

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL –RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Mr Roger Gough

Cabinet Member – Education and Health Reform

DECISION NO:

16/00056

For publication**Key decision**

As Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform I agree to:

Endorse the award of contracts for SEN Transport Provision following completion of the the procurement process on either a multiple route basis, or single school bulk procurement depending on geographical spread of children.

Reason for decision:

Following the implementation of SEN Transport Phase 1, where transport was procured on a bulk single school basis, this report seeks Cabinet Committee endorsement for awarding of contracts across the remaining SEN School network, following a competitive tender process and in accordance with chosen evaluation methodology stated in published Invitation To Tender. The decision will encompass both the award for the initial contract term of three years, and if required for any of the two potential extensions that may be invoked.

Members are advised that there will be no changes to transport policy or the entitlement of individual students as a result to endorsing this approach to procurement.

Financial Implications

The proposed contract spend across Phase 2 schools will be in excess of £10million. The current cost of SEN Transport provision into the proposed schools is £17.4million. New contracts will be awarded on a three year basis, with a two year extension period.

Legal implications

A transparent and accountable procurement process will be used to select the providers. Legal will be engaged alongside the procurement team to support the contract award.

Equalities implications

Please refer to the EQIA initial assessment. There is no change to any policy or eligibility criteria.

Other corporate implications**Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:**

That the Cabinet Committee endorses the award of contracts for the provision of SEN Transport into all Special schools following a competitive tender process, on a single school, single lot strategy or multiple route basis where appropriate.

Cabinet Committee 1st July 2016 report to Education and Young Person's Cabinet Committee:

The Education and Young People's Services Cabinet Committee at its meeting RESOLVED to:

Endorse the award of contracts for SEN Transport Provision following completion of the the procurement process on either a multiple route basis, or single school bulk procurement depending on geographical spread of children.

Any alternatives considered:

A robust procurement process is being undertaken to identify providers for SEN Transport provision. There is potential to secure financial savings through the new contract and ensure that the needs of vulnerable children continue to be met by the local authority.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer: None

This procurement has implications on both EYPS in terms of any financial impact it may have, and Growth, Environment & Transport in terms of service delivery.



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signed

11/7/16

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date