engagement can be found in Appendix 3.

3. Alignment with corporate priorities

3.1 Environment and Sustainability

3.1.1 There are no significant implications for this priority; the limited environment and climate change implications within Cambridgeshire have been outlined within 4.8' Environment and Climate Change Implications on Priority Areas'.

3.2 Health and Care

3.2.1 With regard to CCC's Health and Care corporate priority, introducing a Home & Community Support DPS for children & young people, alongside parallel block contract options, will have the following implications:

- increasing the number of providers, thereby increasing the opportunities for care and support to be delivered at a neighbourhood level.

- complimenting the strategic development of CCC's in-house Home & Community Service, Cambridgeshire Community Support Service (CSS), thereby reflecting the concept of 'Care Together'.
- increasing the opportunities for Children's Commissioning within CCC to work with Integrated Care System partners to ensure that commissioning arrangements are reflective of children/young people's holistic needs.
- Improving quality assurance through contract monitoring and management arrangements; reflecting the quality and dignity of care work.
- Ensuring ceiling rates are reflective of the UK Home Care association recommendations is reflective of care services being regarded as a profession.
- Supporting children & young people with disabilities to work towards their outcomes.

3.3 Places and Communities

3.3.1 With regard to CCC's Places and Communities corporate priority, introducing a Home & Community Support DPS for children & young people, alongside parallel block contract options, will have the following implications:

- Ensuring the provision of Home & Community support for children & young people with disabilities is inclusive and reflective of their needs.
- Ensuring the delivery of Home & Community support for children & young people with disabilities is practical, localised and evidence-led.

3.4 Children and Young People

3.4.1 With regard to CCC's children and young people corporate priority, introducing a Home & Community Support DPS for children & young people, alongside parallel block contract options, will have the following implications:

- Improving the consistent and quality of the provision; thereby supporting children & young people with disabilities to thrive.
- increasing the opportunities for Children's Commissioning within CCC to work with Integrated Care System partners to ensure that commissioning arrangements are reflective of children/young people's holistic needs.
- Supporting children & young people with disabilities to achieve the best possible outcomes and, by extending the remit of the DPS to age 25, ensure a consistency of support through transition to adulthood.

3.5 Transport

3.5.1 There are no significant implications for this priority.

3.6 Social Value

3.6.1 By aligning this proposal with the corporate priorities, Social Value will be embedded into the procurement and delivery of the service. The service will support children & young people with disabilities to thrive, therefore improving their wellbeing. For the Home & Community Support DPS, Social Value will be reflected within the specifications and contract monitoring functions. Social Value will also be captured within the method statement questions and evaluation criteria for the Home & Community Support block contracts.

4. Significant Implications

4.1 Resource Implications

4.1.1 The budgets for children/young people's Home & Community Support within Cambridgeshire are held operationally within 0-25 Disability Social Care. The overall DPS

value has been set at £10,000,000 to account for the following; £2,000,000 of which is specific to Cambridgeshire over the 5+5 year contract term.

		Peterborough	Cambridgeshire
Home & Community Support Forecasted Spend	Per annum	£350,000	£200,000
	Per contract term	£3,500,000	£2,000,000
HLFS Forecasted Spend	Per annum	£175,000	
	Per contract term	£1,750,000	
Total over contract term (10 years; 5 + 5 years)*		£7,500,000	£2,500,000
*Including uplift of approximately 30% to account for inflationary and demographic uplifts with contract term			

- 4.1.2 Introducing a Home & Community Support DPS for children and young people and going out to tender for 2 £50,000 block contracts does not represent a resource implication as outlined spend is broadly in line with existing spend. However, financial modelling will need to be undertaken throughout the contract term of the DPS and the block contract to ensure budgets reflect both inflationary and demographic uplifts.
- 4.1.3 The only aspect of this proposal that has a specific financial implication, likely towards the latter end of the 2022-23 financial year and thereafter, are the recommendations around ceiling rates within the Home & Community Support DPS.
- 4.1.4 These recommendations relate to the UK Home Care Association's recommendations around implementing an hourly rate of £23.30 (from April 2022) to reflect the increased cost of delivering care (increased by 8.7%, or £1.87, since April 2021). Therefore, introducing a ceiling rate of £23.30 would ensure providers are able to pay staff the increased National Living Wage and reflect these increased costs of delivering care. It would thereby also support the overall sustainability of the market whilst incentivising providers. This reflects an increase to the current hourly rates for the Home & Community Support providers on the existing DPS, outlined in Table 5.

Provider	Generic Rate	Complex Rate
Provider 1	£20.16	£25.87
Provider 2	£18.51	£22.00
Provider 3	£17.71	£20.97
Provider 4	£20.16	£24.72
Provider 5	£18.71	£25.70

Provider 6	£19.27	£25.80
Average	£19.08	£24.18

4.1.5 There are no implications for property assets, Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) or data ownership. There are unlikely to be TUPE implications; this will be confirmed with Procurement and outlined in the Invitation to Tender documentation.

4.1.6 Overall, making these changes to the commissioning arrangements for Home & Community Support for children and young people would reflect best practice as these proposals seek to increase capacity within the external market, promote sustainability of the external market and improve quality assurance mechanisms.

4.2 Procurement/Contractual/Council Contract Procedure Rules Implications

4.2.1 The proposals around introducing a DPS for the procuring of Home & Community Support for children & young people in Cambridgeshire alongside introducing block contracts would evidence compliance with CCC's Contract Procedure Rules. These proposals have been approved by the P&C JCB and this paper has been shared with the Head of Procurement.

4.2.2 Project Group meetings have also been set up, specific to this proposal, including Procurement and Legal representatives. These Project Group meetings, chaired by Children's Commissioning oversee a Risk Log; including any procurement or contractual risks associated with the proposed contract, and associated mitigations.

4.2.3 Appendix 5 outlines the Procurement & Contract Rationale behind these proposals.

4.3 Statutory, Legal and Risk Implications

4.3.1 Home & Community Support is accessed by children/young people who are open to 0-25 Disability Social Care; these children/young people are considered 'Children in Need' (CIN) under the Children Act 1989. Home & Community Support is therefore a statutory service and a key part of the provision offered to children & young people with disabilities and complex needs, and their families. These proposals therefore originate as a result of statute. There are no legal, reputational, community safety, health & safety or human rights implications as a result of these proposals.

4.4 Equality and Diversity Implications

4.4.1 The proposals within this paper are consistent with the Public Sector Equality Duty within the Equality Act 2010. The full Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) can be seen in Appendix 6.

4.5 Engagement and Communications Implications

4.5.1 Preliminary consultation has been undertaken with both parent carers and professionals. To inform this proposal, a Home & Community Support questionnaire for parent carers was distributed across numerous channels. Cambridgeshire's Parent Carer Forums, Pinpoint, are engaged to support with further consultation. The Youth Engagement Teams will also support consultation with children/young people directly.

4.5.2 Parent Carer Consultation

4.5.3 The results from the parent carer questionnaire are summarised below. Appendix 7 provides a more comprehensive overview of the responses received; this feedback will be incorporated into future specifications.

- Parent carers believe that support/care workers require a different skill set for community support rather than home care (due to different training needs and tailoring support to each child/young person).
- Parent carers feel that that the complexity of care and support provided should be reflected within hourly rates (complex needs were described as multiple disabilities/range of needs where specialised training is required).

4.5.4 0-25 Disability Social Care Consultation

4.5.5 As part of this consultation, a Home & Community Support questionnaire was distributed to 0-25 Disability Social Care and drop-in sessions were arranged. Key points from the questionnaire are summarised below.

- Community Support does require a different skill set than providing Personal Care.
- The Local Authority does not need to differentiate hourly rates for Home Care and Community Support.
- The Local Authority should have different hourly rates that reflect the complexity of the care & support e.g. a generic and complex rate.
- There are particular presenting needs which providers can find more difficult to manage; these include challenging behaviour, absconding and managing sensory needs.

4.5.6 These statements were included within the drop-in sessions; other key themes from these drop-in sessions included challenges with capacity (including providers picking up smaller packages) and having a mixture of internal and externally provided services. Appendix 8 provides an overview of the questionnaire responses and key themes from the drop-in sessions.

4.5.7 The results from both the parent carer and professionals' consultation so far re-emphasise the differentiation between Home & Community Support; indicating that any new DPS would include different specifications for Home Care/Support and Community Support. Parent carers have also indicated that there should be differentiation between levels of support and requisite skill set and experience; reflected by having generic and complex hourly rates.

4.6 Localism and Local Member Involvement

4.6.1 Home & Community Support is accessed by children/young people who are open to 0-25 Disability Social Care; these children/young people are considered 'Children in Need' (CIN) under the Children Act 1989. Home & Community Support is therefore a statutory service and these proposals relate to this cohort of children & young people across Cambridgeshire as a whole. There are therefore limited implications for specific local communities.

4.7 Public Health Implications

- 4.7.1 In looking to improve the commissioning arrangements for Home & Community Support for children & young people with disabilities (considered 'Children in Need'), these proposals will have a positive impact on this cohort of Cambridgeshire residents.
- 4.7.2 Whilst there is not a Published Joint Strategic Needs Assessment specific to children & young people with disabilities or 'Children in Need', the Cambridgeshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) Physical and Learning Disability through the Life Course 2012-13 notes that the "The number of children with disabilities is predicted to increase". There is also a reference to "Parents of children with disabilities in Cambridgeshire reporting a need for... skilled, knowledgeable and sensitive workers".
- 4.7.3 The proposal within this paper to build in flexibility within the Home & Community DPS to support those up to 25 years of age is in direct response to the key themes around transitions. The Cambridgeshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) Physical and Learning Disability through the Life Course 2012-13 Cites that the "transition between children's and adult social care and health services is regularly cited as one of the most difficult experiences for young people and their families". This has been reflected in the development of the SEND Strategy and the All-Age Autism Strategy, alongside other parent carer consultations.
- 4.7.4 Alongside the JSNAs, the proposals within this paper are informed by the [Sufficiency Statement for Children & Young People with Disabilities & Complex Needs](#).
- 4.7.5 Providers who wish to join the Home & Community Support DPS or bid for a Home & Community Support block contract will share with Children's Commissioning their Business Continuity Plans; including outlining how public health preventative measures for COVID-19 would be adhered to.

4.8 Environment and Climate Change Implications on Priority Areas

Introducing a Home & Community DPS specifically for children and young people, alongside introducing block contracts, will not have significant environment or climate change implications as the way in which the service will be delivered will remain the same. However, expectations in terms of limiting environment and carbon impact will be included within contractual documentation and within monitoring arrangements for the life of the contracts.

During the tender process, we will include a specific method statement question around a provider's considerations to environmental and climate change implications.

4.8.1 Implication 1: Energy efficient, low carbon buildings.

Status: Neutral

Explanation: As support will be delivered either in the homes of the children/young people, or out in the community, there will be no impact on this implication.

4.8.2 Implication 2: Low carbon transport.

Status: Positive

Explanation: As this proposal is for a change in commissioning arrangements, rather than a change in delivery, the impact on low carbon transport will remain the same. We will continue to promote and recommend the allocation of staff within a local geographical area, therefore reducing the need to travel distances. This will also be supported by an increase

in providers able to work with children/young people as local staff will be more likely. As there is also a focus on supporting young people in preparing for adulthood and independence, we will promote the use of public transport where this aligns with their care & support plan, e.g. to support with Travel Training.

4.8.3 Implication 3: Green spaces, peatland, afforestation, habitats and land management.

Status: Neutral

Explanation: There will be no impact on this implication as a result of this proposal.

4.8.4 Implication 4: Waste Management and Tackling Plastic Pollution.

Status: Neutral

Explanation: Providers will be encouraged to recycle where possible, e.g. if they are doing arts & craft activities with the children/young person, they will ensure to appropriately recycle any materials used.

4.8.5 Implication 5: Water use, availability and management:

Status: Neutral

Explanation: There will be no impact on this implication as a result of this proposal.

4.8.6 Implication 6: Air Pollution.

Status: Neutral

Explanation: As this proposal is for a change in commissioning arrangements, rather than a change in delivery, the impact on air pollution will remain the same. We will continue to promote and recommend the allocation of staff within a local geographical area, therefore reducing the need to travel distances. This will also be supported by an increase in providers able to work with children/young people as local staff will be more likely. As there is also a focus on supporting young people in preparing for adulthood and independence, we will promote the use of public transport where this aligns with their care & support plan, e.g. to support with Travel Training.

4.8.7 Implication 7: Resilience of our services and infrastructure, and supporting vulnerable people to cope with climate change.

Status: Neutral

Explanation: There will be no impact on this implication as a result of this proposal.

Approvals	
Have the resource implications been cleared by Finance?	Yes Name of Financial Officer: Clare Andrews
Have the procurement/contractual/ Council Contract Procedure Rules implications been cleared by the Head of Procurement?	Yes Name of Officer: Clare Ellis
Has the impact on statutory, legal and risk implications been cleared by the Council's Monitoring Officer or Pathfinder Legal?	Yes Name of Legal Officer: Linda Walker

Have the equality and diversity implications been cleared by your EqIA Super User?	Yes - CCC473153379 Name of Officer: Signed off by Helene Carr, Head of Service for Children's Commissioning
Have any engagement and communication implications been cleared by Communications?	Yes Name of Officer: Karen Newton
Have any localism and Local Member involvement issues been cleared by your Service Contact?	N/A
Have any Public Health implications been cleared by Public Health?	Yes Name of Officer: Helen Freeman
If a Key decision, have any Environment and Climate Change implications been cleared by the Climate Change Officer?	Yes Name of Officer: Emily Bolton

5. Source Documents

5.1 [Cambridgeshire County Council Strategic Framework 2022-23](#)

5.2 [Cambridgeshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\) Physical and Learning Disability through the Life Course 2012-13](#)

5.3 [Sufficiency Statement for Children & Young People with Disabilities & Complex Needs,](#)

6. Accessibility

6.1 An accessible version of the information contained in this report and appendices is available on request from zoe.redfern-nichols@peterborough.gov.uk