



Haringey Council

Agenda item:

[No.]

Cabinet

On 26th April 2011

Report Title: Proposal for the redesign of the Supporting People programme and contributions to the Council's savings plan

Report of: **Mun Thong Phung, Director of Adult, Culture and Community Services**

Signed:

Contact Officer: Margaret Allen, Assistant Director Safeguarding & Strategic Services

Wards(s) affected: **ALL**

Report for: **Key decision**

**1. Purpose of the report**

- 1.1. This report is supplemental to the original report to Cabinet of 26 April 2011, Agenda item 11, and where there is any difference this supplemental report supersedes the content of the original report.
- 1.2. The purpose of the original report and this supplemental report is to confirm the reduction in budget commitment of the Supporting People programme by £5m in the financial year 2011/12 following appropriate consideration of the results of consultation and having had due regard to the Council's equality duties.

**2. Introduction by Cabinet Member**

- 2.1. On 22 March 2011 the cabinet agreed in principle to confirm the reduction in budget commitment of the Supporting People programme by £5m, subject to consultation and Equalities Impact Assessments. Cabinet further approved the redesign of the programme in line with the current and future needs of the Borough.
- 2.2. Consultation with users and providers has been carried out and a report is

attached to this report at Appendix 1. A summary can be found also at Appendix 1. Equality Impact Assessments (EQIAs) have been carried out on the sectors in the programme and are attached at Appendix 2, together with a summary.

- 2.3. Following consideration of the consultation responses, and having regard to the Council's equality duties under the Equality Act 2010 it is recommended that the Supporting People Programme is reduced in budget by £5m in the financial year 2011/12.
- 2.4. In order to make informed and equitable decisions regarding proposed reductions criteria were developed to assist in making decisions on future funding of organisations under the Supporting People Programme. The criteria put greater emphasis on the need for accommodation based services over floating support services. Various comments were received in consultation on the criteria and a summary can be found under the heading "Comments on the Criteria Used" of the consultation report attached at Appendix 1.
- 2.5. Although some expressed concerns at the approach taken in favouring accommodation based services, many understood the need to make savings in the current financial climate and to protect the Borough's general provision of accommodation based services in preference to its floating support services.

**3. State link(s) with Council Plan Priorities and actions and /or other Strategies:**

**3.1. ACCS Council Plan Priorities are:**

- Encouraging lifetime well-being at home, work, play and learning;
- Promoting Independent living while supporting adults and children in need; and
- Delivering excellent customer focused cost effective services.

**4. Recommendations**

4.1. It is recommended that the Supporting People programme is reduced in budget commitment by £5m in the financial year 2011/12.

4.2. It is recommended that the final decisions are delegated to the cabinet member for Adult, Culture and Community Services to be taken in May 2011.

**5. Reason for recommendation(s)**

5.1. See original report and attached appendices.

5.2. The specific proposals for the funding of individual services are to be the subject of a separate key decision report to the cabinet member for Adult, Culture and Community Services. This report will set out a detailed breakdown of the reduction in budget of £5m to the Supporting People Programme. This final decision will be taken in May 2011. This final decision will also include a decision on the criteria that has been out for consultation referred to in paragraphs 2.4 and 2.5 of this report.

**6. Other options considered**

6.1. Officers have considered all options but due to budgetary constraints on the Council it is necessary to find this level of savings within the Supporting People budget. This necessitates the redesign of the service to meet these budgetary demands.

**7. Summary**

7.1 See original report and attached appendices

**8. Chief Financial Officer Comments**

8.1. See original report and attached appendices

## 9. Head of Legal Services Comments

- 9.1. The decisions by Members concerning the recommendations set out in the report must be informed by and take into account the outcome of the consultation with service users and providers, which is set out in Appendix 1 to this report.
- 9.2. In reaching their decisions Member must also have due regard to the authority's public sector equality duty and thus should take into account the attached equality impact assessment included at Appendix 2 to the report. The extent of the duty on the authority is set out in Appendix 3 to this report
- 9.3. Final decisions will need to be made as appropriate by the relevant Cabinet Member or Cabinet. The budget report that went to Cabinet on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2011 approved **in principle** savings set out in the relevant Appendix to the report and agreed to delegate final decisions on the savings to be adopted to Directorates and where appropriate to the relevant Cabinet members within their portfolio responsibilities, following appropriate consideration of the results of any consultation and having had due regard to the Council's equality duties. In particular Equality Impact Assessments will be considered individually and where appropriately collectively before any final decisions are made.

## 10. Head of Procurement Comments – [Required for Procurement Committee]

- 10.1. N/A.

## 11. Equalities & Community Cohesion Comments

- 11.1 EqlA's have been completed for each of the client groups SP supports.
- 11.2 To help inform the EqlA's and assist in decision making a wide-ranging consultation exercise was undertaken. (Appendix 1)
- 11.3 As a result of the EqlA's some changes have been made to where some of the budget reductions may be implemented.
- 11.4 It is recognised in the EqlA's that reducing floating support services over accommodation based ones is likely to have a greater impact on the service users involved. In the EqlA's where possible mitigating actions have been identified.
- 11.5 By reducing the budget for floating support services, it is recognised that it is often easier for providers to implement these cuts than for accommodation based services.

11.5 In addition, as £3.1m of the £5m intended cuts will be made through efficiency savings that will offer better value for money, the overall impact is lessened.

**12. Consultation**

12.1 Consultation with users and providers has been carried out. A report with consultation details, the responses and a summary are attached at Appendix 1.

**13. Service Financial Comments  
Efficiencies**

Of the proposed £5m cuts, £3.1m will be achieved through efficiencies, without impacting on service provision, and is inline with the Root and Branch review of the Supporting People programme which is due to be completed by March/April 2011.

**14. Use of appendices /Tables and photographs**

- 14.1. Appendix 1: Consultation Report and summary
- 14.2. Appendix 2: Equality Impact Assessments and summary
- 14.3. Appendix 3: The public sector single equality duty

**15. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

15.1. N/A.