

From: Patrick Leeson, Corporate Director for Education, and Young People's Services

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

Roger Gough, Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform

Mike Hill, Cabinet Member for Community Services

Subject: Family Support Service Commissioning Update

Classification: Unrestricted

Electoral Division: All

Summary: Early Help and Preventative Services are planning to procure a Family Support Service which will provide additional capacity to wrap around early help and preventative support for whole families to become resilient, to break the cycle of neglect and deprivation so that their lives are turned around. This will contribute to ensuring all children and young people in Kent get the best start in life.

The report outlines the proposal for the Family Support Service and the upcoming tender and evaluation process.

Recommendation(s):

The Cabinet Member is asked to agree to make the award of contracts for the Family Support Service.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The role of Early Help and Preventative Services is to deliver effective early help and prevention in order to achieve improved outcomes for vulnerable children and families as well as reducing demand for social care services.
- 1.2 The newly procured Family Support Service will form part of the Council's Early Help and Preventative Services provision and will deliver a flexible, innovative and holistic family approach that makes significant progress towards achieving outcomes that support the Troubled Families Programme.
- 1.3 The Family Support Service is proposed to be in place by December 2016 following Cabinet Member Decision in late September 2016 and contract to then be awarded in early October 2016.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Early Help and Preventative Services Commissioning team undertook analysis of the current service provision and produced a diagnostic report which identified a need to deliver a targeted and intensive level Family

Support Service. This Family Support Service would reduce the number of separate contracts currently in place and improve the service offered to children, young people and families in Kent.

- 2.2 The Family Support Service will provide additional capacity to the KCC Early Help Units and will support families with an intensive level of need that meet a minimum of three Troubled Families criteria, with a particular focus on those that have children who need help and those that have parents out of work or at risk of social exclusion.
- 2.3 The Education and Young People’s Services Cabinet Committee considered and endorsed the Early Help and Preventative Services 2016-17 Commissioning Intentions at its meeting held on 18 September 2015.
- 2.4 The Strategic Commissioning Board approved the Family Support Service Procurement Plan at its meeting on 25 April 2016. The timeline is as follows:

Tender Published	End of June
Submission Date	Mid-August
Completion of Evaluation	Early September
Contract Award (including standstill)	Early October
Mobilisation	6 weeks / 8 weeks
Contract Commencement	December

- 2.5 The Family Support Service went to tender at the end of June 2016 and the window for submitting tender responses closes in mid-August.
- 2.6 All bids will be evaluated by a range of Council Officers including Early Help and Preventative Services, Children’s Commissioning and Troubled Families and will also be supported by service users.
- 2.7 Procurement will prepare the Approval to Award Report and submit this to be considered by Peter Oakford Cabinet Member for Specialist Children’s Services. A formal Cabinet Member decision will be taken by Mr Oakford and published on the KCC website prior to any contract being awarded.
- 2.8 There will be a ten day standstill period following the Cabinet Member Decision before the contracts can be signed.

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 It is proposed that the budget available for the Family Support Service will be £2.1 million per year. The Service is split into two lots of South and East, North and West. The contract will be for three years, with the potential to extend for up to 24 months.
- 3.2 Current contracts end on 30 September 2016, and the new Family Support Service will be in place by December 2016 and as a result, the current

contracts will be extended. This will incur financial costs which will need to be offset against the commissioning budget for this year.

3.3 Any delays to the procurement processes would result in a £86k per month cost pressure.

4. Conclusions

4.1 Procurement will produce the Approval to Award Report following the evaluation and moderation process, which will identify the two preferred providers.

4.2 The Approval to Award Report will be considered by Cabinet Member Peter Oakford for 5 days before making the Cabinet Member Decision. Following this decision there will be a ten day standstill period before the contracts are signed.

5. Recommendation(s)

Recommendation:

The Cabinet Member is asked to agree to make the award of contracts for the Family Support Service.

6. Appendices

7. Background Documents

None

8. Contact details

Report Author

- Becca Pilcher
- Commissioning Officer
- 07545 420958
- becca.pilcher@kent.gov.uk

Relevant Director:

- Florence Kroll
- Director for Early Help and Preventative Services
- 03000 416362
- Florence.kroll@kent.gov.uk

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Peter Oakford,
Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services

DECISION NO:

16/00060

For publication

Subject: Family Support Service Commissioning Update

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services I agree to:

- (i) Award a contract to x supplier to provide the Family Support Service in the South and East lot/North and West lot

Reason(s) for decision:

The role of Early Help and Preventative Services is to deliver effective early help and prevention in order to achieve improved outcomes for vulnerable children and families as well as reducing demand for social care services.

The Family Support Service will form part of the Council's Early Help and Preventative Services provision and will deliver a flexible, innovative and holistic family approach that makes significant progress towards achieving outcomes that support the Troubled Families Programme.

The Early Help and Preventative Services Commissioning team undertook analysis of the current service provision and produced a diagnostic report which identified a need to deliver a targeted and intensive level Family Support Service. This Family Support Service would reduce the number of separate contracts currently in place and improve the service offered to children, young people and families in Kent.

The Family Support Service will provide additional capacity to the internal Early Help Units and will support families with an intensive level of need that meet a minimum of three Troubled Families criteria with a particular focus on those that have children who need help and those that have parents out of work or at risk of financial exclusion.

The Family Support Service is proposed to be in place by December 2016 following Cabinet Member Decision in late September 2016 and contracted to then be awarded in early October 2016.

Financial Implications:

It is proposed that the budget available for the Family Support Service will be £2.1 million per year. The Service is split into two lots of South and East, North and West. The contract will be for three years, with the potential to extend for up to 24 months.

Current contracts end on 30 September 2016, and the new Family Support Service will be in place by December 2016 and as a result, the current contracts will be extended. This will incur financial costs which will need to be offset against the commissioning budget for this year.

Any delays to the procurement processes will result in a £86k per month cost pressure.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

18 September 2015

The Education and Young People's Cabinet Committee considered and endorsed the Early Help and Preventative Services 2016-17 Commissioning Intentions.

1 July 2016

To be added after Committee meeting

Any alternatives considered:

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

.....

Signed

Date