



Cumbria County Council

**NW Leaving Care Dynamic
Purchasing Framework**

**Provider Engagement Session
22 May 2017**

Welcome and Introduction

- **Introductions**
- **Housekeeping**
- **Purpose:** Provider engagement session to:
 - Inform Leaving Care Providers how Cumbria plans to make placements using the North West Leaving Care DPS Framework;
 - Develop Provider relationships.

Agenda

	Topic	Content	Lead person	Presentation
09:45 – 10:00	Arrival & Refreshments			
10:00 – 10:10	Introduction	Housekeeping, Introductions, & remit of the Forum	Stephanie Armstrong	N/A
10:10 - 10:40	Children Looked After & Care Leavers Sufficiency Information	Key information about the demand and supply in relation to placements for Cumbrian children looked after and accommodation for Care Leavers	Liz Curtis, Senior Manager	Yes
10:40 – 11:10	Making Placements using the NW DPS	Cumbria's referral process, how placements will be made through mini-competitions, and monitoring information	Sarah Page, Commissioning Officer	Yes
11:10 – 11:30	Questions	Opportunity for Providers to ask questions about the leaving care process	All	N/A
11:30 – 11:40	Feedback Forms	Opportunity for Providers to complete feedback forms for Cumbria County Council	All	N/A
11:40 – 11.45	Close	Summary	Stephanie Armstrong	N/A
11:45 – 12:30	Networking Opportunity for Providers and Cumbria County Council Staff			

Children Looked After and Care Leavers: Sufficiency

Cumbria Children Looked After and Care Leavers: Overview

Children Looked After:

- From March 2010 to 2015 there was an increase in the number of children looked after to 681.
- This has since reduced to 635 (Mar '17)

Care Leavers

- The number of 16-18 year olds leaving care has risen over the last 5 years.
- In March 2017 there were 296 care leavers: Eligible (70); Relevant (8); Former Relevant (197); Qualifying (21)

Children Looked After and Care Leavers: The Future

The Future?

- Trend-based projections - numbers will continue to rise
- Services in place to counteract: Early Help / Edge of Care / Adoption Support

Potential Impacts on Numbers:

- Unaccompanied asylum seeking children / young people
- Universal Credit / Housing Benefit changes & care leaver exemptions in line with Social Work Bill

Children Looked After and Care Leavers: Profile at 31 March 2017

- **Gender (CLA):** 43% female, 57% male.
- **Age:** -1yr (6%); 1-4yrs (13%); 5-9yrs (26%); 10-15yrs (43%); 16+yrs (12%).
- **Location:** higher demand in the West & South districts and lower in the East.
- Rising number of 10-15 year olds in care (274)
- Higher number of 16-17 year olds in the South (35) compared to 20 in the North and 20 the East.
- **Complex needs:** rising

16-17 year old Placements

16-17 year olds placements / accommodation over the 2017 financial year:

- **Foster Care:** Local Authority (38); IFAs (19)
- **Residential Homes & Schools:** Local Authority (12); Private (33)
- **Leaving Care:**
 - Local Authority Homestays Supported Lodgings (11)
 - Purchased Leaving Care Provider Placements (19)

15-18 year old Children Looked After: Placement Location

District	CLA Numbers placed outside Cumbria	Care leavers placed outside Cumbria
Carlisle and Eden	47	10
Barrow and South Lakeland	70	25
Allerdale and Copeland	62	10

Therefore 456 CLA and 251 care leavers are living in Cumbria.
(Based on March 2017 numbers)

Who do we place in Purchased Leaving Care Provision?

Care Leavers aged 16-17 years-old who:

- require an alternative to residential and foster care.
- require specific support and accommodation to help them make a successful transition to adulthood.
- young people coming out of custody.
- where it has been identified as part of a care plan

What do we want from providers?

- To share our ethos for care leavers – Cared for, cared about and able to care for themselves
- Good quality housing and good locations to enable young people to be part of community. Skilled staff to assist young people to engage in this
- Sustainable tenancies post 18 or affordable tenancies in the vicinity to enable limited disruption. Focus on effective transition
- Modelling and assistance for gaining independence skills
- An active role in the pathway plan
- Work with us at the earliest stage where problems and concerns arise. Commitment and courage even when complex
- Good and regular communication
- Share our aspirations for our young people to achieve

Future Placement Plans: 16-17 year olds

- **Market Development:** to build upon our mix of placement provision and respond to emerging placement needs.
- **Homestays:** to further develop Cumbria's Homestays Supported Lodgings scheme.
- **Location:** to continue where appropriate to place children in or as close to Cumbria as possible.
- **Accommodation & Support:** to ensure all 16-17 year olds are living in accommodation that best meets their needs and are supported to develop skills needed to successfully leave care.
- **Other Local Authorities:** to work with other LAs where Cumbrian children have been placed, to consider accommodation and support options.

Leaving Care Providers: Market Development Plans

- To use the NW Leaving Care DPS Framework to place young people in the best quality / match and best value placements.
- To enhance knowledge of the Provider market.
- To build upon current relationships and establish new relationships with a wide variety of providers.
- To use leaving care placements to meet demand for young people with specific needs.
- To consider where leaving care placements would be more beneficial for YP currently placed in other settings.

Questions and Answers

Sufficiency Statement is available on the Cumbria County Council Website:

<http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/childrenservices/childrenandfamilies/childrenlookedafter.asp>

Placements North West
Leaving Care
DPS Framework

PNW Leaving Care DPS Framework: Summary

- 2 year DPS Framework, commenced in April 2016, with option to extend by 2 periods of 1 year.
- 22 Local Authorities in the North West make leaving care placements using this framework.
- 67 providers are currently on this framework.
- Providers have passed tender assessment criteria including the PNW Minimum Standards assessment.
- Cumbria will actively make placements using this framework from June 2017.

Joining the DPS Framework

- Classed as a light touch DPS framework under the 2015 Public Contract Regulations.
- Open all year round allowing new providers to join and contracted providers to set up new services.
- Next application deadlines: 31 May, 31 July and 31 October 2017.
- Applications to join this framework must be made via The North West's Local Authority procurement portal The Chest www.the-chest.org.uk

Joining the DPS Framework

The tender to get onto the DPS has 2 parts:

1. Organisation questionnaire (incl. legal entity, policies, procedures)
2. Quality questionnaire (incl. staffing, management, developing independence, keeping YP safe from CSE and missing from home)

Once you are on the framework, local authorities looking to find a service for a young person will run 'mini-competitions' based on price and providers demonstrating their ability to deliver against a referral.

Contact Adrian Rocks, Placements Northwest Manager, for further information about joining the framework.

PNW Leaving Care DPS Framework

The framework is split into 3 service categories:

1. Semi-independence / Group Living (58 providers; 27 north)

Service offering a group living communal environment with staff on site to deliver programmes of support, dependant on individual needs, to enable young people to progress towards living in their own accommodation.

2. Floating Support with Accommodation (37 providers; 24 north)

Community based accommodation services with floating resettlement support, sourced within the private rental market and supported by one to one staffing of varying levels, to achieve the aim of the young person moving to independence.

3. Floating Support (40 providers; 26 north)

Community based services providing floating/resettlement support to enable young people to live semi independently in their own accommodation.

PNW Leaving Care DPS Framework

The framework is split into 3 geographical zones. There are approximately 40 providers working in each zone

- 1. Greater Manchester
 - 2. Merseyside & Cheshire
 - 3. North
- Providers can apply to be in one or more zone.
 - Floating Support with Accommodation / Floating Support: providers must operate within the zone.
 - Semi-independent / Group Living: providers service must be physically located within that zone or within 10 miles of the border of participating authorities.

Registration- Unregulated Provision

This framework is for the provision of accommodation and support where care is not provided. Therefore the settings are unregulated.

Unregulated Settings:

- Provision of **accommodation** for young people over the age of 16.
- This can include **support**: some young people require support to make the transition as they move into independent living.
- The level of support usually reduces over time.
- Support does not include the provision of meals, medication, personal care etc.
- Young people are free to come and go as they wish.
- Staff may be present for parts of the day and overnight for security reasons but are not providing direct care.

Registration – Regulated Provision

Provision of care is outside the remit of this framework

Regulated Settings:

- Provision of **care and accommodation**.
- If the young person cannot live independently and probably would be unable to do so even into adulthood, due to their level of need, disability, emotional or mental health or the risks they pose to themselves or others and therefore requires full-time care, then the service should be **registered**.
- Registration will be with either Ofsted or, in some cases dependent on the type of care, with the Care Quality Commission.

Providers must however pass the Placements Northwest 16+ Minimum Standards Assessment

Making Leaving Care Placements using the DPS

Cumbria's Mini Competition Process

Cumbria's Mini Competition Process

- Open, fair and transparent process.
- Placements are made under the NW Leaving Care Contract T&Cs and Specification requirements.
- Run by email outside of the DPS/The Chest.
- Placements are made based on price, quality and match.
- Providers must demonstrate their ability to deliver against a referral.
- Cumbria will make referrals to providers in the North Zone.

Making Referrals

- 1. All Providers in the North Zone of the Leaving Care Framework will be emailed:**
 - Basic Referral details and are asked to respond if they are interested in the placement.
- 2. Providers who respond receive:**
 - Full Referral Form
 - Mini-Competition Instructions and Response Form

Mini-Competition Questions:

Section 1: Quality / Match

Q1) **Matching table:** *Briefly describe using bullet points how the proposed placement matches the needs of the young person.*

- The needs of the young person will be described on the Full Referral Form.
- The local authority will use this information to match the needs of the young person to the service that the provider is able to offer.

Matching Table

Young Person's Needs	How will the proposed placement meet the young person's needs/requirements	Strengths & Risks	Can the Risk be adequately managed? How? Supports?
Geography: incl. placement location			
Placement Availability: incl. start date			
Placement Type			
Other household members			
Hours of Support			
Sibling relationships			
Contact Arrangements			
Young Person's Personality			
Identity, including religion			
Health and Development			
Emotional and Behavioural Development			
Education			
Young Person's views, wishes, feelings			
Additional needs / risks			

Mini-Competition Questions:

Section 2: Price Request

Q2) Price: *The Provider is required to state the weekly placement cost for the services included within the specification.* Also, if appropriate:

- The cost for any additional services beyond the scope of the specification, if they have been requested by the Council.
- Any discounts.

The number of hours of support will be reviewed on an ongoing basis (at least monthly) by the Social Worker / Personal Adviser and will be reduced over time, preparing the young person for independence.

Evaluation Process

- Responses are emailed to the placements team who shortlist up to 3 providers using the following criteria:

➤ **Match** (60 marks); **Price** (40 Marks);

This mark allocation may be changed for different placements

- Placing social care worker(s) assess which placement is the best quality / match.
- Placements team inform providers of decision and an 'Individual Placement Agreement' (IPA) is put in place.
- If a suitable placement cannot be found, Cumbria may refer to other zones and / or look at alternative provision outside the framework.

Emergency Placements

- Placements / Out of Hours Team to contact providers on the framework directly without using the mini-competition process.
- Providers not on the framework can be contacted if the Framework Providers have no placements available.

Provider Monitoring & Future Engagement

Cumbria wants to work with providers to ensure best services are delivered for young people. Monitoring/engagement involves:

- Placements Northwest: Cumbria receives notifications about Providers (i.e. minimum standard visits, ISPs, information from other Local Authorities)
- Placements will be monitored on an ongoing basis by the Social Care team (i.e. Social Workers, Personal Advisers, IROs)
- Leaving Care Providers are required to complete and return a Monitoring Return every 6 months.
- Cumbria will arrange individual provider meetings and hold other engagement sessions with providers as appropriate.

Contact Details

- Stephanie Armstrong – Commissioning Lead
stephanie.armstrong@cumbria.gov.uk
- Sarah Page – Commissioning Officer
sarah.page@cumbria.gov.uk
- Adrian Rocks – Placements Northwest Manager
Adrian.rocks@tameside.gov.uk

Questions and Answers

