

Children's
Services

Hockley House Childrens and Families Advisory Panel February 2024

Context

What was the problem we needed to address?

The specific problem was to:

- Establish an innovative approach to reduce the number of children needing care over time;
- Ensuring sufficient provision for children with more complex needs; and
- Increase placement choice and support better matching of young people

Our answer to the problem

An existing set of semi-detached properties re-developed into accommodation for three young people with complex behavioural and mental health needs; Hockley House.

Hockley House will meet the needs of an identified cohort of young people for whom placement stability has been a challenge due to group matching considerations. Accommodating three self-contained bedrooms, each room has been carefully planned to maximise independence and life skills. The home will also have a communal family kitchen, dining area and outdoor spaces.

Hockley House is a new and innovative home that will enable children to have a local intensive therapeutic provision whilst also enabling the children to maintain family and community networks, with the ultimate goal of the young person being supported back home, another placement or into more independent living.

Hockley House will be funded and run as a multi-agency provision between Childrens Social Care and Health and will also provide a Structured Activity Service.



Our journey to date



Delays due to building and survey results has complicated some contractual negotiations, however nearly all issues are now resolved. The most significant factor in further delays in the requirement of Ofsted registration. Expectation is to open early Summer 2024.



Additional environmental work to design out risks, to ensure robust safeguarding measures are in place.



Visits to Hockley House undertaken by stakeholders including children, to involve the input from all services as to how the home will be operationally run to support flexibility in the required care for the cohort of children. These focused visits have enabled refinements to be made to the interior of the home and the processes and procedures, to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the children.



Multi agency in person workshops undertaken to refine the referral process, governance panel for decision making, transition planning and escalation. Children and young people have been continuously consulted throughout and their feedback has been used in respect of colour schemes within the home and interior design features. Views have also been gained on what is important to our children when living in a residential environment.

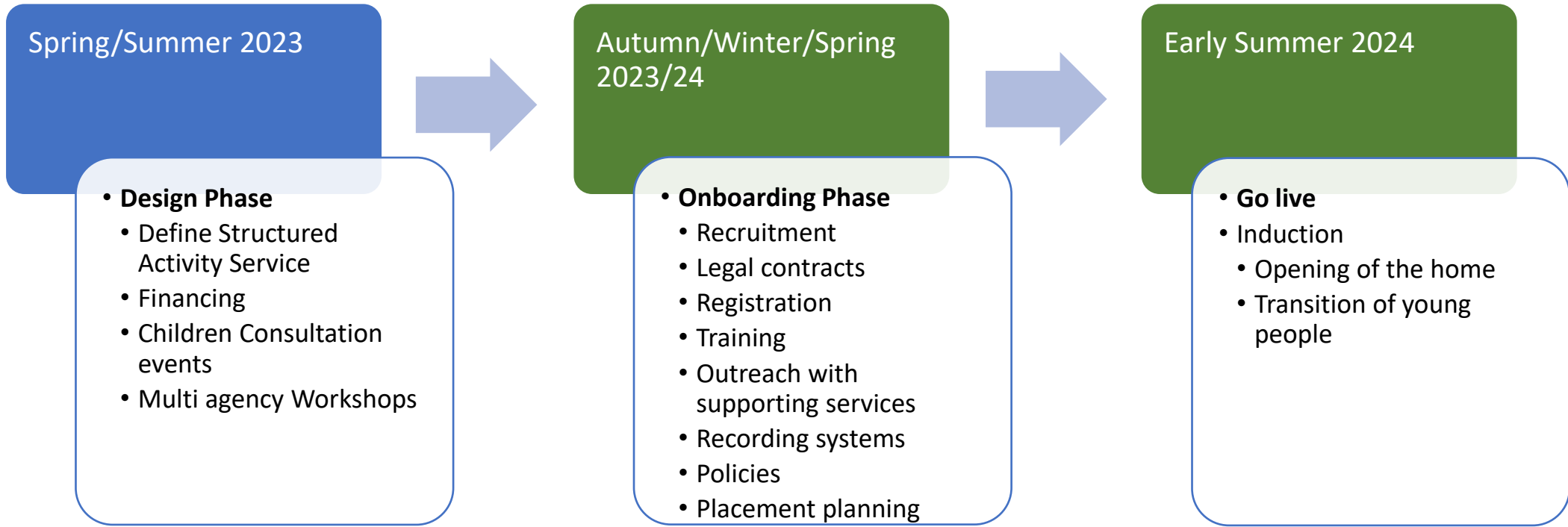


Multi agency profiling of prospective cohort which is reflected within Hockley's Statement of Purpose.

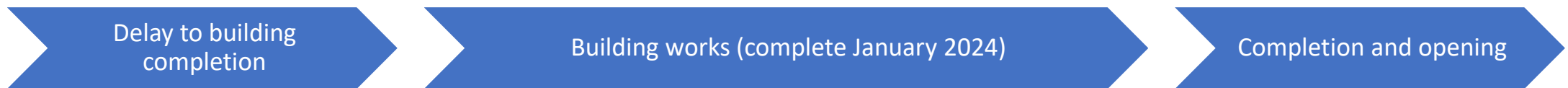


Multi-disciplinary workshops continued to develop working protocols and how Hockley House provision will meet the needs of the cohort of children with measurable outcomes.

Timelines



CCBS & Capital managed elements



Questions

