

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Peter Oakford

Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services

DECISION NO:

14/00074

For publication**Key decision***

Expenditure or savings of > £1m – decision is for contract value of £376,275 pa from August 1st 2014. This will give an overall contract value of £752,550 up to the end of Year 2, and the 4 Year contract value would be £1,505,100.

Subject: Contract Award for Independent Adoption & Special Guardianship Order (SGO) Support Services (Award length 2 years plus 2 optional).

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services, I agree that the contract for the delivery of Independent Adoption & SGO Support Services be awarded to *the preferred bidder named in the exempt appendix* on the terms and for the duration set out below and in the accompanying recommendation report and exempt appendix.

The Head of Strategic Commissioning - Children's, will on behalf of the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, take all such steps as are necessary to implement the decision.

Reason(s) for decision:

In October 2013, DMT and Procurement Board gave authorisation to procure a new contract for Independent Adoption & SGO Support Services as the contract with the existing provider was coming to an end. The procurement process was carried out between March 2014 and April 2014. By following an open and competitive tender process savings have been achieved, with a new contract value of £376,275 pa. The preferred bidder is *named in the exempt appendix*, with a scheduled contract start date of 1st August 2014. However, due to the available dates of the Children's Health and Social Care Cabinet Committee, and to ensure we give all Members the opportunity to be consulted, Strategic Commissioning are currently in negotiations with the existing service provider to extend the current contract until mid-September 2014.

A decision to approve this Award regarding these statutory services must be taken as a matter of urgency to ensure a smooth transition and mobilisation of these statutory services from the existing service provider to the incoming service provider.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The Children's Social Care & Health Cabinet Committee are meeting on the 9th July 2014 to consider the recommendation report and make comments to the Cabinet Member.

SCHWB DMT and the Corporate Director for Social Care, Health and Wellbeing have been consulted and confirm the recommendations in the Award Report.

Any alternatives considered:

As part of the planning process, DMT considered various options on how these services could be delivered but it was felt that continuing to outsource these services was the most operationally effective and viable approach. In addition the contract with the existing provider was due to end and the contract terms and conditions did not enable further extensions to the contract term.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper

Officer:

None

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signed

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date