



MAY 05 UPDATE

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Service Reviews

As part of our commitment to complete all service reviews by December 2005, we will soon be in contact with you to obtain information to complete your review. This will enable us to make recommendations to the SP commissioning body regarding your interim contract. The information we require is as follows;

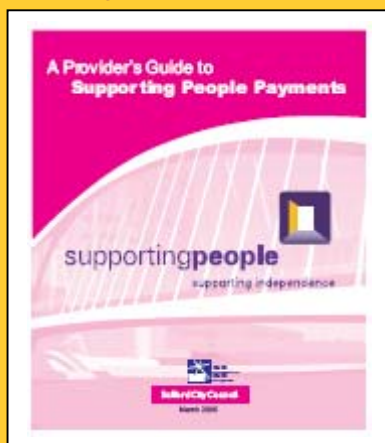
- Annonomised Support Plans
- Job Descriptions
- Budget Information for the 2005-2006 financial year
- Expenditure Reports for 2003-04 & 2004-05 financial years.

If you have not already supplied this information you will be asked over the coming months. We do understand that this may be time consuming but is vital in order to complete your service review. Those services that have not been reviewed yet will shortly be receiving letters of the teams intention to bring forward reviews in order to meet the December 2005 deadline.

Strategy Update

We are pleased to announce that the Supporting People 5 Year Strategy is finally here! You can expect to receive the 'polished' version by late July but if you would like to view a copy sooner please visit our local area at: www.spkweb.org.uk or www.salford.gov.uk/living/housing/sup-people.htm or alternatively please contact Charlotte Lynch who will be happy to send out copies on CD or via email. Happy reading! We are also planning an official launch of the strategy which will take place in September 05.

Provider's Guide to Supporting People Payments: 6 May 2005



The main purpose of the above event, held at the Broadwalk Training Centre, was to launch the User guide and interactive CD containing information on all our payments procedures. The Guide was extremely well received and we would like to thank you for all the positive feedback we have received so far. For those of you who were unable to send a representative from your scheme a User guide is available for you. Please get in touch if you would like your copy forwarding to you.

Older People's Service Review

We are now in a position to bring the review timetable forward so that all services are reviewed and contracts renegotiated by November/December 2005. As part of this revised review timetable, we will be reviewing all of the sheltered housing provision for older people in the city, both internal and external provision.

We are aware that work is currently underway to produce a strategy for older people's housing and we are keen not to duplicate or pre-empt any of this work. Sheltered housing remains strategically relevant to the Supporting People programme, and it is not anticipated that fundamental changes will be made to existing services. As with all other services, we will be issuing a 12month extension to current interim contracts. Therefore, any longer term changes to services that are identified as part of the older People's Strategy can be made without it impacting on our current review and contract renewal process.

To this end, we will review the sheltered provision by provider, rather than on a scheme by scheme basis. This will provide us with the following benefits;

- NPHL can be reviewed as a single provider, allowing us to undertake a generic QAF assessment, with validation visits to a sample number of schemes.
- We can alter contracts to single contract with a provider for an agreed number of sheltered housing places, either warden or community alarm.
- As part of this contract, we can agree a single unit price with each provider enabling easier payment processes.

As an extensive consultation plan will be undertaken in relation to the Older People's Strategy, we are not planning to duplicate this with specific SP consultation as part of our review, but link in with the comprehensive consultation at a later date.

Steady State Contracts

A copy of the draft proposed 'Steady State' contract is now available online at:

www.spkweb.org.uk/Your_local_area/GONW/Salford/Information_for_providers/Steady+State+Contract.htm

This supersedes the draft posted January 2004. The contract has been worked up from the original interim contract, which forms the basis of the contracts already agreed in Salford, by a team of people representative of the North West Supporting People teams. This means that it benefits from wider input of contract teams across the region and will result in a clear benefit of being a similar document for providers working in more than one authority. It references new legislation, such as the Freedom of Information Act and includes new processes that we hope to move to, such as an Information Sharing Protocol between local authorities. We are taking views and consultation on the contract and if you have comments to make you can make them to supporting.people@salford.gov.uk, by 29th July 2005. If appropriate can you include the relevant clause and/or paragraph number.

Accreditation

Salford Supporting people Team have agreed a regional approach to accreditation. The proposed joint accreditation process, to be known as the North West Supporting People Accreditation Scheme, is intended to cover all Independent Providers (IPs) who wish to provide housing related support services under the conditions of the Supporting People grant to the participating Local Authorities in the scheme. The aim is to standardise arrangements with all private and voluntary providers in order to seek to provide Supporting People services of the highest possible quality while also minimising the duplication of work for service providers. The North West Accreditation Scheme is intended to complement the requirements of the Office of the Deputy Prime Ministers Regulations for the Supporting People Grant by establishing and implementing a standard contract Accreditation system on behalf of all participating Local Authority's. It is envisaged that the scheme will in time compliment the Steady State Contract that has also been developed at a regional level.

We were also invited to present various service user awards at **Salford Foyer's** Open Day. The awards highlighted the achievements of the residents and gave visitors the chance to gain and insight into life at the Foyer.



CIH: Conference 2005

We are exhibiting at the above conference which will take place at Harrogate International Centre between 21-24 June 2005. The Conference gives visitors the opportunity to source the latest housing innovations, improve product awareness, share experiences and network amongst key housing professionals. As exhibitors we have been given 100 guest invitations which allow you to visit the exhibition free of charge. If you are interested in attending then please contact Charlotte Lynch for more information. The full conference programme is available on the Chartered Institute of Housings website at: www.cih-housing.co.uk alternatively email Charlotte if you would like a copy emailed to you. We hope to see you there.

KPI Dates

Q1 ends 3rd July 2005, so SPI return to be in for 8th July 2005.

Q2 ends 2nd October 2005, so SPI return to be in for 7th October 2005.

Q3 ends 1st January 2005, so SPI return to be in for 6th January 2005.

Q4 ends 2nd April 2005, so SPI return to be in for 7th April 2005.

Service Open Days

We would like to congratulate **SASH** on the success of their open day last month. The day gave all our partners the chance to see the excellent work which is going on in our services. The pictures below highlight the different ways in which service users are encouraged to participate in group activities & learn different skills.



Salford City Council

supportingpeople

Beacon Council
2004-2005
Benefits Administration
2004-2005
Supporting People