

Cabinet Member Peter Oakford, Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services

Chief Officer Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director for Social Care, Health & Wellbeing

Decision No: 14/00079

To: **Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet committee**

**9 July 2014**

Subject: **Procurement of post sexual abuse, harmful sexual behaviour and risk assessment services**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

**Summary:** This report is to give Cabinet committee the opportunity to consider the post sexual abuse, harmful sexual behaviour and risk assessment contracts and to inform the cabinet committee of the procurement process.

**Recommendations:**

Cabinet committee is asked to

1. Note the contents of the report.
2. Note that the Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Service will be asked to approve contract award to the winning bidders following the completion of the evaluation process.

## **1. Introduction**

Kent County Council and the seven Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) in Kent are working together to procure county wide services for children and young people between the age of 0 – 18 years who have been sexually abused or who exhibit harmful or inappropriate sexual behaviours. We are also procuring a risk assessment service.

## **2. Financial Implications**

The annual contract value is £643,000.

The new contract will be jointly funded by KCC and the seven CCGs. The KCC element of the funding is within the strategic commissioning base budget.

### **3. Policy Framework**

The procurement aligns with the direction set out in Facing the Challenge: Delivering Better Outcomes.

The procurement process

- has enabled KCC to hold a market engagement event and for new providers to bid for the contract
- has led to the new service being designed with a focus on outcomes, with the needs of the children at the heart of delivery and shaping services around people and place.

### **4. Procurement**

The current contracted provider of the Post Sexual Service (PSA) and Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB) is Action for Children, who provide a service in the east of the county. This contract, which is jointly funded by KCC and the NHS, is due to end on 30th September 2014.

Services for children living in the west of Kent are spot purchased from a range of providers. Harmful or inappropriate sexual behaviour support services are spot purchased from Barnardo's Chilston Project in Tunbridge Wells, funded from Specialist Children's Services and West Kent CCG.

The current provision of services is fragmented and inconsistent. The aims of procuring these new services are;

- to address the inequality of access to services across the county,
- to promote delivery of services which are local, responsive to need and delivered in places and at times which are convenient for children families and/or carers.

The new service will also be required to work collaboratively with other providers, including the community children and young people's mental health service.

This is an integrated commissioning process with KCC leading the procurement. The CCGs are partners in the process. This has included developing the specification and being a part of the evaluation process.

We are currently in the procurement process. The services are being procured in 3 lots;

Lot 1: Post Sexual Abuse Service

Lot 2: Harmful Sexual Behaviour Service

Lot 3: Risk Assessments.

### **Lot 1 - Post Sexual Abuse Service (PSA)**

This is a time limited crisis service to support children and young people and their families to address the impact of sexual abuse. The service is for children who have been sexually abused or where there is substantial evidence that they may have been abused. It is anticipated that the service will see at least 300 children and young people a year.

### **Lot 2 - Harmful or Inappropriate Sexual Behaviour Service (HSB)**

This is a specialist service which will be for small numbers of children and young people where there are persistent inappropriate or transgressive behaviours. It is anticipated that the service will see between 25 and 50 children and young people a year.

### **Lot 3 - Risk Assessments (RA)**

This is a specialist service which will be for small numbers of children and young people who may benefit from a detailed assessment of their behaviour and the risks they present and possible therapeutic intervention. It is anticipated that the service will see approximately 60 children and young people a year.

### **Procurement timetable**

Expression of Interest released 28 April 2014

Evaluation of bids 23 – 27 June 2014

Interviews 7-8 July

Governance/ award approved 14 July – 1 August.

- **Award report to DMT 26 July 2014**
- **Key Decision taken to award the contracts 1 August 2014**

Contract standstill and mobilisation 4 August – 26 September

New contracts commence 1 October 2014.

The Key Decision has been entered on the forward plan.

## **5. Conclusions**

The procurement process undertaken with the CCGs across Kent is a further example of our commitment to integrate commissioning services for children and young people. It follows a period of joint working to design a service that will better meet the needs of vulnerable children and young people requiring these services and will align both the east and west of the county, providing an equitable service regardless of where the child lives.

## **6. Recommendations**

Cabinet Committee is asked to:

1. NOTE the contents of this report.

2. NOTE that the Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Service will be asked to approve contract award to the winning bidders following the completion of the evaluation process

## **7. Background Documents**

None

## **8. Contact details**

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