

Appendix A – Impact of proposals

A contract that focusses on people who are longer term rough sleepers and returners

This will have a new person-centred focus. We will measure success through work with named individuals with more personalised solutions (rather than judged on numbers and percentages) with support from navigators (to see them through pathway and help them maintain their accommodation).

Evidence from the impact of Housing First programmes and Navigation services have demonstrated that this method of working in a focussed way with individuals has resulted in improved and continued engagement in both maintaining accommodation and improvements in recovery from early life trauma. This also achieves better health outcomes for individuals linking to two of the four themes in the Corporate Strategy around Empowering and Caring and Wellbeing¹. We must acknowledge that affordability of housing is a major issue that can have an impact on reducing the levels of rough sleeping in the city.

A contract that focusses on prevention

The benefits of this proposal will be to:

- Focus on prevention and those people who are new to the streets - with less complex needs - with a focus on rapid solutions to help people off the streets.
- The current service is based on London model, the recommissioning aims to establish a service that is tailored to the needs of people sleeping rough in Bristol and establish a more effective service that prevents new people ending up on the street by improving:
 - Work with individuals to find alternative accommodation before they become homeless and in crisis.
 - Location, a quieter, more focussed location, away from other services that can cause disruption.
 - If people do need to stay in the Hub, there will be a greater focus on building skills to maintain a tenancy in the private rental sector and gain employment.

Why two separate contracts?

The intention to have two separate providers should help those who have disengaged with one provider – offering second option. This approach also develops the market, bringing in new skills and provider strengths, mitigating risk of provider failure, or change within an organisation if there is a merger or change of approach. This approach also opens more opportunities to develop new and innovative services with different providers.

Framework for resettlement and navigators support

Support and navigation is currently piecemeal (mainly due to short-term funding and different timelines of separate funding rounds). By creating a single co-ordinated navigator team and coherent resettlement and support service this should improve:

- Number of people that will have access to a navigator (in reducing the chance of someone returning to the streets).
- Ensuring there is resettlement support for all – particularly supporting those going into the private rented sector.
- Ability to respond quickly to new funding opportunities – fairer and should be more linked into existing services.

¹ <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/documents/20182/33620/Bristol+City+Council+Corporate+Strategy+2018+to+2023.pdf/3e7d7377-ed1f-5d67-c6ab-af49b7159a5e>

- Enhance the ability to respond to specific funding opportunities for other support areas e.g. services that improve health & wellbeing and services that help people to access training and employment opportunities.
- The proposed framework would also allow for potential to attract new providers, and better opportunities for providers to collaborate.
- Improved outcomes for people as a result of an effective and coordinated approach to peer mentoring.

Framework for accommodation options

This is a proposal to establish a list of providers who have capacity to deliver accommodation solutions. Currently, as above, this is piecemeal. There are currently limited alternative options other than supported temporary accommodation and social housing. The main perceived benefit of this new approach is to:

- Significantly increase the range of additional accommodation options, in particular in the private sector and shared accommodation options of all tenures.
- Encourage framework providers to pre-prepare for opportunities – e.g. identify potential shelter provision or units for Housing First.
- Also provides the ability to respond quickly to new funding opportunities – which gives more providers an opportunity to bid as they will be more prepared for opportunities.
- Keeps a priority focus on continuing to need additional move on accommodation.

The Impact for City

It is anticipated that there should be less people on the streets:

- Due to more focussed work with people who have slept on the streets for long periods and should help reduce anti-social behaviour and street based anti-social behaviour (leading to less pressure on police and impact on city centre businesses and tourism)
- Through increased shelter provision through the accommodation framework.
- As a result of improved prevention work that is more focussed on preventing people becoming homeless before it becomes a crisis.
- From reduced numbers returning to the streets through a coordinated team of navigators and a more person centred approach.
- Less pressure on emergency health services, the police and less of an impact on city centre businesses and tourism.