



10 October 2016

Agenda Item: 6

## **REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, NORTH NOTTINGHAMSHIRE & DIRECT SERVICES**

### **DEVELOPMENT OF KEYRING SERVICES**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek Committee approval to take forward and develop the proposal for KeyRing networks in Nottinghamshire in order to expand the range of housing and support options available and to deliver further savings by developing opportunities to promote independence and reduce the cost of support packages.
2. To seek approval for the establishment of additional temporary resource of 1 FTE Community Care Officer (CCO) post (Grade 5) to support the work.

#### **Information and Advice**

3. KeyRing is a patented name for a model of support which is built around a *Living Support Network*, typically consisting of up to ten service users and one Community Living Volunteer (support worker). Each service user has their own home within a close radius of other network members and the support worker.
4. Service users are encouraged to help and assist one another through peer support in addition to formal support from their Community Living Volunteer. This support worker would also be able to provide a telephone and emergency response service in much the same way as a parent or friend would.
5. This type of arrangement would be suitable for people with low level learning disabilities or mental health issues, who would require the additional reassurance of a support network to complement the formal 3-4 hours of support they would get on a face to face basis from the support worker.
6. There are over 100 KeyRing Living Support Networks operating nationwide, across more than 50 local authority areas and supporting around 1,000 vulnerable adults and can offer a flexible and cost effective solution.
7. Potential cost savings will be realised from people currently in shared supported living who could be supported to move on to KeyRing accommodation and the resultant vacancy filled by someone with higher needs.
8. The sourcing of appropriate housing within a small radius will be a key challenge in delivering this type of provision.

9. The CCO would take the lead in the reassessment of the service users put forward for the scheme and work closely with them and their circles of support to assist them to move. They would provide the key departmental link to the district councils in respect of lettings and tenancy issues in the early phases of the schemes.

10. The benefits and risks are as follows:

**Benefits:**

- Greater independence for individuals and higher self-esteem, associated with peer support.
- Cost savings to Care Support and Enablement spend with an initial target of £70,000 over three years, from April 2017.
- The potential to provide a broader hub service to existing supported living schemes. For example, the KeyRing support worker could provide out of hours support to other local services to replace existing sleep-in cover.
- Although the project itself would deliver relatively modest savings, it would act as a useful enabler to release existing supported living capacity to support other programmes of work in younger adults.

**Risks:**

- Availability of appropriately located, reasonable quality and affordable housing.
- Finding appropriate Community Living Volunteers. This is not a 9-5 job and is more like a 'warden' who would need to be available for out of hours work when required in addition to the delivery of some individual support.
- Not having sufficient numbers of people with lower level needs in the Council's existing services to create a KeyRing network.
- Not delivering savings as Care Support and Enablement providers are already incentivised to save on existing packages.
- Costs might go up if people move out of services which have existing economies of scale.

**Other Options Considered**

11. Individuals ready to move on to more independent accommodation could potentially be supported into their own local authority tenancies; however the costs of supporting a scattered cohort will be higher and opportunities for peer support reduced.

**Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

12. Development of KeyRing networks locally will enhance the variety of supported accommodation provision available to younger adults.
13. This type of scheme will further promote independence and give people greater opportunities to be part of their local community.
14. There is potential to make cost savings through less intensive packages of care for those moving into a KeyRing scheme as well as providing opportunities to free up much needed supported living provision elsewhere which will enable people to move out of residential care.

## **Statutory and Policy Implications**

15. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, 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, sustainability and the environment and ways of working 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**

16. The establishment of 1 FTE CCO post (Grade 5) for a period of 18 months from October 2017 at a cost of £48,000 would need to be funded from existing reserves.
17. The work up until October 2017 can be supported by existing temporary posts. The project will also be supported by permanent staff from within the team.

## **Human Resources Implications (SJJ 13/9/16)**

18. The additional post will be recruited to on a fixed term contract.

## **Public Sector Equality Duty Implications**

19. An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken and is available as a background paper. Whilst there is potential that some service users and their families may see a reduction in their level of support as a negative impact, service users will be assessed for their readiness and suitability to move to this type of more independent accommodation and nobody identified as a candidate for the schemes would be forced to move from their existing service.
20. It is hoped that most people would view a move to a more independent setting as a positive impact.
21. The proposal will target younger adults, including people with a learning disability, people with mental health difficulties, Asperger's syndrome and/ or physical disabilities.

## **Safeguarding of Children and Adults at Risk Implications**

22. The service will ensure that any placement into a KeyRing scheme which further promotes an individual's independence is based on sound assessment practice, ensures positive risk taking is safe and that this work does not create unwarranted increases in safeguarding concerns.

### **Implications for Service Users**

23. Development of a KeyRing network will expand the range of housing and support options available to younger adults with disabilities.

### **Ways of Working Implications**

24. There are no significant ways of working implications for the proposed service.

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

That the Committee:

- 1) approves the proposal to develop KeyRing networks in Nottinghamshire.
- 2) approves the establishment of an additional temporary resource of 1 FTE Community Care Officer (CCO) post, at Grade 5 and the post allocated an authorised car user status, to support the work for a period of 18 months from October 2017.

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### **Constitutional Comments (SLB 13/09/16)**

25. Adult Social Care and Health Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report, subject to the Council's Employment Procedure Rules which require all reports regarding changes to staffing structures to include HR advice, and for consultation to take place with the recognised trade unions.

### **Financial Comments (KAS 13/09/16)**

26. The financial implications are contained within paragraphs 16 and 17 of the 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.

Equality Impact Assessment

**Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

All.

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