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Supporting people with learning disabilities

City of BRADFORD METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Positive Behaviour Support Service

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Overview

Commissioned by Bradford MDC using a Social Investment funding model, Affinity Trust has recently begun delivery of a Positive Behaviour Support service for children and young people in the City.

Its aim is to keep children with significant behaviours that challenge within the family home instead of them entering residential care.

There are a few PBS services delivered by the NHS/other LAs across the country.

We believe this is the first service of its kind (small cohort / intensive support) to be commissioned using Social Investment and delivered by a support provider.

In this presentation we will share information about the service, the commissioning process and what the service is seeking to achieve.

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What is Positive Behavioural Support ?

- PBS is a person centred framework for providing support to people with a learning disability, and/or autism, who have, or may be at risk of developing, behaviours that challenge.
- It is a blend of person centred values and behavioural science and uses evidence to inform decision-making.
- PBS approaches are based on a set of overarching values including the commitment to providing support that promotes inclusion, choice, participation and equality of opportunity.

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Delivery of PBS

- One core part of assessment in PBS is to understand why the behaviour that challenges happens – how the behaviour has been learned and how it is maintained. This process is called functional assessment.
- Once the reason for the behaviour has been identified a PBS plan is co-produced and followed by everyone involved in supporting the person.
- PBS plans should be developed in partnership with the person and their family.
- A PBS plan promotes pro-active and preventive strategies and includes teaching new skills It may include strategies to avert crisis and keep people safe.

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Commissioning Process

- Partners in Bradford identified the need for this service and the business case to jointly commission the service
- We needed a Service Provider and Social Investor partnership to deliver a high quality PBS service in Bradford through a Social Investment funding model
- We undertook joint commissioning between Council (Social Care and Education funding) and CCGs (Health funding) of a high quality service that meets needs of the cohort of young people in Bradford that require this service

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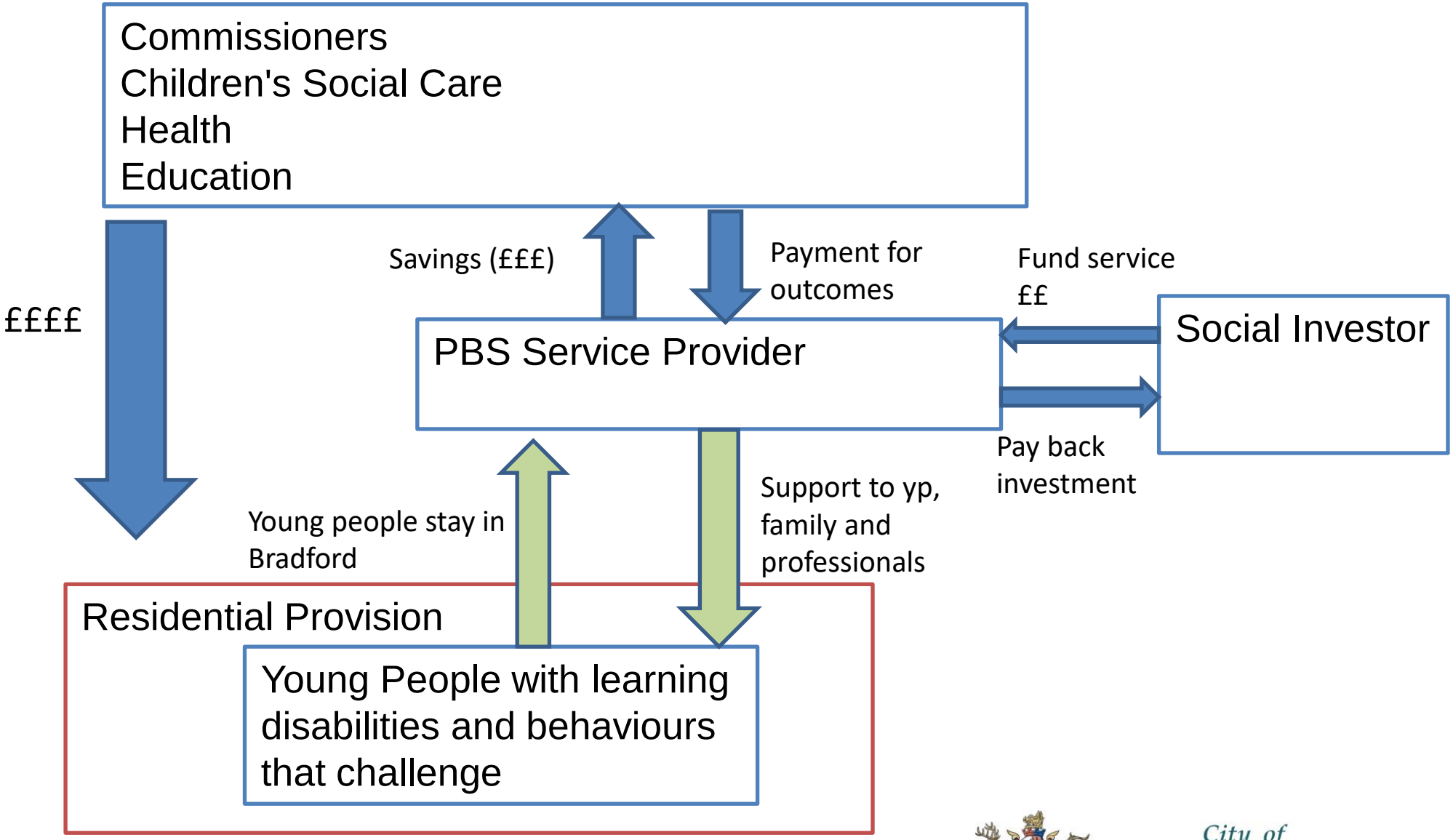
PBS – Social Investor Finance



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Threshold of Care

- Children/Young People identified as going to enter Residential Care in the next six months.
- Children/Young People in Residential Care returning home/to the authority

- Preparation for Adulthood
- Signs of Safety
- Joint Referral Panel

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Affinity Trust…

- Is a specialist, learning disabilities support provider. We are a registered charity established in 1991.
- Many of the people we support have additional needs such as autism, mental ill health, complex health needs and behaviours that challenge.
- Our focus is on community based support for individuals, be that supported living, outreach services or C&YP services.
- Positive Behaviour Support is embedded across the organisation.

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Service delivery

- Positive Behaviour Support to 14 children over a 6 year period, starting March 2018.
- Supporting 4-5 children at any one time for up to 2 years.
- Local Service Lead – Psychologist and PBS Specialist – Functional Assessment and PBS Plan.
- Specialist Key Workers providing direct support.
- As much focus on upskilling the parents, school and other support agencies as providing direct support to the child.
- Frequent multi-agency reviews involving parents/carers.
- Development of a maintenance plan with all key stakeholders, enabling withdrawal of direct support at the appropriate time.
- Adding capacity and PBS expertise, not replacing existing provision.

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Aims and outcomes

- Improving the life experiences and wellbeing of each child and their family by reducing rates of full time entry to residential care.
- Reducing the frequency, intensity and duration of challenging behaviour displayed by the child.
- Supporting the child's development of social and communication skills, independence and life skills.
- Support regular attendance at school and an ongoing place in education.
- Develop parents' skills and confidence in looking after their child.

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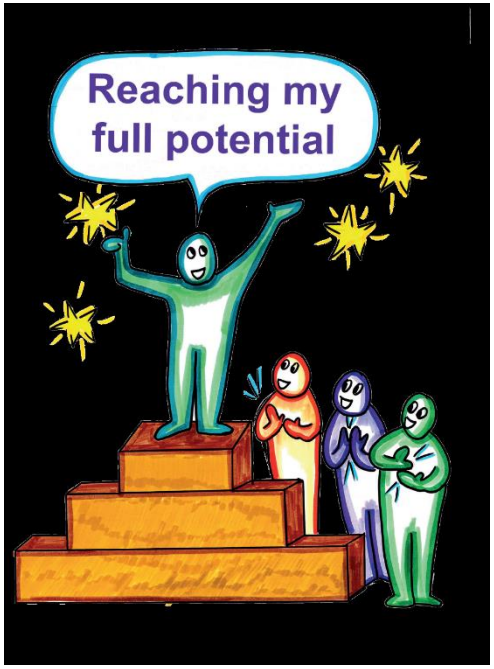
Individual outcomes

- Overall outcome is that the child is able to stay out of residential care
- For each child there will be individual outcomes – set by the child and families and focused on quality of life and increase in skills.
- Measurement of outcomes via direct feedback from the child, families and range of professionals.
- Use of Outcomes programme to track and report.



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Payment by results / social investment

- Affinity Trust only get paid ('outcome payment') if young people remain out of residential care.
- Outcome payments can be achieved quarterly for each young person but no payments for the first 9 months.
- This funding 'gap' (working capital) is covered by a social investor - who will invest in services able to achieve a 'social impact'.
- Meetings with four social investors to identify the best fit and the best deal for Affinity Trust.
- Social and Sustainable Capital (SASC) are our investment partner – they offer simplicity and flexibility re. funding terms. They will also be involved in monitoring and evaluating service delivery.
- Affinity Trust are funding 60% of the working capital requirement ourselves, SASC are providing 40%.

SASC SOCIAL and SUSTAINABLE CAPITAL

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How's it going so far?

- What's worked well:
  - Mobilisation period complete
  - Developing relationships with key stakeholders e.g. special schools
  - Initial recruitment process and Service Lead in post early to support implementation
  - Co-location agreed with the Children with Disabilities and Transitions Teams
  - Initial four referrals in place
  - Agreed a range of qualitative and quantitative outcomes monitoring
  - PBS training delivered
- Initial challenges:
  - Agreeing the referral process and the information required
  - Recruitment of one Specialist Key Worker – contingency plan
  - Managing timescales / expectations

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SASC SOCIAL and SUSTAINABLE CAPITAL

Illustrations by:
www.newpossibilities.co.uk

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