

BUDGET CUT ASSESSMENT FORM

Budget Cut Assessment Form CEASE FLOATING SUPPORT FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS	Ref No C3	Responsible AD	Responsible Finance Manager	Responsible HR Manager	Responsible Lawyer	Responsible EIA Officer
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Description of Proposal:

To decommission the contract for the provision of Floating Support to Victims of Domestic Abuse and their children (this is not the Women’s Refuge which contains 8 units of provision)

This service provides Outreach support for victims of Domestic Abuse and specific support for children affected by Domestic Abuse. The service enables individuals/families to improve the quality of their lives by addressing safety, legal and housing matters, then to develop coping mechanisms and resilience. By helping individuals to resolve the present crisis by reducing risk and increasing feelings of safety, the service creates space for the individual to start taking control and planning for the future. There is insufficient provision in the Refuge for the overall numbers presenting. The contractor offers confidence building programmes to avoid repeat incidents of Domestic Abuse, the programmes have an integral role in supporting recovery from domestic abuse and improving mental wellbeing.

This service is part of a pathway of services for victims of Domestic Abuse. It is the identified route of support for women leaving the refuge and can also, in many cases, prevent the need for families to enter the refuge. It is the only service available to support male victims.

£22,000 of the contract has been deemed statutory to cover the MASH worker and Children’s worker and would continue to be funded.

Human Resources Impacts		Asset Management Impacts	Decommissioning Costs	Cost Shunting
No. of posts to be deleted		Detail any released buildings/building space Identify disposal or requisition issues	In addition to HR and Asset costs identify any others e.g. early contract termination costs The contract was let for a period of three years plus an option to extend for a further one plus one years, the contractual agreement has provision for 90 days’ notice.	Is there any known or potential to increase costs elsewhere within Council budgets <u>Children’s Social Care</u> If this service is de-commissioned, there could be a potential increase in the number of children/families requiring support from children’s services including a potential increase in the number of vulnerable children who could become the responsibility of the Council, with a likely increase in spot purchasing. <u>Housing Services</u> The outreach support service supports victims to maintain their accommodation, without this service there might be an increase in the number of families presenting with homelessness issues. The service provides support to families with budgeting and claiming appropriate benefits, therefore contributing to a reduction in rent arrears. Housing Options may see an increase in the number of clients who present as homeless and there is a statutory duty to provide temporary housing for Families vulnerable as a result of fleeing Domestic Abuse or the threat of Domestic Abuse. <u>Adult Social Care</u> There is a potential cost shunt to ASC and health services (mental health/substance misuse). Many clients accessing the service have identified Mental Health problems. <u>MASH</u> If this service is de-commissioned, referral routes available to the MASH would be reduced.
No. of potential redundancies				
Estimated Redundancy costs	£			

	Financial Summary				
	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Estimated reduction to budget	£32,499	£64,999	£64,999	£64,999	£64,999
Redundancy Costs					
Asset Implication					
Decommissioning Costs					
Known Cost Shunting	Not able to be specifically quantified				
Overheads	£1,061	£2,092	£2,065	£2,050	£2,050
NET Budget Reduction	£33,560	£67,091	£67,064	£67,049	£67,049

Equality Impact Assessment

Officers have considered the proposal’s relevance to Darlington Borough Council’s Public Sector Equality Duty and full Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken. A copy of this is available in 3 (b) Appendix 1.