**005600 – NEPO Education, Health and Social Care (NE12+ Phase Two)**

**Provider Consultation Event with Residential Short Breaks Providers**

In May 2014 Newcastle City Council convened a meeting of representatives of the 12 North East local authorities and their Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) through the North East Commissioning Service (NECS). The Local Authorities and CCGs discussed the need to review how they commissioned all placement types for Children and Young People including placements for Residential Short Breaks. The meeting determined that there was benefit in having a joint approach to the commissioning for these placements but agreed that the scope of looking at all placement types together would not be managable; therefore a ‘phased approach’ was adopted.

Following approval through regional governance arrangements the NE12+ Collaborative was established.

Although placements in a range of settings were discussed, the NE12+ Collaborataive (NE12+) determined that in order to take a phased approach to changing commissioning practice the scope for the commissioning and procurement exercise for Phase One would be:

**“Placements in Department for Education registered, non-maintained and independent special schools and colleges; 52-week residential, termly boarder, weekly boarder and day placements. All placements in these settings for children and young people aged 0 – 25 years (inclusive).”**

Following the completion of an extensive consultation period NE12+ Collaborative embarked on a competitive tender exercise to put arrangements in place for 1 February 2016, and 13 Providers representing 22 settings were appointed to the NE12+ Framework Agreement. The NE12+ Phase One Framework Agreement has a term of 12 months with 2 x 6 months options to extend, and we are currently in the Implementation Phase for new placements from September 2016.

In April 2016 two scoping sessions were held with NE12+ Participating Organisations to consider the potential scope of NE12+ Phase Two. Participating Organisations considered the feasibility of including the following services as part of the Phase Two programme:

|  | **Service** | **To be included in Phase Two or not**  | **Rationale for not including in Phase Two** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **1** | Ofsted registered Independent Children’s Residential Homes | To be included |  |
| **2** | Unregulated 16 – 18 accommodation | Not to be included | Need localised arrangements due to requirements to provide locally based support networks (families and positive friendship groups) for young people.  |
| **3** | Secure Children’s Homes | Not to be included | Some places are commissioned directly by the Youth Justice Board not Local Authoritiess. Spot purchase locally until the National solution is procured. |
| **4** | Maintained Special Schools | Not to be included | Local Authorities provide these services in-house. |
| **5** | Academies | Not to be included | Academies are effectively an alternative to mainstream provision. The pupil / parent selects the academy. The Local Authority has no control over the selection of Placement. The nature of the academy environment and the lower level of support required for the Child / Young Person to attend an academy usually means that the provision has a different offer to that of independent Providers and cannot cater for Children / Young People with High Needs. |
| **6** | Further Education (FE) Colleges | Not to be included | Currently spot purchasing as it is a universal offer.  |
| **7** | Further Education (FE) Sixth Form Colleges | Not to be included | Currently spot purchasing as it is a universal offer.  |
| **8** | Supported Internships (SI) | Not to be included | SI is a model of curriculum delivery rather than a separate offer. |
| **9** | Combined Offer | Already included in Phase One | Tried and tested in current NE12+ call-off arrangements. Providers delivering through a sub-contract offer. |
| **10** | Alternative Provision for Excluding Pupils | Not to be included | No solution required as the Local Authorities are is not the Commissioner. |
| **11** | Pupil Referral Units | Not to be included | Local Authorities provide these services in-house. |
| **12** | Short Breaks Residential | To be included |  |
| **13** | Short Breaks Communities | Not to be included | Some elements purchased through direct payments so Local Authorities not the commissioner. Other eleemnts are very bespoke to local need therefore they are procured via local arrangements. |
| **14** | Short Breaks Palliative Care | Yet to be determined | Further discussion to take place with NHS England to establish whether these Services are in out of scope for Phase Two. |
| **15** | Supported Accommodation for People with Learning Difficulties | Not to be included | There will be a separate solution in the regional procurement work programme. |
| **16** | Parent and baby placements | Not to be included | No solution required. Access either through our in-house provision or via the external regional fostering arrangements.  |
| **17** | Parent Assessment Units | Not to be included | No solution required. Access either in-house provision or external regional fostering arrangements.  |

In May 2016, the above scope for Phase Two was approved by regional governance arrangements. Therefore, the scope of NE12+ Phase Two will be:

Services in the current NE12+ Framework Agreement **plus**

1. Placements in Ofsted registered, Independent Children’s Residential Homes for Children and Young People 0 – 18 years, and
2. Residential short-break services

The NE12+ Participating Organisations are still considering whether it is appropriate to include palliative short-break services in Phase Two. Newcastle City Council will coordinate discussion with CCGs and NHS England to consider this further.

The NE12+ Collaborative embarked on the Commissioning Phase of the NE12+ Phase Two programme in July 2016. In July, August and September 2016, engagement took place with Independent Children’s Residential Home Providers.

Indicative timescales for the remainder of Phase Two are:

* October and November 2016 – engagement with Residential Short Break Providers
* November and December 2016 – engagement with non-maintained and Independent Special Schools and Colleges
* January 2017 – consultation with the full market and sign-off of the final commissioning model for NE12+ Phase Two

Newcastle City Council, as Lead Authority for the NE12+ for the Phase Two programme, would like to invite all Providers of Residential Short Breaks services to attend an initial engagement event on **Thursday 20th October 2016** at 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm in the Bewick Dobson Room at Newcastle Civic Centre, Barras Bridge, NE1 8QH.

At this session the Lead Authority intends to:

* have detailed discussions with Providers regarding our commissioning intentions for NE12+ Phase Two to include commissioning of Residential Short Breaks Services,
* share our initial thinking around a Lotting structure for the collaborative solution,
* share data on our current position
* share an indicative procurement timeline, and
* inform Providers of our ‘next steps’ in relation to this commissioning exercise.

Please confirm your attendance by email to the single point of contact for this project:

Emma Bass

Commissioning and Procurement Officer

Newcastle City Council

emma.bass@newcastle.gov.uk

0191 211 6366

Please ensure you Provide Emma with **all** of the following information:

1. Name of attendees
2. Role of attendees
3. Email and phone number for attendees
4. Organisation attendees will be representing
5. Setting attendees will be representing

If you are unable to attend the Event on 20 October but would be interest in learning more about this project and / or attending future events, please contact Emma Bass and provide the details as above.