

Information Item for Adult Care and Health PDS 20th January 2021.

Briefing Note Summarising Shared Lives Business Case (REPORT NUMBER ACH21/006).

1. Introduction.

This note summarises key points of a Shared Lives Business Case which proposes invest to save action to deliver growth and associated efficiency targets in coming years.

The business case was discussed and supported at the Adult Services Transformation Board on 1st December 2020 and a summary shared with the Portfolio Holder and PDS chair at their briefing on 7th December.

2. Background.

Previous action to develop the London Borough of Bromley Shared Lives service since original projections were made in late 2018 has not delivered the hoped for growth and associated efficiencies. Long term absence of key staff and the need to respond to the pandemic have meant that whilst some progress has been made further action is necessary to deliver to targets.

An external review of the potential for growth was commissioned in March 2020 in order to review progress made and inform further action. This review was completed by Shared Lives Plus¹ who are the leading provider in the UK of Shared Lives Services.

3. Business Case Summary

- 3.1. The review completed by Shared Lives Plus validated the original proposals in relation to the underlying positive outcomes for people using shared lives services, potential for expansion in the Bromley Service and for resulting efficiencies when compared to the use of other forms of accommodation-based support.
- 3.2. The business case outlines a development project to run for 12 months through the 21/22 financial year. The business case proposes two key areas of investment as part of a 12 month project.
 - **Business development and project management capacity.** This will deliver recruitment of new shared lives carers, management of the new carers and the development of new systems for a shared lives service that can more than double in size from its current operation. This will include exploration of opportunities to expand the scope of the shared lives in terms of the nature of support offered and target audience. Opportunities for expansion include options to use shared lives to provide short breaks and day time support and exploring increasing

¹ https://sharedlivesplus.org.uk/start-your-shared-life/?gclid=EAlaIqobChMI73m992H7gIVh7HtCh113QC1EAAYASAAEgI8xPD_BwE

support to new client groups including older people, younger disabled adults and those with mental health support requirements.

- Care Management Resources. Dedicated care management resources are required to identify people who have care and support packages who may benefit from a move to a shared lives placement.

3.3. The costs of the project will be approximately £85,000 (dependent on scale point of appointed staff). There are three ways in which the projected efficiencies can be made:

- Finding people with learning disabilities who will benefit from a move from their current package of support and care to shared lives.
- Offering shared lives support to those who are preparing for adulthood as an alternative to more expensive options such as residential care and supported living.
- Offering shared lives support to client groups other than people with learning disabilities and widening the scope of the service to include day opportunities, short breaks and support for those with more complex support requirements.

3.4. The external review envisages annual growth at 12.5% per year delivering a further 31 shared lives placements over 5 years. This equates to a final position which delivers a recurring annual saving of £840k per year at the end of the development period.

3.5. The business case details three options.

1. Do nothing,
2. Use the existing team to deliver the growth
3. Create a separate development project reporting to the Head of Service.

The chosen option is number 3 (pros and cons are outlined in the full business case). This involves creating a development team of two people (using internally seconded staff who will need backfill which is where the project costs come from). A project manager will manage the growth in the service and a care manager will support the right people with changes to their package of support. During the 12 month development period project workers will report directly to the Head of Service to ensure tight oversight.

The resources required are available in the Invest to Save fund. This funding source was recommended as part of discussions at the Adult Services Transformation Board in December 2020.

4. Conclusion.

There is clear potential to grow the Shared Lives service in Bromley which will offer positive outcomes for people using the service and deliver against efficiency targets as part of the transformation programme. The focussed development project that will report directly to the Head of Service for the Learning Disability Service will support the necessary developments in the operating model and growth in the scale of the London Borough of Bromley Shared Lives Service.