Consortiwm Comisiynu
Cymru ar gyfer Plant
Childrens' Commissioning
Consortium Cymru
Cydweithio Er Gwell • All Together Better

Residential Provision in RCT
Host Authority Information
September 2019

Count of Registered Settings by Provider Type

Local authority	4
Private	11
Voluntary	1

Provision by Geographical Area / Town

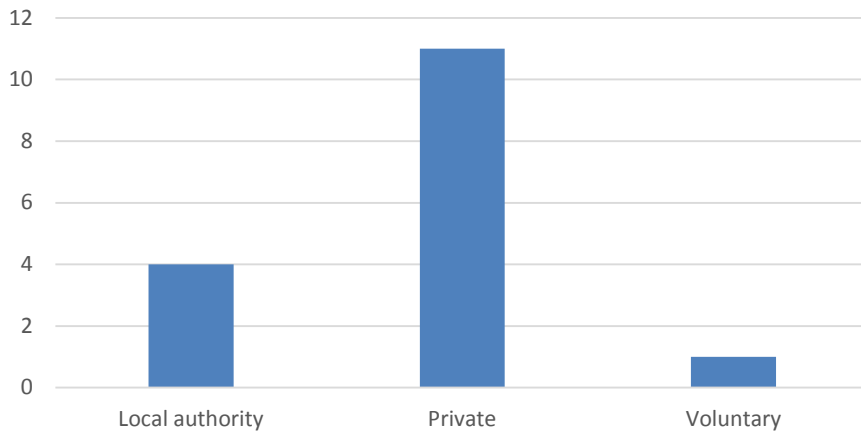|	
Abercynon	1
Aberdare	3
Gilfach Goch	1
Pontyclun	2
Pontypridd	4
Porth	3
Rhigos	1
Treorchy	1

Snapshot 30th Sept 2019

61 registered beds.
16 care settings.

Highest clusters geographically:
Aberdare;
Pontypridd;
Porth.

Mix of provider types across these areas.
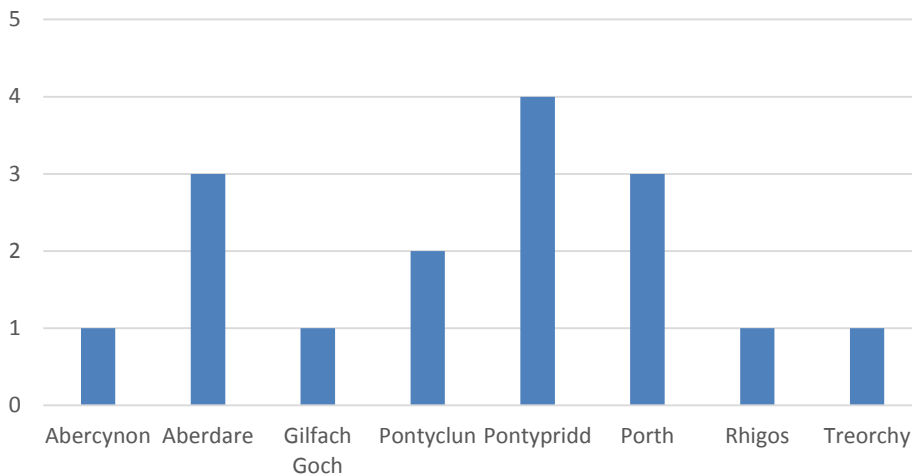
Models of Care: Provision for who?

Of the 61 beds; 12 are targeted at children with disability, additional learning need or impairment.

These 12 beds are across 3 care settings (1 charity; 1 LA; 1 private provision).

RCT has a contract with the voluntary provider for RCT's sole use.

The 1 private setting is with a framework provider who is highly ranked for quality. Welsh provider employing local staff. Specialist in this area of provision.

Models of Care: Provision for who?

Of the 61 beds;

45 are targeted at children who have experienced childhood trauma and neglect who may require a range of different supports to be safeguarded and achieve improved outcomes.

4 beds in 2 settings are targeted at 16 plus transition.

8 beds in 2 settings are targeted at children requiring specific therapeutic interventions and the highest level of need.

1 setting was commissioned specifically by RCT in 2013 and block purchased, this arrangement was not continued after review as it was felt it was not value for money.

Provider Profiles

All providers with the exception of the LA provide care settings across a range of geographical areas.

2 providers with 4 settings are UK wide providers; the remainder are local Welsh providers.

Welsh providers generally demonstrate good commitment to local employment and placing Welsh children locally.

4 of 8 providers are Framework Providers who are quality assured by 4Cs.

4 Non-framework Providers have established in RCT due to direct links with the LA.

Shaping the Market & Local Sufficiency

4Cs & RCTs Childrens Services are finalising a placement commissioning strategy which will identify any anomalies in the market and how the LA should shape the market to meet local demand.

A Market Position Statement will be published for RCT saying what provision is needed; or not needed; within the local area.

This will be supplemented by a regional Market Position Statement.

Market engagement events can be co-facilitated by 4Cs to engage providers prior to them developing new services to ensure these are fit for local needs. Location assessments are best practice guidance to ensure any new homes are appropriately developed.

Framework Provision

- 4C's manages the All Wales Framework for the Provision of Foster Care Services (2016) & the All Wales Frameworks (2016 & 2019) for the Provision of Residential Care Services to Children and Young People.

- There are 21 Fostering Providers & 21 Residential Providers on the 2016 Frameworks. The 2019 Framework is an open Framework and will be open across all Lots by April 2020.

- Framework Providers are ranked based on 50% quality & 50% commercial performance (2016 Frameworks).

- Providers who apply to be on the Framework undergo rigorous company wide procurement checks before securing a place on the Framework.

- 40% of the ranking for quality is reassessed on an annual basis which is an incentive for Providers to deliver consistently high levels of quality in their placements (2016 Frameworks).

Framework Quality Assurance Checks

Ongoing

- Calendar of visits by Contract Monitoring Officer
- Combination of announced & unannounced visits
- Regular liaison with all Providers
- Quality service development support
- Action Plans to support Improvement
- Escalation of concerns process

Monthly

- Issues Concerns & Compliments Report
- Inspection reports received summarised & shared with LA commissioners for the preceding month
- Recommendations made to LA's to check on individual placements or pre-placement where there are identified quality concerns

Quarterly

- Quarterly meetings with the following also assist with information sharing re Quality: 1 CIW 2 Fostering Network 3. Social Care Wales
- Quarterly Issues Concerns and Compliments Report which looks at trends and themes in quality.

Annually

- Quality Performance Assessment resulting in new ranking of providers based on current quality
- 360 Degree Questionnaire where each child, social worker and provider can reflect on the outcomes for each individual placement contract.
- Annual Issues Concerns and Compliments Report which looks at trends and themes in quality.

Quality: Who Does What Checks?

Local Authority

- Contract monitoring all individual placement contracts (IPC's) to ensure the child placed gets the quality of placement that's required to meet their care & support plan.

- Contract monitoring at IPC & overarching Provider level for Non Framework Providers.

- Pre-placement checks to ensure placement can meet child's assessed needs.

4C's

- Contract monitoring at overarching Framework level for Framework Providers.

- Support for LA's and Providers where there is a Framework contract dispute.

- Follow up & development of action plans for improvement where there are Framework Provider or Care Setting level issues or concerns.

- Support for 4Cs LA's with Framework & Non Framework Provider level issues that require an escalation of concerns process.

Approach to Improving Quality

- 4C's has a number of approaches to supporting improvements in quality for Framework Providers:
  - Action Plans for Improvement
  - Sharing Best Practice
  - Sharing Research
  - Recommending Peer Support
  - Care Setting Visits
  - Promoting Inclusion in Multi Agency Development Groups
  - Encouraging Provider & Host Authority Links
- 4C's also has a range of sanctions for serious or repeat failings in quality: including concealment on CCSR, restriction of placements & ultimately removal from the Framework.

LA Quality Assurance Processes

- Placement referral process underpins good matching

- Pre-placement visit by social worker, with child whenever possible

- Role of Internal Commissioner, Contract Monitoring Officer and Placement Finder should be aligned

- Recognition of Placement Officer skill set is critical

- Monitoring of delivery of Child's Care and Support Plan, including a detailed placement plan, led by social worker

- Close communication with 4Cs, regular info sharing

- Report any concerns regarding provider quality to 4Cs QA process

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Questions

For further information contact 4Cs@rctcbc.gov.uk
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