

From: **Christine Palmer, Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services**

Beverley Fordham, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

Christine McInnes, Interim Corporate Director of Children, Young People and Education

To: **Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee – 17 March 2026**

Subject: **Contract Register – Children, Young People and Education**

Key decision: **N/A**

Classification: Unrestricted

Past Pathway of report: N/A

Future Pathway of report: N/A

Electoral Division: All

Summary: This is an annual report providing the Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee with 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 detailed commissioning reports presented, when required, requiring Key Decisions for new services and contracts.
- 1.2 This report provides an annual extract of the Contract register held for the CYPE Directorate. The Register includes the contracts that have been let by the Commissioning Team, along with Agreements that require oversight and management. There are further contracts and other agreements for services that will require recording as they are identified.
- 1.3 Additionally, Commissioning Intentions and Priorities have been developed which is designed to be an internal document, detailing the priorities, activity and resources.

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 Grants (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 Contracts with significant spend and activity are let by the Commercial and Procurement Division in line with either the Procurement Act 2023 or the Provider Selection Regime for some health related services.
- 2.3 Service Level Agreements are agreements between the Council and other Council services, such as maintained schools. Independent schools are determined as economic operators and require contracts.
- 2.4 Some contracts that are below the threshold of £250k are let locally by CYPE. These are also recorded on the contract register.

3. Legal Implications

- 3.1 The Procurement Act 2023 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 services. They are also 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 frequently and reviews contracts against a maturity matrix.

6.2 A Commissioning Framework has been developed along with a Pipeline and Assessment Tool to assist in identifying opportunities and barriers in commissioning.

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 records all known contracted activity including Grants and SLAs and other agreements whereby there is liability to KCC to ensure all CYPE 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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