

27/10/2017

Penumbra Borders Youth Project to close

With regret I write to inform you that after 23 years supporting young people in the Scottish Borders, Penumbra's contract to deliver the Borders Youth Project will end on 09/01/ 2018.

Penumbra will continue to support adults in the Borders experiencing mental health and/or homelessness issues through our Supported Living Service. We can also provide support, including for young people, through self-directed support (SDS) or other funding options.

Scottish Borders Council has awarded the new contract to provide emotional health and wellbeing support for young people to Quarriers (www.quarriers.org.uk). The new Quarriers service will be in place by December 2017. It will operate around each secondary school in the Borders, providing a holistic model of generic support for people aged 10-18 years.

We are now entering a transition period where we will work with Scottish Borders Council and Quarriers to transition people we currently support, and those in need of support, to the new service. We will also be liaising with partner agencies - including colleges, social work, and health - and parents and carers to ensure that everyone is aware of the change.

Transition arrangements will be overseen by the Commissioning Group who report to the Children & Young People's Leadership Group. They can be contacted by email: strategy@scotborders.gcsx.gov.uk

Supporting the mental health and wellbeing of young people remains incredibly important to us. Over the coming months we will work closely with young people to ensure they continue to receive the best support possible, and to ensure every young person knows what options are available to them as they transfer to the new service. Throughout this period you can continue to contact the Borders team on 01896 751 177 or by email: borders@penumbra.org.uk.

Over the last 23 years it has been our privilege to help thousands of young people overcome their mental health difficulties and fulfil their potential. We believe people can and do recover from mental ill health and we hope to continue supporting young people in the Scottish Borders in the future.

Yours faithfully,

Kelly Brown

Service Manager, Penumbra Borders