



CONTRACT AWARD FOR INTEGRATED CHILDRENS AND ADULTS ADVOCACY SERVICE
Cllr Wayne Fitzgerald, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Integrated Adult Social Care and Health
August 2016
Deadline date: August 2016

Cabinet portfolio holder: Responsible Director:	Cllr Wayne Fitzgerald, Deputy leader and Cabinet Member for Integrated Adult Social Care and Health Wendi Ogle-Welbourn, Corporate Director People and 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/02MAY16/02
Is this decision eligible for call-in?	YES
Does this Public report have any annex that contains exempt information?	NO
Is this a project and if so has it been registered on Verto?	NO

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Cabinet Member is recommended to:

1. Approve a contract to Voiceability to deliver a countywide integrated childrens and adults advocacy service. The sum for the Peterborough contract is £1,277,720 (£255,544 per year for 5 years), with an option to extend for a further 2 years at £511,088 (£255,544 per year).

Councillor Sam Smith, Cabinet Member for Children's Services, comments:

No comment.

1. SUMMARY OF MAIN ISSUES

- 1.1 This report seeks the Cabinet Member's Approval to award the contract with Voiceability from 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2021, with an option to extend for a further two years.

2. PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

- 2.1 This report is for Cllr Wayne Fitzgerald to consider exercising delegated authority under paragraph 3.4.8(a) of Part 3 of the constitution in accordance with the terms of their portfolio at paragraph b.

3. TIMESCALE

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

- 4.1 The integrated countywide childrens and adults advocacy service will offer a full range of advocacy services. The following services will be offered:
- Advocacy services for looked after children and young people
 - Return interviews for children and young people missing from care
 - Provision of an independent health complaints advocacy
 - Provision of an independent mental capacity advocacy
 - Independent mental health advocacy and generic mental health advocacy service
- 4.2 Independent advocacy means supporting a person to understand information, express their needs and wishes, secure their rights and represent their interests if they might have substantial difficulty doing so themselves.
- 4.3 The services on offer safeguard adults and children who are vulnerable by speaking up for them. It enables people with physical or learning disabilities, older people, carers, looked after children and those with mental health needs to make informed choices and decisions about their own wellbeing and social care.
- 4.4 The aim of the contract is to provide an integrated advocacy service that meets all the statutory requirements placed on the Council for the provision of independent advocacy across a range of age groups, needs and settings. This includes, but is not limited to: looked after children, young people in transition to adult services, older people, adults with physical disabilities, adults with sensory impairments including the profoundly deaf, adults with learning disabilities, autism, those with mental health needs, carers and individuals with limited capacity, for example, with dementia or brain injury.
- 4.5 Combining childrens and adults services will enable service users to easily find, access and navigate the right services at the right time and to take control of their support arrangements. Currently there are 9 providers delivering a range of generic and specialist provisions in Peterborough. These will be rationalised into a single service, providing a seamless response to referrals. The provider will establish a central base in Peterborough to deliver the services.
- 4.6 Improving the voice, empowerment and general experience of service users and carers remains central to the strategic aims of all the service areas involved in this contract. Through the focussing of advocacy activity via one contract, advocacy as a whole will be strengthened and as a means of empowering residents in their dealings with the Council will be more visible and enhanced.
- 4.7 The Council has a number of statutory duties to ensure access to advocacy. The Acts are summarised below:
- The Care Act 2014

- Children and Families Act 2014
- The Health and Social Care Act 2012
- The Equality Act 2010
- The Autism Act 2009
- The Mental Health Act 2007, Mental Health Act 1983 and the Mental Health Act Code of Practice 2014
- The Mental Capacity Act 2005
- Care Standards Act 2000
- The Children Act 1989 and Care Planning and Case Review Guidance and Regulations 2010

4.8 This service will be a countywide service across Cambridgeshire. The provider will deliver services for both Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council.

5. CONSULTATION

5.1 Consultation is key to the continued successful commissioning of services. Consultation has been undertaken with service users, service providers and key stakeholders. There have been a number of engagement workshops and online surveys as well as presentations to local forums.

6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES

6.1 Approve the award of the contract for the integrated childrens and adults advocacy service from 1 September 2016 as detailed in the 'Recommendation' above.

7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS & ANY RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

7.1 Peterborough currently has 9 providers of advocacy services. Moving forward the integrated advocacy service will combine all elements of the presently separate services. This will provide an integrated package of services for clients by having a truly integrated service delivered by multi-skilled workers. The integration will provide a better service for clients as well as deliver efficiencies and innovation for the Council.

7.2 The contract will be funded by the current budgets identified for childrens and adults advocacy services.

7.3 Procurement

7.4 The procurement was delivered by Cambridgeshire County Council and carried out in accordance with section 7 of the Public Contract Regulations 2016 (the 'light touch regime').

7.5 Two initial tenders were submitted via the LGSS eProcurement portal on 3 May 2016. The tenders were evaluated by a panel made up of commissioners and contract managers from both Councils. There was then a moderation meeting to decide on a consensus score for each response.

The initial tender scores are shown in the table below:

	Quality of method statements (70%)	Price score (30%)	Total Score
Supplier 1	36.96	-	36.96
Supplier 2	43.68	30	73.68

7.6 Overall, the winning bidder's organisational model was good and they demonstrated a high quality of service. There is no price score for supplier 1 as they did not pass the quality assessment stage of the moderation.

7.7 Cambridgeshire County Council wrote to Voiceability on 27 July 2016 informing them of the outcome of the tender. They have now entered into the standstill period that will end on 8 August. The implementation will start after this date.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8.1 The following options were considered and rejected:

8.2 Option 1 - Continuation of current services. This option was rejected for the following reasons:

- a) Operating separate services does not put service users at the centre. It reduces accessibility and limits opportunities
- b) A tender exercise will generate competition within the market, potentially leading to innovation and better value for money for the council.

8.3 Option 2 - Do not provide advocacy services. This option was rejected as Peterborough City Council has a statutory duty to deliver these services.

9. IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Financial implications

The tender is for the award of £1,277,720 worth of services across the first 5 years of the contract with the option to extend the contract for an additional 2 years at a cost of £255,544 per year.

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
£255,544	£255,544	£255,544	£255,544	£255,544

10. DECLARATIONS / CONFLICTS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS GRANTED

None.

11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None.