

# Supported Accommodation update report on registration with Ofsted.

The report outlines the planning, progress and impact of the requirement to register Supported Accommodation and plan to mitigate and manage the associated risks



12th May 2023

# Background

- At the end of March 2023 Ofsted published the Supported Accommodation Regulations 2023 as well as its accompanying 'Guide to Supported Accommodation Regulations including the Quality Standards'. This document supports the implementation of the Regulations as well as the guide to the Quality Standards which specifies the outcomes settings will be inspected against.
- 'The Regulations and this accompanying Guide for supported accommodation are applicable to accommodation in England in which a child is accommodated by the local authority pursuant to section 22C(6)(d) ("other arrangements" for looked after children) or section 23B(8)(b) ("suitable accommodation" for 16- and 17-year-old care leavers) of the Children Act 1989'. (Ofsted – The Guide)

# Categories of registration

Category (Regulation 2)	Description
1. Supported accommodation in a self-contained unit, where the accommodation is for the sole use of the child or for the child and other individuals living with the child as agreed by the accommodating authority or the supported accommodation undertaking. (Regulation 2(1), para (a))	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The accommodation is designed for the sole use of the young person placed there, or for the young person and others that may live there as part of their family unit, for example, their partner, sibling and children.</li><li>• Includes bedsits under a licence agreement and self-contained flats, which may be at the same location, or within the same building.</li></ul>
2. Supported accommodation in a shared or group living situation in premises used to accommodate only looked after children and care leavers. (Regulation 2(1), para (b))	<p>Shared accommodation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Young people have their own bedroom, and may have their own bathroom, and share communal areas (e.g. living room/s, kitchen).</li><li>• Provision may include foyer-type accommodation that combines support with opportunities for education, training and employment.</li><li>• This provision may accommodate care leavers aged 18+</li></ul>
3. Supported accommodation in a shared or group living situation in premises which are not limited to accommodating looked after children and care leavers. (Regulation 1(2), para (c))	<p>See description for 2 above, plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In addition to being registered to support looked after children and care leavers aged 16 and 17, this provision may also provide accommodation for people are not looked after children or care leavers.</li></ul>
4. Supported accommodation provided by an individual or individuals in a private residence which is the main residence of that individual or those individuals. (Regulation 2(1), para (d))	<p>Provided by private individuals who offer a room in their family home.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provision is typically co-ordinated by a supported lodgings scheme (the registered provider), which recruits and supports a network of supported lodgings 'hosts'.</li></ul>

# Demographics

## Gender



16%



84%

304 young people aged 16 and 17 who following care planning decisions are 'age eligible' to move into supported accommodation. **23%** of the CLA population.

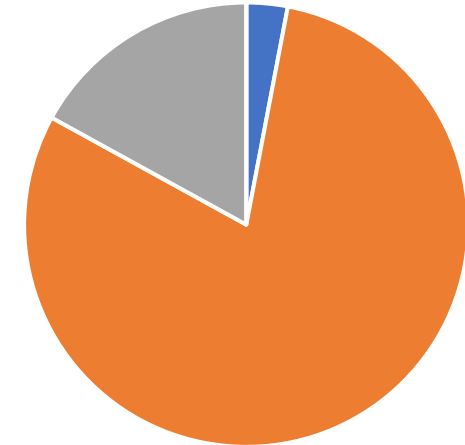
71% (218) of CLA young people aged 16/17 are currently living in supported accommodation or supported independent living.

17% of CLA young people live in supported accommodation.

28% of CLA young people aged 16/17 remain in 'care placements'

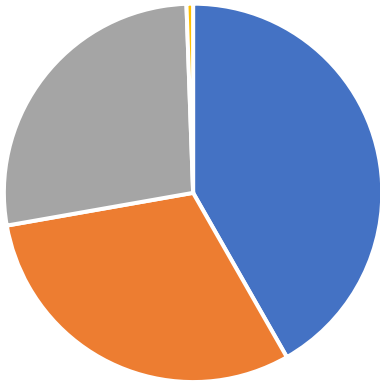
69% of young people are Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (3% are female)

## Age Profile



■ 18 ■ 17 ■ 16 ■ 15

## Supported Accommodation



■ External SA

■ External SA (Preferred Providers)

■ Supported Lodgings

■ Beehive

65% of 16 year olds living in supported accommodation are UASC.

UASC Current position Sept 2023:

**196** UASC (151 live in supported accommodation)

**0.14%** of under 18yr old population

**14.8%** (increase of 1.4% in 3 months) of Manchester's LAC population are UASC

for comparison purposes North West average was **4.5%** Q3 2022-23

Manchester has **3.3%** of all UASC nationally when compared to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 national figure

# Framework for Inspection

## **Features of overall experiences and progress of children**

- The accommodation is of good quality and meets children's individual needs
- Staff and supported lodgings hosts are suitably skilled and have strong relationships with children
- Plans for children are effective
- Children are supported to maintain strong, supportive social networks
- Children are well engaged with the wider community
- Children have good access to technology
- Support for children responds to their changing needs
- There is effective support for children's emotional and physical health
- There is strong support for children's education, training and employment
- Children have financial security
- Children's views are heard and acted on
- Children are involved in decision-making and plans for their futures
- Children's rights and entitlements are met
- Children are helped to develop practical and self-care skills

# Our Provision

- Our Internal Provision (64 young people)

The Beehive

Supported Lodgings

Any floating support arrangements across the service (staying close / agency staff)

Provision provided via the House Project (Manchester House Project only).

- Our External Providers (158 young people)

25 Providers

5 preferred providers and members of the 16+ Hub –

- MSV – The Lodge/Foyer,
- Bedspace,
- Stepping Stones,
- Manchester Settlement,
- Depaul
- Salvation Army





# Our Provision



Supported Lodgings



The Lodge



# Challenge/risk and service response

The current market and supported accommodation landscape in the North West has provided flexibility and responsive outcomes to our young people. There is a concern that the regulation will hinder this, especially for our highest needs young people. This has been mitigated via the 16+ hub, expanding its members to develop closer working relationships and trust in the Authority to support providers.

Some external providers have indicated that they will be requesting uplifts on existing and future placement costs directly attributed to the new registration. In some circumstances they have quoted 20% or to bring themselves in line with existing residential funding models. This has been mitigated in Manchester partly due to the revised post 16 accommodation offer and the relationships with providers we have developed and have negotiated the funding uplifts with external parties, and these have been contained within the revised external placement budget.

Our UASC population continues to grow at pace. Most individuals being age assessed are eligible for supported accommodation. Commissioning activity is in place to ensure that UASC young people do not saturate the Manchester market and we can continue to provide high quality support for UASC young people to enable them to establish communities and be welcomed into Manchester.

There is an envisaged reduction in provision for supported accommodation for 16/17-year-olds as smaller provisions make the decision to only provide a service for over 18's to avoid registration responsibilities.

Supported Lodgings is a golden service within our supported accommodation offer and one that we have committed to expand. We attract a certain type of individual who are 'good people' want to give back to the community whilst making an additional income. It is envisaged that applying minimum standard around training expectations and attendance of support groups etc will be a challenge for some. It is now built into the recruitment process that a commitment is needed, and minimum training completed prior to registration.

We have 6 young people living in supported accommodation where providers have not communicated their intention to register or given us assurances around the quality of their Statement of Purpose and compliance. There is a targeted piece of work being undertaken with these providers engage and support them to ensure young people will not have to move placement.



# Conclusion

- Manchester welcomes regulation across the post 16 supported accommodation provision.
- Our young people have been an active participant in all consultation, throughout the implementation of the regulations, most recently has been developing the framework for inspection yet to be released.
- We are committed to giving supported accommodation the same 'status' as Childrens Homes and care settings as we recognise that supported accommodation is an important part of a young person's 'care' journey. The Responsible Individual will be DDCS – Sean McKendrick and we will apply the same Reg 44 inspection and vigour.
- We are committed to recruiting and training a group of 'expert' young inspectors who will not only inspect our own internal provision but external provision where our young people live.
- We are hosting a GM 'community of practice' group to ensure outcomes and standards across the GM where our children are placed are maintained, whilst having an opportunity to share good practice and learning.