



Business Proposal

Emergency Outreach Lincolnshire

Spring Care For You

Executive Summary



Spring Care For You Ltd is a new children's residential care provider for Lincolnshire.

We will be opening our first homes in Spring 2025. We are a proactive and responsive company and we are keen to explore other areas of service provision that meet the wider need for cost effective, emergency response for children and

families in crisis across Lincolnshire. This proposal document, presents a strategic opportunity to expand our service offer and sets out alternative support options that meet local authority needs by providing tailored support packages that address service gaps.

The strategic fit of our proposal

Spring Care For You is driven by the vision of providing supportive residential care environments in Lincolnshire, where young people can be safe and can thrive. Our core values of transparency, integrity, and empowerment for children, align with Lincolnshire County Council's commissioning strategy, and are central to our desire to deliver flexible, scaleable, person-centred support to young people across the county.

Alongside it's network of children's homes, Spring Care For You's broader strategy includes establishing an early intervention service across Lincolnshire and surrounding areas, offering both preventative and emergency support. This comprehensive model will enable the organisation to widen it's support to children in the community who face crisis situations that might otherwise lead to family or placement breakdown and deliver solutions that address both short-term crises and long-term support options for children and young people.

We have prepared this document and have set out our proposals in detail, to provide a basis for discussion so that we can better understand the commissioning priorities for Lincolnshire Local Authority Commissioning and ensure that our aspirations for growth, are aligned to the Local Authorities strategic planning.

Our Proposal

Support Focus: Emergency Support

Spring Care For You's Emergency Support proposal is designed to provide short term intensive, high-level intervention for children and young people who are in crisis or facing significant challenges, such as family or placement breakdowns or emergency accommodation needs. This tailored service package can provide direct support from anywhere between 15 hours per week and 24 hours a day¹ to ensure that children or young people with complex needs and low independence skills receive the care and attention required to stabilise their situation.



Key components of the Emergency Support Model include:

- **Immediate Response to Crisis:** The service prioritises a rapid response for young people who are experiencing acute difficulties, such as a breakdown in their family setting, current care placement, or homelessness. Our team will work to ensure they have access to safe, secure accommodation and immediate emotional and practical support to manage the crisis.
- **High-Level Support for Complex Needs:** Young people with complex behavioural, emotional, or mental health needs often require more intensive care during a crisis period. Our Emergency Support proposal offers this through increased staff interaction, structured activities, and the emotional/practical support required to address their specific challenges.
- **24-Hour Availability:** The service is equipped to offer up to 24 hours of direct support in situations where the young person's needs are particularly acute. This includes around-the-clock supervision

¹ Please note that 24 hours per day is only provided as a short term measure lasting no more than 14 days. Due to the complexities of organising and staffing this package at short notice, the minimum number of hours commissioned is 15. Other packages offer 'minimum provision' as low as 3 hours. The minimum contracted hours will be determined by the package type.

and guidance from skilled staff members trained in managing crisis situations and de-escalating conflicts.

- **Stabilisation and Transition:** Once the immediate crisis is managed, the support team will work to stabilise the young person's situation. This may include addressing practical issues such as homelessness or finding a safe place to live. We can also provide practical support for the young person whilst professionals work on the issues underlying the child or young person's traumatic presentation or we may support a young person with a lack of essential life skills, to prepare for the next stage of their accommodation or care/pathway plan.
- **Holistic Care Approach:** The Emergency Support proposal, also focuses on fostering emotional resilience and improving the young person's coping mechanisms. Our holistic approach includes assistance with everyday tasks, emotional support, and collaboration with other professionals (e.g., social workers, healthcare providers) to ensure that the young person's short term needs are addressed whilst a permanence plan is drawn up.
- **Personalised Support Plans:** We will work with each young person, their social worker and family network, to develop a personalised emergency support plan that is regularly reviewed and updated to reflect their evolving needs. This plan ensures that the support they receive during the emergency placement is aligned with their immediate goals, whether it's finding stable accommodation or addressing the challenges that led to the emergency situation.



Through its Emergency Support, Spring Care For You ensures that vulnerable children and young people are provided with a 'safety net' during times of crisis, offering both immediate relief and the groundwork for future stability and progress.

Section 2

Independence Focused Support Packages:

High Support Focus:

Spring Care For You's **High Support model** is designed for young people moving **to solo placements** who need significant additional help with their independence skills. We are not proposing to replicate the Leaving Care Service. Our offer provides short term, flexible community intervention **up to 15 hours** of personalised weekly support to help young people build essential life skills and resilience for a smoother transition to more independent living. As a registered provider of residential services, we recognise that post 16 resources are stretched for young people making the transition from statutory care to independent living, which is why we are proposing a flexible 'step up step down approach' that can be commissioned **from 10 - 15 hours** (for this package) of targeted support a week.

Key Components of this proposal:

- **One-on-One Care:** Each young person receives direct support from a dedicated worker who helps with daily tasks such as meal preparation, budgeting, and household management. The support worker also assists with navigating education, employment, and healthcare systems.
- **Emotional and Behavioural Support:** The model provides emotional guidance and builds resilience, decision-making, and problem-solving skills.
- **Safety and Security:** A structured, stable environment helps the young person feel safe, fostering trust and addressing barriers to independence.
- **Personalised Support Plans:** Each individual's support plan is tailored and regularly updated, involving the young person, their support worker, and relevant professionals (e.g., social workers, therapists).
- **Support with Education and Employment:** The support worker assists in pursuing education or workforce readiness, such as enrolling in courses, completing training, and preparing for job interviews. By offering targeted, intensive support, this model helps young people overcome challenges and work towards long-term independence and personal goals.



Medium Support Focus:



Spring Care For You's **Medium Support model** offers **between 10 to 15 hours of weekly assistance for young people living in a shared home environment**. The model balances promoting community living with addressing each individual's unique needs, helping them develop the skills required for greater independence.

Key Components:

- **Community Living:** Encourages young people to engage with peers in a shared environment, fostering social skills, cooperation, and a sense of belonging while promoting positive relationships and shared responsibilities.
- **Personalised Support:** Each individual receives tailored support focused on their specific needs, helping with daily tasks like budgeting, meal planning, household chores, and managing personal schedules.
- **Building Independence:** The model focuses on developing life skills and gradually reducing dependence on staff as the young person gains confidence and self-reliance in handling responsibilities.
- **Support with Education and Employment:** Young people are assisted in navigating educational opportunities or preparing for work, including help with college enrollment, job applications, and managing a work-life balance.

The goal of **Medium Support** is to provide a balance between structured assistance and independence, helping young people thrive in a shared setting while preparing them for future, less-supported living arrangements. The key element to our proposal is **flexibility and scalability**. Many young people leaving care struggle to integrate with post 16 programmes and quickly disengage. The young person may struggle to maintain the commitment to a structured programme and lose focus. By enabling service commissioners to step up or step down the provision on a week by week basis, (similar to the adult domiciliary care model) the Local Authority **only pays for the service it requires**. There is a service 'retainer' to cover staff bookings, cancellations etc. but this can be as little as **3 hours per week** depending on the service package chosen.

Support Focus: Low Support

Spring Care For You's **Low Support model** provides **3 to 10 hours of weekly assistance** for young people in semi-independent, dispersed accommodation. This model helps them develop the skills needed for full independence.

Key Components:

- **Semi-Independent Living:** Young people live in individual or dispersed housing with minimal oversight, allowing them to practice independence while still having access to support.
- **Personalised Support:** Tailored assistance focuses on specific needs such as budgeting, time management, and handling day-to-day responsibilities.
- **Building Independence:** The aim is to further strengthen the young person's ability to manage their own life, with support gradually decreasing as they become more self-reliant.
- **Focus on Long-Term Goals:** Support includes guidance in setting and achieving educational, employment, or personal goals to ensure a smooth transition to fully independent living.

This model serves as the final stepping stone towards full independence, offering crucial support while allowing the young person to take more control of their life.

Benefits and Outcomes for Children and Young People

- **Emergency Provision Benefits:** The emergency support proposal offers **rapid, short-term intervention** and care for children and young people in crisis, with the aim of preventing them from entering long-term care. It provides immediate stability, safety, and support, giving young people the time and space to address urgent needs and helping the child's placement or family through the crisis by offering relief and intervention to prevent further



escalation. This early intervention will focus on reducing presenting trauma, providing safety and bridging a pathway to longer-term solutions.

- **Improved Outcomes:** The service offers a ‘bridge’ that helps the young person to develop the resilience, life skills, and independence necessary to take the next step in their journey towards their transition into adulthood.
- **Tailored Support:** Each young person benefits from a personalised emergency support plan, ensuring their individual needs are heard and met. These plans are regularly reviewed to adapt to their evolving circumstances.

Benefits for Lincolnshire County Council

- **Cost-Effective Emergency Provision:** Our emergency support and accommodation service offer provides immediate, short-term accommodation for families in crisis, preventing the escalation of situations and reducing the pressure on the local authority. It offers a cost-effective alternative to more expensive, out-of-area placements and reduces the strain on local resources whilst a suitable placement can be found.
- **Flexibility and scalability:** By enabling service commissioners to ‘step up or step down’ the provision on a week by week basis, the Local Authority only pays for the service it requires. There is a service ‘retainer’ to cover staff bookings, cancellations etc. but this can be as little as **3 hours per week** depending on the service package chosen.
- **Expansion and Growth:** Partnering with Spring Care For You supports the council's goal of expanding a diverse range of services in line with its strategic priorities. Long term - this collaboration helps build the network of early intervention services across Lincolnshire and surrounding areas, aligning with the council’s long-term vision for flexible, cost-effective care and support.
- **Reputation and Market Positioning:** By commissioning this service, Lincolnshire County Council can position itself as a leader in providing innovative, high-quality, agile service options for vulnerable young people.
- **Long-Term Stability:** By commissioning this service with Spring Care For You, the council gains a reliable, stable partner committed to positive long-term outcomes for the young people in the county.

This stability ensures continuity of care while supporting the council's strategic priorities for sustained service delivery and resource management.

Risks and Mitigation

- **Staff Recruitment and Retention:** Recruitment of qualified staff to meet the high support needs can pose a challenge. Spring Care For You will mitigate this by implementing a continuous cycle of recruitment, offering competitive salaries, and providing a wide range of ongoing training and professional development opportunities.
- **Managing Accommodation Shortages:** There is an acknowledged shortage of appropriate accommodation for young people in care across Lincolnshire, particularly for those aged 16-18. It is estimated that approximately 58% of placements are made outside the local authority boundary, indicating a significant shortfall in local provision. Furthermore, there has been an increasing demand for supported accommodation in the county, especially for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children, with many of these young people placed out of the area. This reliance on out-of-county placements and spot purchases makes it difficult for the council to meet demand within Lincolnshire at a sustainable cost.
- **Early Intervention Services:** Early intervention services that prevent placement breaking down or families getting to crisis point resulting in children entering the care system, can save the local authority significant costs. Research shows that by addressing issues such as family crises or behavioural challenges early on, children are less likely to require long-term care placements, especially for those requiring out-of-county or specialist accommodation. Emergency services, like those proposed by Spring Care For You, offer immediate support to families, helping to stabilise situations before they escalate to the point of needing care placements. This not only reduces the financial pressures on the local authority, but also helps keep children within their communities, preserving family and social ties, and fostering better long-term outcomes. By reducing reliance on external placements and focusing on early intervention, local authorities can redirect resources towards more sustainable, preventative solutions.

Conclusion

Despite being a new service provider, Spring Care For You has the specific qualifications needed to offer responsive, highly flexible, and high-quality emergency support across Lincolnshire. With a commitment to excellence, staff development, and person-centred care, Spring Care For You is prepared to meet the challenges and opportunities presented by this model of service provision, fostering positive outcomes for young people and creating lasting partnerships with Lincolnshire County Council.

Thank you for reading this proposal document. We would welcome the opportunity to follow up with meeting to discuss these proposals in greater detail. These are proposals and we want to get the final service specification as closely aligned as possible to Lincolnshire's strategic priorities.

If you are interested in progressing this discussion please do not hesitate to contact me David Chadwick, the Responsible Individual on: 07976 572 807 or email me at ri.springcareforyou@gmail.com