

Title

Implementation of multi-systemic therapy

Service Area

Social Services

Estimated Savings

Summary

The aim of this business case will be to support a reduction in the volume of accommodated children by using Multi-systemic Therapy (MST).

MST is an intensive family and community based intervention for children and young people aged 12-17, where young people are at risk of being accommodated due to their offending or having severe behaviour problems, thus incurring high costs for the council and potentially poor outcomes for the young person.

MST is an internationally recognised and evidence based intervention. It is a licensed programme delivered by specialist therapists who work intensively with the most challenging children and families.

Impact

This would be a spend to save initiative with start up costs for hiring staff, as well as ongoing costs for licensed MST supervision, monitoring, support and training - necessary to sustain the therapeutic efficacy and quality. Savings would be realised from year two onwards through reducing the number of looked after children.