

# DRAFT

Children & Young People's Service  
Accountable Officer: Rory McCallum  
Lead Officer: Tim Tod  
Activity Plan 2009- 2010



## Improving Housing options for families and young people

### **Why is this important?**

Nationally the average age of young people leaving home is now 24 years old. Devon has specific problems regarding housing and homelessness. It is a large county with a mixture of urban and vast rural areas. Lack of suitable and affordable Private sector and Social Housing coupled with affordability of owner occupied housing mean that for many the process of living independently is very challenging, especially for the groups seen as vulnerable (e.g. Children in Care, 16 & 17 year olds unable to stay at home, Young People with a disability). Single room rent restrictions for under 25s together with the lack of shared (hmo) private rented accommodation further compounds the difficulties facing those young people who are unable to stay at home. Ensuring that all young people have a stable and supportive living environment that they call home directly impacts on their well-being and their ability to achieve in education, employment and beyond.

### **Objectives:**

- 1. Develop early intervention & education**
- 2. Improve access to Emergency Accommodation in Rural areas**
- 3. Improve access to advice and information.**
- 4. improve the quality and quantity of accommodation and support**
- 5. Ensure that all services and those working with families have robust safeguarding policies in place.**
- 6. Improve the range of move-on accommodation accessible for all vulnerable groups**
- 7. Further developing the Joint Working arrangements between all the relevant agencies**
- 8. Engage with young people, families and carers to enhance the quality of decision making**

# DRAFT

## Area of Activity 1: Develop early intervention & education

Specific Tasks	Resource	Lead Officer	Milestones
Map existing early intervention services & education initiatives across CT	IYSDS board & CT Housing steering group	Jon Richards	Mapping completed by Nov 09
Agree priorities for future commissioning	As above	As above	January 10
Develop specification and tender	As above	As above	January 10

## Area of Activity 2: Improve access to Emergency Accommodation in Rural areas

Specific Tasks	Resource	Lead Officer	Milestones
Develop specification and tender	LPSA2 reward & cyps & SP	Fleur Buechler	Tender September 09

## Area of Activity 3: Improve access to advice and information

Specific Tasks	Resource	Lead Officer	Milestones
Ensure all prevention posts are fully deployed	LPSA2 reward & Housing departments	Fleur Buechler	September 09
Prevention posts trained in use of CAF and as BLP's	Cyps and housing authorities	Fleur Buechler	November 09
Scope out the resource implications needed for equity of access for yp as contained in the IAG strategy	IAG strategy group	John Davey	November 09

## Area of Activity 4: improve the quality and quantity of accommodation and support

Specific Tasks	Resource	Lead Officer	Milestones
Improve the quality and facilities within Young Persons Supported accommodation	LPSA2 reward capital	Fleur Buechler	Tender April 10
Improve access into the Private rented Sector for families	LAA 27 & housing authorities	Liza Jennings	March 10

# DRAFT

**Area of Activity 5:** Ensure that all housing and support services working with young people & families have robust safeguarding policies in place.

Specific Tasks	Resource	Lead Officer	Milestones
<i>Audit all services safeguarding policies</i>	LSCB & CT housing steering group	Fleur Buechler & Lucy Spiers	Audit start October 09 – complete October 10
<i>Identify examples of Best Practice &amp; develop training and support to assist those in need of further development</i>	As above	As above	April 10 – march 11

**Area of Activity 6:** Improve the range of move-on accommodation accessible for all vulnerable groups

Specific Tasks	Resource	Lead Officer	Milestones
<i>Scope out the level of need and agree on areas of prioritisation via the Young persons Supported Housing Sector and other relevant sources (e.g. PD, LD &amp; CAMHS)</i>	Lpsa 2 capital	Tim Tod	October 09
<i>Identify and secure the additional resources needed in partnership with other relevant strategic groups</i>	Ct housing steering group	Tim Tod	January 10

**Area of Activity 7:** Further develop the Joint Working arrangements between all the relevant agencies

Specific Tasks	Resource	Lead Officer	Milestones
<i>Reach final agreement from the eight housing authorities and CYPS on how we work with 16/17 years olds, Care Leavers and families consistently through the Housing and Support Protocol</i>	Shelter audit – ct housing steering group & Devon housing strategic group	Fleur Buechler	Sign off September 09
<i>Deliver training to all relevant Practitioners across Devon to embed consistency and improved outcome for young people</i>	CT housing steering group	Liza Jennings	January 10
<i>Local Homeless Prevention Panels to be fully operational across the whole of Devon</i>	Devon housing strategic group & CT housing steering group	Fleur Buechler	December 09

# DRAFT

<i>Family Forum panels across Devon to identify housing and support resources to match a families needs.</i>	CT housing steering group	Fleur Buechler	September 10
--	---------------------------	----------------	--------------

## **Area of Activity 8:** Engage with young people, families and carers to enhance the quality of decision making

<b>Specific Tasks</b>	<b>Resource</b>	<b>Lead Officer</b>	<b>Milestones</b>
<i>Agree on the key areas of engagement</i>	CT housing steering group	Tim Tod	August 09
Engage with relevant groups	CT participation group	Debbie Pritchard	October 09
Incorporate their input into plans and decision making processes	As above	As above	December 09

## **Risk Management**

Identify the risks associated with achieving the objectives. Describe how the risks are to be managed and monitored under Business Continuity Intentions column. Calculate the likelihood and potential impact (Risk score) where 1 is unlikely to occur or low impact if it does occur and 5 is expected to occur and catastrophic if it does occur. Complete the risk table below as example. Only register here if risk over 15

*Example: Likelihood 4 x Impact 5 = 20*

<b>Identified Risk</b>	<b>Business Continuity Intentions or measures to address risk identified</b>	<b>Risk score</b>
LPSA2 reward monies is finite	Develop robust monitoring of effectiveness of prevention posts	15
Southwark ruling – resource implications and risks of responding to pressures by unplanned changes to priorities.	Keep channels of communication open and partnership focused on invest to save and prevention principles.	15

# DRAFT

## Performance Management

Identify the performance measures associated with achieving the objectives These can be inputs, outputs and outcome measures. All local measures described will need to be set up in SPAR.net. A template is available if measures are not currently reported through SPAR.net, (contact [julie.mitchell@devon.gov.uk](mailto:julie.mitchell@devon.gov.uk)).

National/ Local	Performance Measures/ indicators	Target 2009/10 (if appropriate)	Responsible Officer

### Final checklist:

Have you addressed all **green issues** related to the delivery of these actions?

Have you identified how the **voices of children and young people** will be heard and how this will impact on improved delivery?

Have you identified and planned for **equality and diversity** implications arising from your proposed activities?