

From: Sue Chandler, Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services

Rory Love, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

Sarah Hammond, Corporate Director of Children, Young People and Education

To: Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee – 6 March 2023

Subject: Contract Register - CYPE

Classification: Unrestricted

Past Pathway of report: N/A

Future Pathway of report: N/A

Electoral Division: All

Summary:

This report provides the Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee of an overview of the commissioned contracts.

Recommendation(s):

The Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee is asked to NOTE the report.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Members of the Children, Young People and Education (CYPE) Cabinet Committee see commissioning reports presented requiring Key Decisions for procuring new contracts.
- 1.2 An extract of the Contract Register was presented for the first time to the CYPE Cabinet Committee on 8 March 2023, where the Committee agreed that this is useful to be shared annually.
- 1.3 The Register includes the contracts that have been let by the Commissioning Team, along with Agreements that require review. There are further contracts and other agreements for services that will require identification and recording as they are uncovered.
- 1.4 KCC restructured its Strategic Commissioning function in 2023 which saw the establishment of the Commercial and Procurement Division from September

2023 and the Commissioning function and activity move from the Chief Executives Departments to the Service Directorates.

2. Contract Register

- 2.1 The Contract Register is designed to capture all contracts and their status and is included at Appendix One. The register for CYPE includes Grant spend (even though there is a separate Grant register) and Service Level Agreements (SLA). This is to ensure that, in one place, there is a record of all contracted spend with liabilities known and managed accordingly.
- 2.2 The Register is relatively new and is evolving. Strategic Commissioning was initially set up to support the commissioning and procurement of Children's Social Care and Early Help services, therefore the information held is more complete for those services. In 2020, resource was identified for Strategic Commissioning to support key areas of the SEND Division, and more recently the Education Division through Inclusion funding retained for Mainstream Schools.
- 2.3 Contracts let are held on the central register, with a need to identify and record all remaining contracts in SEND and Education.

3. Legal Implications

- 3.1 The Public Contract Regulations 2015 and the Local Government Transparency Code provides the framework for publishing activity of contract awards. The full contract register includes operational management information of which there is commercial sensitivity, therefore, the information shared is an extract of the full register and is available publicly.
- 3.2 The majority of the services listed fulfil the statutory requirements of Children's Services. There are some services that are non-statutory, however they are critical in KCC fulfilling their statutory duty. Not all contracts are automatically re-commissioned and consideration is given to whether public consultation is required should services require decommissioning as a result of not awarding new contracts.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 The full Contract Register assists KCC with budget setting and identifies risks and commitments through Index linked contracts. Further, it aids budget setting where contracts that cover many years are reviewed annually to look at implications, whether they can be renegotiated and whether they remain fit-for-purpose.

5. Equalities Implications

5.1 Equality Impact Assessments (EQIA) are undertaken through commissioning of the new contracts. They would also be completed for decommissioning services, where required.

6. Other Corporate Implications

6.1 The Council's Corporate Management Team has endorsed the use of the Contract Register within KCC. There is a Contract Management Review Group that meets bi-monthly and reviews contracts against a maturity matrix.

7. Governance

7.1 Accountability of the services commissioned is with the relevant Director(s) in line with the Scheme of Delegations.

8. Data Protection implications

8.1 Data Protection Impact Assessments are undertaken through commissioning of the new contracts.

9. Conclusions

9.1 The Contract Register for CYPE is still evolving with an aim to capture all contracted activity including SEND and Education. This will take time to capture for a full register to be complete. It will also include Grants and SLAs to ensure all activity is in one place.

10. Recommendation(s):

10.1 The Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee is asked to NOTE the report.

Background Documents

N/A

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