

# CSC Development Plan

## LAC commissioning capacity

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<b>Directorate:</b>	Children's Services
<b>Service Area:</b>	Investment in commissioning capacity

### 1. TRANSFORMATION OVERVIEW

#### Background

A recent review of the Children's Social care operation highlighted a lack of placement availability and choice for looked after children. As a result, we have some children placed in homes that aren't fully meeting their needs and in a small number of cases, we have children that aren't placed in regulated placements.

In addition, we have insufficient capacity to monitor the quality of placements or contractual compliance with providers.

This is set within the context of a placement sufficiency challenge nationally as highlighted in the recently commissioned Care Review which includes a report from the Competitions Market Authority

#### Summary of Proposal

In order to develop the market locally in Barnsley to ensure placement choice within the borough we are proposing the creation of one Senior Commissioning Manager post and an additional Placement Team Contract Officer

Collectively these posts will:

- Urgently review all children in unregulated settings
- Urgently review all children placed out of borough
- Work with social workers and IRO to review performance plans for these children
- Review our foster carers offer including payments and support to ensure we are competitive within the market.
- Review and refresh Sufficiency Strategy focusing on prevention, local market development and improved moving on options for care leavers
- Strengthen our contracting and Quality Assurance arrangements for placements to ensure that our children are receiving the care and support that we are paying for.

### Alternative Options

- As is – the current operating model does not meet statutory and demand pressures.

### Links to Corporate Priorities

- Healthy Barnsley - People can access all the care and support they need, at the right time and in the right place.
- Enabling Barnsley - Our council is modern, inclusive, efficient, productive, and high performing

### Anticipated Objectives & Benefits

- Improved compliance quality and outcomes for children and families receiving our services.
- Improved line of sight to practice
- More children living within Barnsley
- Improved placement stability
- Reduction in unit cost for placements through development of the local market, including exploration of creation of new local provision

### Implications

Likely to need corporate support including IT, HR, Performance

## 2. PROJECT SCHEDULE

*What are the provisional milestones / timescales?*

Key Milestone	Start Date	Completion Date
Service review, formal proposal and any consultation period (18 month review period)	Qtr 3 Sept-Dec 2022/23	Qtr 2 23/24

## 3. RESOURCES

*Provide details of any anticipated resources required (IT support, office space, Project Manager, Project Team, specific skills, investment etc.)*

Resources	Expected cost	When Required
1 X commissioning manager	£58,270	
1 X Placements team officer	£47,239	

#### 4. EFFICIENCIES

*What efficiency with the transformation deliver – minimum expected is 10%*

Efficiency	Estimates (£)	
10% on current out of borough placements		

#### 5. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

*Provide any further summary information regarding urgency, dependencies, constraints, enablers, assumptions.*

- Further increases in Looked After Children numbers
- Statutory requirements and regulatory framework changes