

Business Planning / MTFs Options 2019/20 – 2023/24

Ref: PC4

Title of Option:	Safeguarding and Social Care and Early intervention preventing demand		
Priority:	People	Responsible Officer:	Director of Children's Services
Affected Service(s):	Children in Need of Support and Protection and Children in Care, Looked After Children, Early Help	Contact / Lead:	

Description of Option:
<p>Total savings for this proposal are £290,000.</p> <p>Haringey has 71 children per 10,000 (2017/18) who are looked after compared to 65.7 for statistical neighbours and 58 for inner London. This proposal aims to provide a programme of support for children at risk of entering into care and prevent young adolescents at risk from a range of issues such as crime, gangs and violence, sexual exploitation, exclusion and unemployment from achieving poor outcomes. These actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Developing an effective edge of care service which means children and families will be safely supported to avoid entering care. This will include reviewing our family reunification approach where children in care and those are admitted into care under a section 20 arrangement and are then supported to safely return home. Full year savings will be £150,000. b) Developing a vulnerable adolescents service which will identify vulnerable young adolescents and ensure they receive the right help at the right time to prevent poor outcomes for them and ensure they do not need more expensive social care services. Full year savings will be £140,000.

1. Financial benefits summary

2018/19 Service Budget (£000s)					
Savings	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
<i>All savings shown on an incremental basis</i>	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
New net additional savings	290,000	0			

Impact / non-financial benefits and disbenefits
What is the likely impact on customers and how will negative impacts be mitigated or managed?
<p>The range, nature and causes of adolescent risk differ than those faced by younger children and there is increasing recognition that the system developed to protect children from harm is not well placed to meet the needs of adolescents. Young people who enter care at an older age tend to experience a number of placement moves; have poorer outcomes relating to education; are more likely to struggle when leaving care and are disproportionately more likely to go missing and be vulnerable to exploitation.</p> <p>The poor outcomes for young people who enter care and the need to reduce pressures on the placements budget provides a clear rationale for investing in the right interventions and approaches to prevent young people from entering care, whenever it is safe to do so.</p>
What is the impact on businesses, members, staff, partners and other stakeholders and how will this be mitigated or managed? How has this been discussed / agreed with other parties affected?
<p>These models are evidencing varying levels of savings to the Council as well as more widely to the health and police.</p>
How does this option ensure the Council is able to meet statutory requirements?
<p>The Council will continue to meet its statutory duties to protect children and young people from harm. The new approach will support young people where there is high degree of family conflict, experience of early trauma such as historic/current domestic abuse, parental substance misuse, parental mental health issues and young people have multiple vulnerabilities such as being excluded, at risk of offending, criminal and sexual exploitation, going missing and NEET.</p>

Risks and Mitigation			
<i>What are the main risks associated with this option and how could they be mitigated?</i>			
Risk	Impact (H/M/L)	Probability (H/M/L)	Mitigation
Suitability of referrals to the services	M	M	Close working across various teams will be required to ensure that the right young people are referred to the service and that thresholds for the service are clear and clearly implemented
Adolescents or parents refuse to engage in the offer	H	M	Ensure staff have the skills to work effectively with parents and adolescents
Failure to meet the minimum threshold	M	M	These savings are based on a modest number of young people meeting the thresholds for service and work will begin in advance of the service launching to identify those that are suitable