

REPORT TITLE: Contract Award for the Provision of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Services

Cllr Irene Walsh, Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion, Safety & Public Health

November 2013

Deadline date: n/a

Cabinet portfolio holder: Responsible Director:	Cllr Irene Walsh, Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion, Safety & Public Health Wendi Ogle-Welbourn, Director of Communities
Is this a Key Decision?	YES If yes has it been included on the Forward Plan : Yes Unique Key decision Reference from Forward Plan : KEY/04Oct13/01
Is this decision eligible for call-in?	YES
Does this Public report have any annex that contains exempt information?	YES The Exempt Annex is NOT FOR PUBLICATION in accordance with paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of Part 1 of the Local Government Act 1972 in that it contains information relating to the prices submitted by bidders. The public interest test has been applied to the information contained within the exempt annex and it is considered that the need to retain the information as exempt outweighs the public interest in disclosing it as to do so could compromise the Council's position in any future procurement exercise for such services.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Cabinet Member is recommended to approve the award of the contract for the delivery of domestic abuse and sexual violence support services within Peterborough to Peterborough Women's Aid (PWA) for a total of £1,126,670. The contract includes the following services, tendered in two Lots:

- Integrated Support Service for very high, high and medium risk victims of domestic abuse and/or sexual violence;
- Specialist therapeutic interventions for children and young people who have experienced domestic abuse and/or sexual violence.

The contract will operate for the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2017, subject to funding being available for each year, with the option for the Council to extend for a further twelve months to 31st March 2018.

1. SUMMARY OF MAIN ISSUES

- 1.1 This report seeks approval to award a contract to PWA from 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2017 in accordance with the Contract Rules.

2. PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

- 2.1 This report is for the Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion, Safety and Public Health to consider exercising delegated authority under paragraph 3.3.8(a) of Part 3 of the constitution in accordance with the terms of their portfolio at paragraph 3.11(b).
- 2.2 The attached exempt annex is NOT FOR PUBLICATION in accordance with paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of Part 1 of the Local Government Act 1972 in that it contains information relating to the prices submitted by bidders. The public interest test has been applied to the information contained within the exempt annex and it is considered that the need to retain the information as exempt outweighs the public interest in disclosing it as to do so could compromise the Council's position in any future procurement exercise for such services.

3. **TIMESCALE** (*If this is not a Major Policy item, answer **NO** and delete second line of boxes*).

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If Yes, date for relevant Cabinet Meeting	
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4. DETAILS OF DECISION REQUIRED

- 4.1 The service will be contracted as follows:

Lot 1 - Integrated Support Service for victims of domestic abuse and/or sexual violence.

The service will be an independent, specialist support service for very high to medium risk victims of domestic abuse and/or sexual violence. It will cater for male and female victims of all ages, sexuality and relationship status. The service will

operate as part of a comprehensive pathway for victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence.

The main outcomes of the service will be:-

- increased safety of victims
- reduced future risk to victims
- improved health and wellbeing of victims
- provision of high quality support for victims and those directly affected
- reduced physical and psychological impact of abuse/violence on victims
- provision of a family based approach where appropriate to ensure impact on children, young people and other vulnerable adults is identified and addressed
- increased confidence to access services and support

4.2 *Lot 2 - Specialist therapeutic interventions for children and young people who have experienced domestic abuse and/or sexual violence*

The service will provide psychological therapies and interventions for children and young people experiencing significant psychological distress as a result of being a victim of (or exposed to) domestic abuse and/or sexual violence. It will operate as part of a pathway for domestic abuse and/or sexual violence.

The main outcomes of the service will be:-

- reduced trauma and psychological distress experienced by children and young people who have been victims of (or affected by) domestic abuse and/or sexual violence
- reduced propensity toward re-victimisation through increased resilience, improved self- concept and relationship behaviour
- increased awareness of domestic abuse, sexual violence and abusive relationships amongst service users
- improved health, psychological wellbeing and general functioning of children and young people affected by domestic abuse and/or sexual violence
- support for non-offending parents/guardians to aid their child's recovery from trauma (where appropriate)
- To be child and young person focused

5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The specification for both Lots were developed in response to the Domestic Abuse Needs Assessment, Safer Peterborough Plan and Young People's Sexual Health and Wellbeing Needs Assessment.

Local statutory and voluntary sector stakeholders were consulted in the development of the Council's commissioning intentions along with the Safer Peterborough Partnership Board, and with the Director for Communities, under whose remit the commissioning and delivery of domestic abuse and sexual violence services sits. The specifications are in line with national guidance and good practice from the NHS England, British Association for Sexual Health and HIV (BASHH) and the Home Office. They also take into account local recommendations made by the Ofsted inspection undertaken during 2012.

6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES

- 6.1 Approve the award of the contract for the delivery of domestic abuse and sexual violence support services within Peterborough to Peterborough Women's Aid (PWA) for a total over four years of £1,126,670. The contract includes the following services, tendered in two Lots:
- Lot 1 – Integrated support service for very high, high and medium risk victims of domestic abuse and/or sexual violence;
 - Lot 2 - Specialist therapeutic interventions for children and young people who have experienced domestic abuse and/or sexual violence.
- 6.2 The contract will run for the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2017, subject to funding being available for each year, with the option for the Council to extend for a further twelve months to 31st March 2018.

7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS & ANY RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

7.1 Background

- 7.1.1 The issue of domestic abuse and sexual violence have been highlighted nationally by the Government's Call To End Violence Against Women and Girls. In March 2013, the definition of domestic abuse was changed to allow 16 and 17 year olds to be considered as victims.
- 7.1.2 At a local level domestic abuse is a priority of the Safer Peterborough Partnership and local needs assessments have highlighted the prevalence of sexual violence, particularly experienced by young people. During this year, work is underway to build on the existing work relating to sexual violence and expand the Domestic Abuse Strategy to enable a fully joined up approach to addressing all forms of domestic abuse and sexual violence in the city, across all the partner agencies.
- 7.1.3 Domestic abuse and sexual violence support services have traditionally been commissioned and delivered separately. However, domestic abuse and sexual violence are not mutually exclusive. By integrating the services a more comprehensive and joined up service can be provided which places the victim at the centre.
- 7.1.4 Lot 2 has been developed to address the gap in local services for children and young people affected by domestic abuse and/or sexual violence.

- 7.2 The contract will be funded through the budget held by Peterborough City Council's Communities Directorate, and consisting of previously split budgets of Public Health and Children's Services

7.3 Procurement

- 7.3.1 A two stage procurement process was undertaken in which bidders were invited to tender with an indicative value of £300,000 for specified volumes of activity. The two stage process comprised a qualifying stage in which bidders were assessed against criteria covering: finance; insurance; quality assurance; and technical & professional ability; all bidders passed this stage and went on to be assessed against the second stage: key quality criteria.

Bidders were then invited to clarification interviews with the panel to clarify their submissions and provide additional detail to their bid.

Tenders were evaluated on a quality:cost ratio of 70%:30%.

7.3.2 The Evaluation Panel comprised of:-

Karen Kibblewhite Commissioning lead for Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence
 Jo Melvin Commissioning lead for Sexual Health (Public Health)
 Zoe Berriman Procurement Lead
 DI Lorraine Parker, Cambridgeshire Constabulary (desktop evaluation only)

7.3.3 The submitted tenders were evaluated as follows

Tenderer Name	Quality Totals	Quality weighting x quality score	Price weighting x price score	Overall Score	Value for Money Ranking
Supplier A	70	33	30.0	63	2
PWA	87	47	23.9	70.9	1

Tenderer Name	Quality Totals	Quality weighting x quality score	Price weighting x price score	Overall Score	Value for Money Ranking
Supplier A	62	38	9.0	47	3
Supplier b	64	39	21.8	60.8	2
PWA	71	51	30	81	1

7.3.4 From the evaluation, PWA emerged as both the highest quality and Most Economically Advantageous Tender for both Lots.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8.1 The following options were considered and rejected:

Option 1 - Continuation of current services. This option was rejected for three reasons:

- a) The current model is inefficient due to provision being split across providers and those services being very small. The restructure of services through the new tender allowed the interventions for domestic abuse and sexual violence to be brought together to provide both greater capacity and resilience for the service
- b) Integration offers a service centred around victims rather than split according to funding channels and minimises the risk of a victim “falling between” the provision
- c) The lack of specialist provision to support children and young people affected by domestic abuse and/or sexual violence has been highlighted in local needs assessments. Continuation of the current model of services would not address this gap.

Option 2 - Do not provide domestic abuse or sexual violence support services

This option was rejected because the Strategic Needs Assessment undertaken by Safer Peterborough Partnership clearly highlighted domestic abuse as a priority, Ofsted echoed this. The Young People's Sexual Health and Wellbeing Needs Assessment highlighted the gap in services to support young victims. Academic research shows experience of sexual violence in childhood and adolescence increases the likelihood of repeat victimisation in adulthood. Therefore, sexual violence services are needed to prevent future repeat victimisation.

In addition, by providing services, domestic abuse and sexual violence within the city can be reduced, thereby improving safeguarding of children; reducing crime; improving health outcomes for individuals; and improving the quality of life for all residents.

9. IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Financial implications

The tender is for the award of between £304,335 and £324,885 worth of services per year; the cost is different each year allowing for set-up costs, cost of living, and inflation. The contract will be awarded subject to confirmation of next financial year's funding, and for each subsequent years' funding.

9.2 Legal implications

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a duty on the Council to prevent crime and disorder in the area and the contract is being entered into in pursuant of these duties.

For the purposes of the Public Contracts Regulations 2006, the services required are classified as Part B and there is no requirement on the Council to follow the full procurement regime under the mentioned regulations. The services have been procured in line with the Council's Contract Rules.

9.4 HR implications

Internal staff and incumbent service providers staff will be subject to a TUPE transfer to PWA.

An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed. No adverse or significant issues were found. A copy of the EIA can be obtained from the report author.

10. DECLARATIONS / CONFLICTS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS GRANTED

Declarations by any cabinet member consulted by the decision maker and any dispensation granted by the Audit Committee or Head of Paid Service (Chief Executive). Note, the Audit Committee grants dispensations where the member concerned has a pecuniary interest, whereas the Chief executive may grant a dispensation for these purposes to any cabinet member consulted on these proposals whether by an officer or another individual cabinet member where there is a common law conflict of interest that may not amount to a pecuniary interest under the Regulations.

11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985) and The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

Guidance for the delivery of domestic abuse and sexual violence services is available from CAADA at www.caada.co.uk; Home Office at www.homeoffice.gov.uk; and NHS England at www.england.nhs.uk