

16 April 2024**Agenda Item: 7****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, HELP, PROTECTION AND CARE****UPDATE ON NOTTINGHAMSHIRE CHILDREN'S RESIDENTIAL HOMES AND
SECURE ACCOMMODATION SERVICE****Purpose of the Report**

1. The report provides an update on Nottinghamshire children's residential homes.

Information

2. There are five internal children's residential homes in Nottinghamshire comprising two providing for children with disability and three mainstream homes. Nottinghamshire also has a secure accommodation service, which houses 20 young people who are placed on remand, on welfare grounds across England and Wales.
3. The current children's disability homes are Caudwell House and The Big House, although there are plans agreed to convert West View to become a specialist disability home in the future.

Children with Disability Homes**The Big House**

4. The Big House is a short break home in the village of Edwinstowe, which provides short breaks for children with severe intellectual disabilities, physical disabilities, medical and sensory needs. This home provides a service to 26 children who are allocated 1,442 nights between them. Allocation is subject to need and can be subject to change dependent on the changing needs of individual children.
5. All children who come to The Big House have a significant intellectual disability. They may also display risk behaviours when distressed or have an unmet need. They may also have moderate physical disabilities and sensory and medical needs. Children must be of school age, attend their own school and can be up to 18 years of age. At present, short breaks are being provided for four children from out of the county. Staff spend individual, quality time creating a positive relationship, through meaningful interactions. This keeps children feeling safe and calm. Children are encouraged and supported to form friendships with each other. Friendship groups are arranged with children of similar ages, abilities and

interests. The home provides valuable respite care for the families and enables them to continue to care for their children living at home with them.

6. The last Ofsted inspection was November 2023, and the home received an overall Outstanding judgment. The Ofsted report is full of fabulous feedback. For example:

'The manager and staff have built positive relationships with the children's parents, providing practical and emotional support. As a result, feedback is unanimously positive, and parents feel supported.'

One parent said, 'They are fantastic. I couldn't wish for a better service.' Another referred to the home as a 'lifeline' and said that it has 'almost become a second family'. Parents and professionals consistently referred to the service as 'amazing'.

7. The monthly reports from the Regulation 44 visitor evidenced the improvements that have been made and continue to be made. The feedback in these regulatory reports acknowledges the commitment and dedication of the staff team to make a difference to the lives of some of the most vulnerable children. The atmosphere around the home is one of warmth and care with a proactive staff team working to provide a high quality of care for the children.
8. The children enjoy a variety of activities and access to the community regularly, doing sports and activities such as trampolining, swimming, train journeys, cinema, disco, shopping, ice hockey, train museum, gymnastics to name a few. As well as a plethora of activities within the home there is a focus on independence skills, music, creative and sensory play. There is always something fun and exciting planned, which is why children love coming so much. For some children, they cannot always access these types of venues with their families and experience things for the first time, such as a child's first trip to the cinema, which was a fabulous experience for them. Staff waited patiently as the child did not want to leave until the entire film and all the credits had finished (when the room was quiet, the lights back on and it was quieter and calmer).
9. The home received a compliment from a father recently, who explained he had not been able to take his child out in the community himself for walks at local parks for a long time, as the child's anxiety and behaviours made it too difficult for him to manage. However, he has now managed a family day out at Clumber Park and thanked the home for supporting his child's progress, for developing their skills and building their confidence in the community. The Big House staff taking the child out so often and to a variety of places has had an impact on the child's home life as they can now cope with and manage to do this with their family regularly.
10. The Big House is in the process of a garden transformation and has a new set of play equipment and gym equipment being installed and staff are excited to introduce this to the children when it is fully installed. The staff team is committed to making sure the home is warm, comfortable and inviting for all.
11. A new Residential Care Worker has recently been appointed and due to start soon. Recruitment is still taking place as the home has a vacancy.

Caudwell House

12. Caudwell House is registered as a 12 bedded home for children with physical disabilities and associated learning difficulties and health care needs, with 4 residential beds and 8 short break beds. To provide the necessary and safe one to one care the children at Caudwell need, including moving and handling tasks, the current staff team can only provide a service for a maximum of 9 children at any one time.
13. There are currently 4 resident children, 2 of whom are from out of county. One of the residents has moved on to an adult placement after a very positive and supportive transition and another young person arrived at the end of November. This child had been in hospital for 7 months and settled well in their new home. Reintegration back into school, and a reduction in their medication has been achieved. A speech and language assessment is being arranged and they will be changing from being peg fed to eating orally. Physically progression has been achieved successfully as the child is spending time out of their chair on the floor mats and can now support themselves sitting up.
14. The grandmother of another child who was the main carer before the child became a resident has recently died. The home has been supporting the child through their grief and loss with social stories to enable them to understand what has happened. Staff took them for several visits to the hospital to see the grandmother and started preparatory work. Staff will be taking the child to part of the funeral to support their understanding and continue with further social stories on what is happening. A social story is a communication technique which works well with children on the autistic spectrum or with limited understanding and comprises very clear words backed up by pictures to explain certain situations and events.
15. Various training and developments are being undertaken within the home, for example, starting to introduce mindfulness sessions and quiet time particularly on the arrival from school which children can find difficult. The home has also negotiated with school for them to fund a sensory assessment for a child and have introduced specific approaches into the child's routine based on the report which has been positive for them.
16. Staff have undertaken personal and intimate care training. This enables staff to reflect on the need for dignity, care and respect when caring for children. To do this staff experience having their teeth brushed, being fed, having their faces washed and their hair done by another person. Continual staff training and development is vital in ensuring they are confident and competent in their role, know what is expected and deliver care to the highest standard. Staff have undergone sensory training, enabling the voice of the child who do not have verbal communication to be gained, and have been using pictures of what children with limited communication and cognitive ability enjoy and how their sensory needs can be tapped into. The Lundy model of communication and participation ensure children are given the space to have a 'voice' to people they trust and their wishes and feelings influence an outcome for them.
17. The short breaks service offers accommodation for a maximum of 4 or 5 children (depending on need), which allows the home to provide the one-to-one support needed to care for the children safely, considering the support they need with moving and handling and medical needs. All staff undertake moving and handling and health training to support the children's needs which includes peg feeding (feeding a child through a tube into the

stomach), 'Yankur suctioning' (a suction tube inserted into the child's mouth to suck up excess secretions), anaphylaxis (training on serious and potentially fatal allergic reactions) and managing epilepsy. Staff are also trained in the use of 'Vagus Nerve Stimulation' (VNS). This is a surgical device which is inserted in the chest wall and has a wire to the brain to reduce seizures for a child. Staff use a magnet to swipe over the chest to connect with the device, giving the child oxygen. Deep suctioning training is also delivered to staff (this procedure requires staff to insert a suction device either down a child's throat or up their nose to clear secretions). Catheter care and giving injections to children is also training that staff receive. All staff must be assessed as competent with each procedure three times by health professionals before they are able to perform the tasks.

18. There are 4 new children accessing the short break service at Caudwell and 3 more waiting to start after their Occupational Therapy assessment and staff have completed relevant child specific training. All the children continue to enjoy an array of activities such as pantomimes, discos, theatre and cinema, bowling, historic buildings, zoos and farms, country parks, music events, hydro pool sessions, concerts and festivals and the residents will be going to Blackpool for 4 days in April.
19. The sensory paths have been installed but just need resurfacing again after the floods and the outside space is being developed making a fairy land area, a dinosaur area, lights and sounds area and rewilding of the garden. There is still some outstanding work that needs to be completed after the removal of the sensory walkway. The home is still in need of new kitchens for the residents and short break groups as both are over 25 years old. Funding to transform them into spaces that can be utilised by children in wheelchairs and which are more modern and up to date has been requested.
20. 2 new staff have just completed their 8-week induction and had their 2-monthly probation meeting. Both are enjoying the role and have fitted in well. Another member of staff has successfully completed her 6-month probation and has been enrolled on the diploma. There is still a Residential Care Worker vacancy which has been readvertised, however the home has now taken on an agency part-time Occupational Therapist after several unsuccessful attempts to recruit to a permanent post. She is currently undertaking her induction and will begin after this has been completed.
21. On 19/20 March 2024 the home received another Outstanding Ofsted judgement which totals a 13-year span and the team is very proud of this. Caudwell continues to have extremely positive Regulation 44 visits and reports.

Mainstream Homes

Lyndene

22. The home is at full capacity accommodating 3 young people, 2 males and a female. The staff team remain committed to the home. There is currently one vacancy in the home for a Residential Social Care Worker. Several staff from Lyndene are currently supporting Oakhurst due to staffing shortages. Managers are supporting managers at Oakhurst to identified bespoke training to new staff and to experienced staff to develop practice and work therapeutically with children. Both homes are very proactive in supporting each other to ensure that all shifts are fully covered and all children receive a good standard of care.

23. Education plans are in place for each child. All children are in full-time education. Two children go to mainstream school. One child who has learning needs is now accessing mainstream lessons with their peers and working on GCSE work. The child has been provided with revision for the first time and staff are working closely with them to understand that school and Lyndene work together for them to complete revision and achieve at school. The child has completed all the revision tasks and has taken their first history exam. The child has started to use the school bus independently and is growing in confidence. They have been able to build up friendships at school and had a friend home. One child attends a mainstream school and alternative provision, is working on their mock exams, completing revision and has achieved best in lesson more often. They are looking forward to the prom and purchased an end of year sweatshirt. The child has a place at a college in September to do motor mechanics. Another child is completing childcare level 3 and has a placement at a nursery on Mondays and Fridays, which is going extremely well, and sat exams, achieving grade B. The child was picked from their college group to speak on local radio about T levels, is spoken of very highly by their tutor and is planning to go to university. The staff team link incentives to education and celebrate all achievements no matter how big or small. Staff work with children to complete homework and attend Personal Education Plan meetings. All staff support children in school to manage behaviours and emotional issues when they arise.
24. Two children are working on independence tasks; this consists of a weekly budget of £15 to plan their menu for 5 days, shop and cook nutritious meals from scratch. Getting children ready for post 18 involves using public transport and working through their independence file and assisting them with problem solving. Supporting children to use mobile phones and keep themselves safe is ongoing work especially with a 16 year-old who has more free time and struggles to make positive choices. Whilst on free time the child chose not to return home but through tracking their location on their mobile phone was returned home and completed work around positive choices, keeping safe and away from substances. One child has met their personal adviser from the Leaving Care team and the form to request semi-independent accommodation has been completed. This has made the child anxious as the reality of transitioning to adulthood is challenging, and therefore needs a lot of support around preparation with the changes ahead.
25. All children are kept busy and stimulated. The children go to the gym, swimming, ice skating, walks, local parks, cinema, clip and climb, scooter parks and trampolining. One child is part of a disability football team, attending games and training weekly, achieving man of the match and receiving trophies. The children all enjoyed the half term; they went to water world swimming for the day, a gaming event in Sheffield, the gym, played football, and spent time with their boyfriends and girlfriends. They also enjoyed family time and free time with their friends and girlfriends/boyfriend. One child goes to the local youth club two nights a week.
26. Children have weekly activity planners which provides structure and guidance for each child to know what activities they are doing daily. Providing nurture and reassurance for children is extremely important and this is embedded in all children's plans to support them to feel valued, safe and to build positive relationships which supports staff to manage behaviours. The children have been involved in planning holidays for this year. One child chose to go to Blackpool as this will be their last holiday with Lyndene. The children choose if they would like to go with another child or have quality time on their own with staff. Staff arrange to swap over every 2 days to ensure the children build positive relationships with

all the team and have fun, managers go to visit the children and have a fun day out as this supports children to feedback how their experience is going and discuss any concerns or worries.

27. In February one child celebrated their 15th birthday with lots of presents and a driving experience day and visited their mum and siblings on their birthday, taking a chocolate cake with them. A party also took place at Lyndene with staff baking a Liverpool FC cake and preparing a buffet with lots of decorations around the home and at the end of that week also celebrated their 3rd year anniversary living at Lyndene with a buffet and cake. Staff put photos around the home from when the child first came to live at Lyndene, looking at their journey. Another child had their first anniversary with photos up to look back at their journey and Taylor Swift cake made by the wake night worker and with lots of lovely treats.
28. The home has had 4 missing episodes in January and one in February with the same child. Supporting children to make good decisions and not get involved with peers is work the home does daily with this child, who struggles to listen to staff when with their peers, gets this wrong and regrets it. The staff team provides nurture and food when they return home with the child and work daily with them to reflect and understand the risks the child puts themselves at. The child understands consequences, such as losing their mobile phone and not having free time, and is given lots of incentives too. Staff work closely with them to build up trust to ensure the child is safe when out in the community and returns home when they should. Staff and managers work closely with children to support them to understand risk and encourage positive choices. Staff complete keywork sessions with children daily. Monthly catch-up meetings are planned. Taking children outside the home and listening to their wishes and feelings is also key to ensuring that children feel valued and respected. Managers work with school and the Looked After Children police officer to gather intelligence to update the child's risk assessment and have clear guidance for when they are out in the community.
29. Multi-agency working is a strength of the home and working monthly with CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) is essential to discuss any issues / concerns relating to any of the children and supports staff to understand trauma and attachment. Managers continue to work a variety of shifts, having oversight of the team and children and they continue to complete spot checks in the early hours of the mornings and support night staff with extra supervision. Managers are completing in-house training with staff around the Children's Regulations and how this is embedded into their roles and practise. The home had a recent Ofsted inspection and the judgement was Good. The inspector was very pleased with the outcomes and experiences for children and could see the outstanding work being undertaken. The full report is awaited. The home continues to have extremely positive Regulation 44 visits and reports.

Oakhurst

30. Oakhurst is a four bedded home that is fully occupied with four children. The home continues to provide a range of care for children with emotional and behavioural difficulties with or without moderate learning disabilities.
31. The young people have resided at West View for just over 5 months, spending Christmas and New Year in the home, The team's motivation throughout the duration has been a strong empathy on ensuring that all the young people had felt settled throughout the move

and enjoyed the sparkle of Christmas. The staff team has worked tirelessly to ensure that all the children's Christmas experiences were positive despite the obvious emotional challenges and the fact that they have not been in care before meant that staff pulled together to set about ensuring that it was the best it could be. The Regulation 44 visitor commented:

'of all the residential provision that she had visited (10) she was most impressed with the attention to detail taken by the staff at Oakhurst, the children having personalised Christmas stockings, Christmas mugs, an abundance of decorations in the lounge and hall and a busy schedule of activities and family time'.

32. On 19 February staff and children returned to Oakhurst. There has been significant reconfiguration with both upstairs bedrooms, ensuites, staff sleeping area, office space and downstairs kitchen, offices and hallway including rewiring and installation of a new fire alarm system. The move back to Oakhurst and ensuring the young people maintained stability in the process had been the focus for the staff team. Issues with the lack of Wi-Fi, internet access for mobile phones and children's gaming stations has dampened the young people's spirits and impacted on their behaviour in what should have been an exciting and exhilarating experience.
33. Three children currently attend full-time education, two of the children are accessing additional support through school and the home to improve their predicted GCSE grades. The third child continues to attend Alternative Provision four days a week, accessing a learning schedule bespoke to their needs, including support from therapeutic and pastoral support workers. The fourth child who arrived at Oakhurst in October has made good progress back into education through an induction process. This young person had not been in education for over 12 months and has now been offered a place to attend school after the Easter holidays. Staff members continue to work closely with several schools through attendance at meetings at school, to ensure plans explore what could be done to improve the children's engagement and behaviour in the class. The home is keen to maximise the education opportunities and encourage them to be aspirational to achieve more, gain confidence, and enjoy their education experience. All the children have a positive attitude towards education, one child has done well in their mock GCSEs and has been supported by staff with the revision timetable. Another child however, continues to struggle to adjust to the boundaries and expectations in the classroom and the school head is working well with the home to ensure that the young person can remain calm and make better contributions in the classroom.
34. The home continues to encourage children to participate in hobbies and leisure activities that will help their physical and emotional wellbeing. The home has an emphasis on health and fitness activities and all the children attend weekly gym sessions with a staff member, for some of the children this is a new experience. Each of the young people are part of an individual incentive scheme where they can earn points for positive engagement in school and at home. Recently the home introduced the 30-Day Health Challenge where the children themselves lead a team of both staff, managers and young people to count steps through a smart watch for a month. The children received a certificate for their achievements. This initiative motivated the children and staff to stay fit and healthy. The children had chosen the team's name and image and were involved in coaching their team to be as active as possible. Menus reflect tasty and healthy meals that are now fully

embedded in the home and each child takes it in turn one night a week to prepare a meal for the home, under the supervision of a staff member.

35. The home encourages children to participate in hobbies and leisure activities that will help their physical and emotional wellbeing, all the children are in football clubs attending every weekend and swimming clubs as part of their weekly planner. The children have enjoyed varied and exciting Christmas and February half-term activities attendance at Xscape in Yorkshire, bike rides through Clumber Park, Sea World in Hull, Silverstone Museum, Christmas Market, Winter Wonderland in Derbyshire, Crazy Golf, Christmas Pantomime and Roller World.
36. There have been four breaches of safeguarding, three were allegations, and have been investigated and unsubstantiated. During the past few weeks the manager's drive has been focused in raising contextual safeguarding, specifically incident reports, timeline chronologies, management audits and analysis. There is one reported incident of the young person leaving the home. On each occasion staff have acted quickly to safeguard and ensure that the young person returned home safely. Oversight of such incidents has ensured robust challenge to practice has taken place when required. Ongoing team discussion, supervision and training ensure that lessons learned and reflective practice are constant to improve practice moving forward.
37. The home continues to be understaffed and use relief staff known to the children from Lyndene to drive improvements and good practice within the home. An intense induction programme has been devised jointly with Lyndene to support new practitioners entering the role as Residential Social Care Worker, this consists of mandatory training, case file discussion, shift planning, shadowing opportunities, role play, and feedback from employees and children as to each individual's progress and development.
38. The home has moved to 'reflect and repair' a restorative approach to practice. The home has introduced a new format titled 'Making it Right' that allows young people the opportunity to reflect on their behaviour and repair relationships. The new therapeutic social worker will support further therapeutic practices within the home.
39. Ofsted inspected Oakhurst on 11 & 12 March 2024 and the judgement was Requires Improvements. Improvements are required around regulation 12 (Protection of Children Standard) and regulation 13 (Leadership and Management). An action plan will identify what is needed to progress to a judgment of Good. The inspectors commented on the positive outcomes and experiences for children and could see the outstanding work being undertaken.

West View

40. **Paragraph 3** of this report has already reflected agreed plans to convert West View to become a specialist disability home in the future. However, this is currently subject to refurbishment to ensure it is fit for purpose for children with disabilities.

Secure Accommodation

Clayfields Secure Children's Home

41. In the previous report to the Panel it was noted that that Ofsted had judged the home as inadequate for the second time. However, Clayfields had a further full Inspection on 23 & 24 January 2024 and the overall judgement is now 'Good' in all areas, this includes 'overall experiences and progress of children and young people', 'leadership and management', 'help and protection' and also includes a good rating for 'children's education and learning' and 'children's health, that were impacted by the negative judgement in the original full inspection in July 2023. There were 2 compliance notices that were also met – one under regulation 13 (leadership and management) and under regulation 20 (restraint and the deprivation of liberty). The comments made by Ofsted were again very positive as was the feedback from parents, carers and professionals. Training has continued in the centre with the staff group around the regulations cementing the learning and giving staff the confidence to manage behaviour confidently in a child-centred way, using restorative and strength-based practice. Below are a few comments which have been taken from the report:

Children said that they are happy and settled and they enjoy good relationships with their peers. Staff know the children well and are quick to form positive trusting relationships with them. The children also said they have adults they can go to if they have any concerns or worries.

Transition is good and their moves are well planned and implemented to give them positive endings and the confidence to leave the home. As a result children's moves are successful, whether they are returning to the community or going to other provisions in the secure estate.

Children told Inspectors that they feel safe. There have been no safeguarding referrals, and there have been no bullying incidents since the last inspection.

Good progress has been made in ensuring that Restrictive Physical Intervention (RPI), single separations and managing away practices are appropriate.

Managers have improved systems enabling close oversight and scrutiny of staff practice. Managers continue to work to detect shortfalls in recording.

Individual risk assessments are detailed and set out their vulnerabilities, they are reviewed routinely to make sure they are kept up to date.

Good practice is acknowledged and reflected back to staff. Inspectors saw some examples of good staff practice where staff were sensitive, thoughtful and calm when supporting children in crisis.

The manager and senior leaders have built on their oversight and scrutiny of the service. The QA systems are now more detailed with clear evaluation.

42. The monthly Regulation 44 visits continues by an independent person and provides a healthy challenge to the service. The visitor summarised their visit in January 2024 as follows:

Partnership working is an area of strength within the home across professional disciplines as well as externally with solicitors, Youth Justice Board (YJB) families and social workers.

The morale of managers and staff seemed very buoyant. I observed high quality interactions with young people with care staff generally motivated and positive.

The home have some great examples of change and progress in systems, processes and environmental development. These appear to be beneficial to both staff and young people.

The integration of health professionals across the teams is excellent, the examples of consultation to make improvements for children is another tangible way to enable children to have a belief that their voice is being heard and that they can positively influence their own lived experience and future.

Whilst there has been some obvious challenges in regard managing risk behaviours which have spiked beyond the norm, I am satisfied that all steps are being taken to address the crisis that CHILD A in particular is going through.

Managers are providing a learning environment for staff to be their best selves and children's progress is indicative of hard graft of those staff. I am delighted to hear of the recognition of improved quality by Ofsted and look forward to hearing how the new developments this month have unfolded by my next visit.

43. The senior leadership team's commitment continues with a real focus on working together to provide the best service possible for the children and young people in their care. Now the Ofsted compliance notices have been met and the current judgement has been upgraded to Good, the drive for the team now is to maintain the judgement at the next full inspection, which will be in July 2024. The positive culture and morale of staff is still on a journey of improvement but the commitment from the senior leadership team is around staff welfare and supporting the Focus Group with their plans for the year, including coffee mornings for staff and rewards for staff. The young people continue to have a positive input into their life at Clayfields and their views, wishes and feelings are taken into account whenever possible and in particular through Clayfields Council and through routine young people's meetings.
44. Behind the scenes the independent investigations have all now been concluded, which has included several staff, but the home is pleased that the service can move forward with their service development plans, which remain under constant scrutiny from the governance board arrangements, and this also includes wider scrutiny through the Ministry of Justice contractual monitoring processes.
45. Recruitment is a high priority for the senior leadership team and there have been some positive steps taken to try and resolve the shortfalls, particularly in care. The centre has held two Open Evenings, which have had some results but not enough impact to recruit to the shortfalls. The service has set up a Workforce Development Board, which meets to address issues and discuss solutions, this includes support from colleagues across the

County with specialism in human resources and communication to enable the home to address the recruitment challenges. There are a number of senior and middle leadership positions currently being advertised, the deputy service manager and a team manager's position. The service manager continues to explore all possible avenues to recruit and retain staff including work with HR colleagues to revise job descriptions but also to consider an interim market factor supplement payments, with the view to revisiting the secure unit allowance, which is a trend which has been undertaken nationally by other local authorities where they have a secure children's home.

46. As of 29 February 2024, Clayfields has been operating on 68.01% occupancy level, with an overall bed night loss of 934 nights. This is a decrease due to operating two house units and prioritising the Ministry of Justice contract. However, with the Department for Education (DfE) Capital Building Programme, this will continue throughout the programme, which is currently estimated as a 46-week building programme and is currently expected to be complete by 31 March 2025.
47. The centre is now operating two house units due to the refurbishment starting at the beginning of April and have already reduced the number of welfare young people. Operating two house units has given the staff more confidence in keeping the young people safe, reducing incident numbers and ensuring that staff can undertake the training prioritised for the service. The Ministry of Justice contract remains a high priority and current bed availability across the secure children's homes is low, currently there are less than 10 beds available nationally across England and Wales, whilst the welfare referral demands for beds is currently around 35.

Developments

48. A property bought last year has been leased to the Council's largest provider of children's homes. Following refurbishment, it will seek Ofsted registration with a target to open as a two-bed home once planning has been approved. This will provide much needed capacity to provide more Nottinghamshire children with a good quality home environment in the County, enabling them to maintain links with their communities and support networks. Plans are also advancing for the refurbishment of some of the Council's existing children's homes.
49. They will be supported in their aim to provide homes for some of the children with the most complex needs by the newly appointed Specialist Social Worker. The postholder will offer direct help to children who have experienced trauma and ensure staff providing care are trained to help those children thrive.
50. Clayfields outlined in the previous report to the Corporate Parenting Panel that they had been given permission by the Department for Education to undertake an initial feasibility study, which is part of the 'Secure Children's Homes Estate Review – December 2022' and has been led by Atkins (Department for Education Architects). The Council's property commissioning team, alongside Arc Partnership, have put in a bid of £17,000, which will increase the administration block, especially with the increased staffing and facilities required for the future. Whilst this has not been given the full agreement, at least considerations are being made looking ahead and future proofing the environment. This will be undertaken with the support of colleagues in the Council's Property Commissioning team and Arc Partnership.

Other Options Considered

51. To not bring this report to the Panel: this option is discounted because this report provides information that forms an important part of the Panel's remit in assisting the Council in fulfilling its legal corporate parenting duties and acting as an effective corporate parent.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

52. The report provides an opportunity for the Corporate Parenting Panel to consider any further actions arising from the information contained within the report.

Statutory and Policy Implications

53. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability, and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

54. There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the Corporate Parenting Panel considers whether there are any actions it requires in relation to the information contained in the report.

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Constitutional Comments (SSR 02/04/24)

55. The recommendations fall within the scope of matter which may be determined by the Corporate Parenting Panel.

Financial Comments (CDS 27/03/24)

56. There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

[Update on Nottinghamshire children's residential homes and secure accommodation service – report to Corporate Parenting Panel on 9 January 2024](#)

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

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