Proposals for the future of Housing Related Support (HRS) Services

1. What are Housing Related Support Services?

Derby City Council are consulting on the future of HRS services. This will potentially affect the following services:

- Action Housing (Arbor) – High Risk Offenders
- Action Housing (MISS) – Medium Intensity drug and alcohol users
- Riverside Centenary House – High Intensity drug and alcohol users
- Riverside - Young people at risk
- Derby Homes Milestone House – Homeless shelter, Single Point of Entry
- Refuge - Domestic Violence Refuge

HRS plays an important role in promoting links between health, housing, probation, social care, the police and other participants for the planning and delivery of services for vulnerable people.

2. What’s happened so far?

To ensure outcomes for those with Drug and Alcohol issues with the highest need, a decision was made to stop funding the MISS project from 1st December 2016 so the focus can be on services at Centenary House. This is to achieve the best value for money.

3. What are we suggesting?

The following changes are being proposed for the remaining HRS programmes:

- Derby Homes continues to support the delivery of the service provided by Refuge, Milestone House and the Single Point of Entry. This would be as part of their Housing Options offer.
- By April 2017, Public Health will take over the funding of Centenary House, which will allow it to focus more on supporting people with complex alcohol and mental health issues.
- By April 2017, the Council will cease to fund the following two contracts:
  - Action Housing High Risk Offenders
  - Riverside Young People
4. How can you help?

We want to listen to the views of service users, stakeholders and local providers about the proposed changes to the provision of services and the impact of the reduction in funding.

5. Who will we be speaking to?

We will be consulting with everyone that has an interest in these services:

- General public
- Service users
- Service providers affected by the proposal
- Partners and other local stakeholders, such as the police, health and community and voluntary sector organisations
- Internal staff working with user groups

6. How will we do this?

A user friendly summary of the proposal will be presented in plain English and be available in the following way:

- Letters sent to service users
- Information available on the Council website
- Email to partners and stakeholders
- Online and paper surveys
- Equality Impact Assessments (EIA) Workshops

EIA workshops will be held to look at the impact of the proposals for each of the key projects. Providers and service users will be represented at the workshops.

7. What will happen?

A report containing the findings of the consultation will inform a cabinet paper which will seek approval to start formal transformation and decommissioning activity for HRS services.

8. Timescales

The consultation will run until 18 January 2017.

Christine Collingwood

Acting Head of Adults Commissioning