



# Workshop 3

## Improving quality, choice and cost in children's placements

Co-Chairs

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# Why is this important?

- Increasing needs of children
- Increasing complexity of needs
- Insufficient local places
- Greatest shortfall in high-cost low incidence placements
- Pan-London 500 places are needed
- £108m overspend on social care
- £77m overspend on SEND



# The ambition

- **Collaboration pan-London to –**
  - **Get better outcomes for London's children and young people by:**
    - **Disrupting the market to secure improved quality, choice and cost**
    - **Generating local provision to address shortfall**
    - **Integrating approaches to commissioning and supplier relationship management**
    - **Securing external resources to deliver innovation in London**

# Pan-London Placement Commissioning Programme

- **Oxford University Rees Centre Sufficiency Report**
- **Child centred projects**
  - **London Accommodation Pathfinder, with £1m MoJ/YJB funding**
  - **Complex adolescents**
  - **Children with ASD/SEMH**
  - **Mother and Baby residential parenting assessments**
  - **Secure provision**

# Pan-London Placement Commissioning Programme

- **Developing a Pan-London Vehicle**
  - **Integrated approach to understanding and forecasting need**
  - **Joint approach to developing the market, internally and externally**
  - **Risk-sharing to secure improved value e.g. through block contracts**
  - **Legal basis for joint contracts pan-London or sub-regionally**
  - **Improves quality, sufficiency and value for money**

# Draft definitions for discussion

## High Cost Low Incidence Placements

Children and Young people who require High Cost Low Incidence placements have significant needs which require a Local Authority to create a package of bespoke support which utilises residential accommodation away from home. They should be used rarely to:

1. Assess parental capacity
2. Provide integrated interventions for children with complex needs whose needs cannot be met by mainstream or targeted services
3. Offer safe containment to young people who are at risk of imminent harm
4. Offer a period of stability for assessment for children who have experienced a number of foster care placements ending in an unplanned way
5. Request for a Police and Criminal Evidence Act transfer

# Draft definitions for discussion

## Therapeutic residential care

- *“Therapeutic residential care involves the planned use of a purposefully constructed, multidimensional living environment designed to enhance or provide treatment, education, socialisation, support and protection to children and youth with identified mental health or behavioural needs in partnership with their families and in collaboration with a full spectrum of community-based formal and informal helping resources”. (Whitaker et al 2016)*

# Discussion

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