



EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION

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| REPORT OF: | Executive Member for Neighbourhood and Prevention Services Executive Member for Children's Services |
| LEAD OFFICERS: | Director of Localities and Prevention Director of Children's Services |
| DATE: | 30th November 2018 |

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|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| PORTFOLIO/S AFFECTED: | Neighbourhood and Prevention Services | Children's Services |
| WARD/S AFFECTED: | All | |

SUBJECT:

Tender for Domestic Abuse 2019-22 (possibility to extend to 2024)

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this paper is to update the elected member on the Domestic Abuse services, both community and refuge based, and to request approval to undertake a procurement / tender exercise for a core offer of support across all levels of risk.

Stakeholder workshops were undertaken during May, June & July to inform the development of the local Domestic Abuse delivery model, which were successful in engaging a wide range of agencies, professionals and service users. Good progress has been made on developing a draft delivery model, and a steering group, along with a series of task and finish groups are in place to develop the implementation plans.

It is proposed to retender the current specialist provision contracted to support victims of domestic abuse as below

- Lot 1 - Community Service; including Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVA), victims recovery programmes, perpetrator courses etc – currently delivered by Changing Lives
- Lot 2 Supporting People; Accommodation Based Support – providing refuge accommodation for victims fleeing Domestic Abuse currently delivered by Blackburn Darwen and District Without Abuse – The Wish Centre and Humraaz
- Lot 3 - Supporting People; Floating support, supporting people to stay safe in their own homes currently delivered by BDDWA – The Wish Centre

Supported by the investment of a range of partner agencies a service review exercise has been undertaken, developing three new service specifications for the above lots. We are now in a position to publish the tender documents on the chest to allow the continuation of this core service in line with EU procurement requirements and the Councils own Contracts and Procurement procedure Rules ..

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Executive Member:

- i. Notes and agrees the content of this report
- ii. Approves the intention to commence the tender process for Domestic Abuse community and refuge, to enable a new contract to be in place by 1st April 2019
- iii. Delegate authority to manage the process to the Director of Adult Services and Prevention

- iv. Approve a senior officer lead review of submissions and make recommendation on outcome of the process
- v. Delegate authority to approve final appointment(s) to the Director of Adult Services and Prevention in consultation with the Executive Member for Neighbourhood & Prevention Services and the Executive Member for Children, Young People & Education.

3. BACKGROUND

The Community Safety Team provides policy support and operational governance in support of the Domestic Abuse Strategic Board (DASB). The DASB recently published the Domestic Abuse Strategy 2018-23 which outlines 4 priorities for Domestic Abuse;

- Prevention and early intervention
- Protecting those at greatest risk of harm
- Partnership working
- Pursuing perpetrators

The community offer is holistic and comprises six elements:

- IDVA - 3 tiered response service
- Sanctuary programme
- Mentoring & counselling services
- Voluntary perpetrator scheme
- Victims Programme
- Statutory and non-Statutory front line training to SafeLives standard
- Education programme to schools

The specialist refuge contracts aim to;

- Provide short term accommodation for those escaping Domestic Abuse
- Stabilise the crisis situation
- Work with service users, housing needs and other agencies to secure an exit from the service
- Develop the service users capacity to live independently in the community and have the skills to maintain a tenancy
- There is a dedicated contract supporting those from the BME community with specialist provision

It is the intention of the retendering process to advertise three lots of service provision as previously provided and outlined in the Executive Summary, with the opportunity for organisations to bid for single lots or combined services.

4. KEY ISSUES & RISKS

The commission is required in order to:

- Protect vulnerable people and support victims of crime in line with our statutory duties.
- Provide a holistic domestic abuse service which meets the need of the people of Blackburn with Darwen
- To provide the best value, highest quality service for the residents of Blackburn with Darwen.
- Provide a service model that ensures safe, compliant, quality services which are effective and efficient and meet critical needs within this borough as required and inspected by Ofsted and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services.

Robust performance management and monitoring arrangements will be in place for the life of this contract. These will be in the form of quarterly evidenced-based report cards, which will evidence better outcomes which can be measured on quality, service and value for money. Quarterly provider

meetings will take place as a tool for monitoring and evaluating the performance of the contract.

The new provider(s) will be expected to attend the quarterly Strategic Board; this will ensure governance arrangements are in place and adhered too. In addition to this the service managers will also have to attend the operational meetings as a key member of the group, to provide updates on services and raise any areas of concern.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The Domestic Abuse services will be tendered in line with national guidelines and evidence base including:

- Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004
- The Protection from Harassment Act 1997
- The Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003
- The Serious Crime Act 2015
- The Homelessness Act 2002
- Home Office: Ending Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy 2016-2020
- Home Office: Violence Against Women and Girls National Statement of Expectations
- Violence Against Women and Girls Ready Reckoner Tool
- NICE Guidance: Domestic Violence and Abuse – Multi Agency Working
- Department for Education: Keeping Children Safe in Education
- Blackburn with Darwen Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2016-2019
- Blackburn with Darwen Domestic Abuse Strategy 2018-23
- Blackburn with Darwen Review in to ACE – Adverse childhood Experiences
- Independent evaluation of Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) – Dr Teresa Young 2016
- Independent evaluation of Perpetrator services – Dr Teresa Young 2018
- Independent evaluation of Complex Case Hub – Dr Teresa Young 2018
- SafeLives Insights IDVA National Data Set

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Community Safety Team manages this commission on behalf of the Domestic Abuse Partnership with funding identified from cash limited budget (including Supporting People budget transferred from ASC), Public Health internal commission and PCC grant. Further additions to the value and specification may be made as further external investment is in the process of being approved.

The contract will be for three years with potential for a further year and then a further year subject to funding still being available; satisfactory performance and fundamental change in legislation.

There is a 6 month variation and or cancellation option built into the contract to allow for unexpected changes in budgets given the complexities of government, departmental and partnership grants which fund this programme.

| | Community Service | Floating Support | Accommodation based services | Total |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Year 1 | 290,000 | 35,100 | 79,200 | 404,300 |
| Year 2 | 290,000 | 35,100 | 79,200 | 404,300 |
| Year 3 | 290,000 | 35,100 | 79,200 | 404,300 |
| Sub Total | | | | 1,212,900 |
| Option to extend year 4 | 290,000 | 35,100 | 79,200 | 404,300 |
| Option to extend | 290,000 | 35,100 | 79,200 | 404,300 |

| | | | | |
|--------------|--|--|--|------------------|
| year 5 | | | | |
| Total | | | | 2,021,500 |

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, local authorities have a statutory responsibility to work with other agencies to reduce crime and disorder in their local area. As domestic violence accounts for almost a fifth of all recorded violent crime, it should be included within local Community Safety Partnership Strategy.

The procurement will require legal input at various stages of the tender process which will be conducted in accordance with the EU Procurement Rules and the Council's Contracts and procurement Procedure Rules.

It is proposed that an open tender process will be followed with the aim of attracting providers with sufficient knowledge and expertise to enable quality delivery.

Both legal and Procurement departments will be involved in supporting the development of the specification and tender documents (including the proposed contract) and will continue to provide support throughout the tender process.

Legal Services will also be required to support and provide advice in relation to any TUPE implications.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The management and implementation of the tender will be actioned within existing BwD resources including input from Legal, Procurement, Finance, Integrated Strategic Commissioning and Community Safety.

9. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

Please select one of the options below. Where appropriate please include the hyperlink to the EIA.

Option 1 Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required – the EIA checklist has been completed.

Option 2 In determining this matter the Executive Member needs to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA link here)*

Option 3 In determining this matter the Executive Board Members need to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA attachment)*

10. CONSULTATIONS

Extensive service User consultations were completed across the 3 existing Domestic Abuse Services in 2018.

A series of workshops have been held with a wide range of stakeholders to shape and influence the model that will be tendered.

11. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The recommendations are made further to advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been considered. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

12. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

All Declarations of Interest of any Executive Member consulted and note of any dispensation granted by the Chief Executive will be recorded and published if applicable.

VERSION: 4

CONTACT OFFICER: Rebecca Leach

DATE: 22/11/2018

**BACKGROUND
PAPER:**