

# Corporate Parenting Board

## 6 December 2021

### The Harbour Impact and Outcomes Reports

#### For Decision

**Portfolio Holder:** Cllr A Parry, Children, Education, Skills and Early Help

**Local Councillor(s):** Cllr Wheller Chair

**Executive Director:** T Leavy, Executive Director of People - Children

Report Author: Louise Drury

Title: Head of Service Children in Care and Care Leavers

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**Report Status:** Public

#### Recommendation:

That the Corporate Parenting Board note the impact and support the work being undertaken in The Harbour.

That the Corporate Parenting Board provide challenge and support to strengthen the impact and outcomes going forward.

#### Reason for Recommendation:

##### 1. Executive Summary

This report analyses the impact of the Harbour Project from December 2020 to July 2021. Within the limits of a short time frame and the service not being fully operational, it provides encouraging emerging evidence of improved outcomes for young people in the target cohort for the service. These include:

- Improved performance against a range of KPIs for the target cohort during this period
- Strong evidence from a range of case studies of the success of individual interventions
- An estimate of cost avoidance

Work will continue with the longitudinal tracking of outcomes for young people involved with the Harbour, alongside the capture actual spending reductions.

The report provides encouraging emerging evidence of improved outcomes for young people in the target cohort for the service. These include:

- Improved performance against a range of KPIs for the target cohort during this period
- Strong evidence from a range of case studies of the success of individual interventions
- An estimate of cost avoidance

Future work will take place to develop the longitudinal tracking of outcomes for young people involved with the Harbour, and, alongside a more developed benefits model, to capture actual spending reductions.

## **2. Financial Implications**

The Harbour has worked with a total of 55 young people as at the end of July 2021 and the cost avoidance for these young people is currently forecast to be £1,879,517 for 2021/22.

There were 27 young people with open interventions and the cost avoidance, assuming that the young people continue to receive interventions or do not require care services during the financial year is forecast to be £803,445 for 2021/22.

There were 28 young people no longer receiving an intervention from The Harbour and the ongoing cost avoidance for this group of young people is forecast to be £1,076,072. This assumes that no further interventions are required for the remainder of the financial year and that there is no change in care plan.

An average weekly cost of all children in care has been used to calculate the cost avoidance for young people on the Edge of Care. Costs avoided from Placement Stability are calculated using the current placement cost and an assumption of the cost of an alternative placement. Costs avoided from Reunification are calculated using the current placement cost. Cost avoidance for young people turning 18 during the financial year 2021/22 ceases on their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.

## **3. Well-being and Health Implications**

Some young people find it difficult to engage with a CAMHS mental health service. Having an embedded clinical psychologist and speech and language therapist who will be able to assess without an appointment will ensure that the emotional wellbeing and mental health needs of young people are better met.

The Harbour Team offer a wide range of activities from art activities to extreme sports providing the opportunity for young people to have new experiences and strengthen emotional wellbeing. The impact of this is yet to be captured consistently through SDQ

scores although where reported there is evidence that following involvement with the Harbour emotional wellbeing is improved.

#### **4. Climate implications**

In addition to matching skills and experience attention is paid to where practitioners and young people live to reduce mileage.

In furnishing our children's homes we plan to acquire a selection of previously loved quality furniture which meets the safety requirements. This will be chosen in consultation with young people.

For the same or less expenditure we will be able to have higher quality, robust furnishings which will have a more homely feel.

We will reduce the carbon impact of the homes and be supporting the Council's Environmental Action Plan in response to the Climate Emergency.

We will be able to share as a model of good environmental practice to other organisations.

We will role model environmentally responsible action for the children and young people and the staff.

We will create a unique environment with high quality but not institutional furnishings.

#### **5. Other Implications**

There are no other implications

#### **6. Risk Assessment**

Having considered the risks associated with this decision, the level of risk has been identified as:

Current Risk: Low

Residual Risk: Low

#### **7. Equalities Impact Assessment**

Not applicable

#### **8. Appendices**

The Harbour Impact and Outcomes Report dated 5 September 2021

#### **9. Background Papers**

Not applicable

**Footnote:**

Issues relating to financial, legal, environmental, economic and equalities implications have been considered and any information relevant to the decision is included within the report.