

EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION



BLACKBURN
with
DARWEN
BOROUGH COUNCIL

0

REPORT OF:	Executive Member for Neighbourhood and Prevention Services Executive Member for Children's Services, Young People & Education
LEAD OFFICERS:	Director of Adult Services & Prevention Director of Children's Services
DATE:	8th February 2019

PORTFOLIO/S AFFECTED:	Neighbourhood and Prevention Services & Children's Services, Young People & Education Adults and Prevention
WARD/S AFFECTED:	All

SUBJECT: Approval of the Award of Domestic Abuse Tender

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of the report is to seek approval from the Executive Members from Neighbourhoods and Prevention; and Children's Services, Young People and Education to approve the appointment of a delivery Partner from the tender process for the Domestic Abuse Service commission. Subject to approval the contract would then be awarded to the successful Partner and the implementation of the award would be delegated to the Director of Adult Services and Prevention (Statutory DASS) in consultation with the Director of Children's Services, Young People and Education (Statutory DCS).

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Executive Members:

Approves the appointment of the successful Partner from the tendering process to deliver the Domestic Abuse Service.

Approves delegated authority to the Director of Adult Services and Prevention (Statutory DASS) in consultation with the Director of Children's Services, Young People and Education (Statutory DCS) to award the contract and its implementation to the successful tenderer.

3. BACKGROUND

A business case for a pooled budget was put together by the Community Safety Team in 2012, this brought funding in from the Local Authority, Police and Crime Commissioner and, the then external, Public Health. All funding partners continue to have Domestic Abuse as a priority area and see a pooled budget arrangement as the best means for delivering this service. The Community Safety Team routinely bids for external grant funding to top up service and pilot new and innovative projects.

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 Safe Lives 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.

The tender was advertised firstly via the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) and then on the Chest on 10th December 2018. Completed tenders were returned on 24th January 2019 and the tender evaluation process was completed by the Local Authority.

Providers were invited to tender using an “open tender” process and consisted of 3 lots, namely

1. Community Provision
2. Accommodation Based Services
3. Floating Support Services

The tender documentation required all providers to submit a method statement and financial schedule for each lot and the tender was evaluated on the most economically advantageous tender with weightings as follows:-

- 50% Quality
- 20% Innovation
- 30% Price

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.

The contracts will be managed by Neighbourhoods team. 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.

The Neighbourhood; Strategic Commissioning and Children's team will work together with the new provider/s to mobilise the contracts and ensure that service delivery is not disrupted due to change in provider. The mobilisation plan will be further developed with the provider following formal contract award.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This contract is aligned to the strategic vision across Children Services and Neighbourhoods team and conforms with the relevant national guidelines, namely:-

- 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
- Care Act 2014
- 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 full contract price over the 3 year period is £1,212,900 with a potential £808,600 if extended for a further 2 years. Further additions to the value and specification may be made as further external investment is in the process of being approved. 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 Adult Social Care), 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 a further two years 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.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The tender process has been conducted in accordance with the EU Procurement regulations and the Council's Contracts and Procurement Procedure Rules. TUPE transfer information has been gathered and shared with all providers who requested this as part of the Chest tender process.

Both legal and Procurement departments will be consulted in respect of implementation plans as part of the new contracts mobilisation.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The management and implementation of the implementation plan and contract will be actioned within existing resources including but not limited to the Strategic Commissioning and Neighbourhood and Prevention Teams with input from Legal, Procurement and Finance.

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

Consultations have taken place within and prior to the procurement process being undertaken and will be a key feature in the mobilisation plan in terms of consultations with service users.

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:	1.0
-----------------	------------

CONTACT OFFICER:	Anne Braidwood
-------------------------	-----------------------

DATE:	01.02.19
--------------	----------

BACKGROUND PAPER:	
------------------------------	--