**Notes of HRS Covid Catch up call – 08.09.20**

1. Update on Adults & CYP Committees

Both committees have agreed 9 month contract extensions to allow us to undertake the necessary engagement around service redesign and also to acknowledge that services are still in the Covid Recovery phase at present

1. Update on HRS Review / Procurement

Hoping to be able to finalise timetables soon, but currently looks if we’d be looking to start tenders around April 2021.

Still having conversations with Peterborough.

Will be looking at staggering tender opportunities as appreciate some organisations may wish to consider multiple opportunities.

Some of the engagement work will include ‘Soft Market Testing’ (SMT) which will provide interested parties with an opportunity to suggest a service delivery approach that would meet our needs. Top 5 are then invited to discuss their proposal in more detail. SMT is not part of the tender process, but it can be a good tool to help inform thinking about service delivery and provide opportunities for those with expertise to shape the final model. Anticipate SMT would commence in Autumn.

No decision made yet on whether County will move away from multiple contracts. This information will be shared as soon as it’s available. Point made that early notification needed to allow providers to form alliances/consortia if needed.

Draft HRS Strategy is being finalised. Hoping this will be available to circulate in August. Will be an opportunity to provide feedback before a final version is produced.

We will also be starting to look at reconvening and establishing groups or meetings to discuss new service models. However we’re mindful that focus is still very much on Covid Recovery at present.

Due to go back to Adult & CYP Committees in January 2021 to get agreement on models and procurement approach.

1. Mental Health (briefing note sent to Housing Board & CCG attached)

Meeting held with CCG and Districts - Support has been requested initially for the Covid TA population.

Acknowledgement that there is a lack of CPFT engagement and that they need to be part of the solution.

Following the meeting a nominated person (Liam Dolan) from CPFT has now joined the discussions to act as the named link.

One of the solutions being looked at is provision of training from CPFT to help with understanding of common MH issues and approaches for managing these – initial discussion is around this being for Housing staff but would want supported housing to also be included.

CPFT have also agreed to do work with partners around understanding referral pathways and thresholds.

Commissioners are also approaching MIND to see if there is a ‘softer offer’ they could provide for supported housing clients.

1. Arc4 report & recommendation

Recommendations discussed at Housing Board last week.

Lot of support for developing multi agency approaches for young people and complex needs.

Looking to circulate the final report shortly, but also mindful that Members need to be briefed on it as well.

1. Provider Updates

* CHS – no change really. Lot of issues with ASB at a project and serious incident there. But things are calming down again. 120 Mill Rd (reg’d) scheduled to close as a result of low demand. No cases of Covid.
* Jimmy’s – all ok – services all fully open – no cases of Covid. Staff with underlying conditions beginning to return. Move-on has started to pick up. Looking at trying to get some funding in to support staff and residents on MH.
* Cyrenians – No Covid cases. Staff returning to office. Move-on picking up again. Shared details of MH post with Jimmy’s and Sanctuary.
* Riverside – Serious incident at CHS scheme has also had an impact on a Riverside scheme. No Covid cases but have had a few suspected cases that have turned out to be negative. Danger of clients and staff viewing things as ‘business as usual’ given relaxation and lack of cases.
* Longhust – Most staff are now back other than a few who are shielding. Move-on picking up and no voids. Still wary as they’ve had no cases. Few staff tested but negative. Testing happening quickly.
* Futures HA – staff back from furlough – going back in to offices from 20th on staggered shifts. Noticed an increased in MH needs. Move-on have picked up. Few have moved back with family.
* P3 – continuing to see an increase in referrals – re-introducing face to face contact where it can’t be provided remotely. Increase in referrals for those who English is not first language. Trying to source funding to support translation for this cohort.
* Castle Project – 6th week of socially distanced face to face support – going well – now planning to do more social exposure in cafes and other locations
* YMCA – Couple of staff tested but negative. Increase in ASB and incidences at some sites. Move-on has picked up. Interacting more face to face with residents. MH big issue looking at trying to get some targeted counselling in place.
* Suffolk Mind - We have no cases at The Green Rd. Had an issue with a gentleman who went missing but he was located by police and is currently in Mulberry 3, having medication reintroduced.
* Ferry Project - Rapid rehousing HUB has now moved back to face to face. Hostel and Fenland Young Parent’s service both full. No Covid cases. Couple of staff tested but negative. Staff with underlying health conditions are slowly returning back to their usual work areas. Communal areas are still closed off at present.

1. A.O.B

Quarterly Monitoring for CCC Contracts:

Contracts Team want to see reporting continue but recognise that the report content may not reflect the requirements of the contract at the current time.

The expectation is that quarterly monitoring returns will be submitted for Q2, but would ideally include a summary of activity for Q1 (even if only brief). (NB: Q1 Summary not needed for those who have already submitted something for Q1)

There is an acceptance that there will need to be some flexibility in report content, but the key things that Contracts will want to see in reports are;

* what level of service the projects are currently delivering
* what outcomes are being achieved
* how they are planning for a ‘Business as Usual’ state and timescales for changes

It’s accepted that there may also be a need for discussions to take place around contract variation in the long term for some contracts if they are unable to resume ‘BAU’ in the way the contract sets out.

Outcome of funding request to help HRS with Covid costs:

No additional funding has been agreed at this time, but discussions are continuing.