

# KENT COUNTY COUNCIL - RECORD OF DECISION

## DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY

Peter Oakford, Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services

## DECISION NO.

14/00138

*If decision is likely to disclose exempt information please specify the relevant paragraph(s) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972*

**Subject: :** Transformation of Children's Services – Implementation Phase Partner Appointment

### Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services, I AGREE:

- 1). To appoint Newton Europe to support KCC in delivering the Implementation Phase.
- 2). To delegate authority to the Corporate Director for Social Care, Health and Well Being and the Corporate Director for Education & Young People, to enter into the necessary contracts following initial confirmation of funding details and the satisfactory negotiation of detailed terms and conditions.
- 3) That the Corporate Director for Social Care, Health & Wellbeing and the Corporate Director for Education & Young People, or other suitable delegated officer, undertake the necessary actions to implement this decision.

### Any Interest Declared when the Decision was Taken

None

### Reason(s) for decision, including alternatives considered and any additional information

Transforming Children's Services will improve outcomes for vulnerable children. Additionally, efficiency savings will be realised as a result of reducing need for expensive specialist and institutionalising services. The development of a full business case for Implementation has been a key outcome from the previous Service Design Phase, with implementable savings of between £17.7m and £28.2m.

The programme has been a success to date, and has led to the identification and testing of opportunities to improve outcomes and deliver efficiency savings. Newton Europe have worked closely with the 0-25 Portfolio Board throughout and have demonstrated an ability to create and embed changes to policy and practice in an operational environment.

Due to the complexity of the business, the knowledge that Newton Europe has built up during the Programme and their track record to date, it is proposed that KCC procure (single source) Newton Europe for the Implementation Phase, through the HTE framework.

### Background Documents:

Recommendation Report from Corporate Director to Cabinet Member

**Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:**

The 20 Jan 2015 Children's Social Care & Health Cabinet Committee considered the proposed decision, the associated report and the presentation given by officers. The committee welcomed the progress being made but recognised the further work that was still needed.

The committee then endorsed the proposed decision, taking into account the comments made by the committee which are set out in full in the recommendation report.

**Any alternatives considered:**

If Newton Europe are not appointed to support KCC for this phase, gaining alternative resource to deliver implementation will delay the transformation of Children's Services. Additionally it will delay the realisation of savings and put pressure on KCC to find alternative and potentially larger savings for 2015/16 and 2016/17.

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

None

.....  
  
signed

..... 10 Feb 2015 ....  
date

**FOR LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES USE ONLY**

Decision Referred to Cabinet Scrutiny			
YES		NO	

Cabinet Scrutiny Decision to Refer Back for Reconsideration			
YES		NO	

Reconsideration Record Sheet Issued			
YES		NO	

Reconsideration of Decision Published			