

Report of Head of Targeted Services

Report to Director of Children's Services

Date: 17th March 2014



Request to approve the award of a contract to Barca-Leeds for the provision of a dedicated city-wide crime prevention initiative for 8 – 13 year olds, from the 1st August 2014 to 31st March 2017

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

This report seeks approval to award a contract to Barca-Leeds for the provision of the Youth Inclusion Commission, which will provide a dedicated city-wide crime prevention initiative for 8 – 13 year olds. It will support them to find alternatives to their chaotic lifestyles which may involve significant levels of truancy, offending and or anti-social behaviour, which in turn could result in poor educational attainment and hamper future employment prospects. The award follows a competitive tendering exercise and is due to run from 1st August 2014 until 31st March 2017 with provision for up to 12 months extension.

In May 2013, the Children's Services Leadership Team (CSLT) (appendix 1) in recognition of the need to clarify and simplify the landscape in terms of youth crime prevention, agreed following a competitive procurement process to:

- support the recommended proposal to combine the resources of the Youth Inclusion Project and Positive Activities for Young People in order to provide a dedicated city wide crime prevention provision for 8 - 13 year olds.

The maximum value of the contract is £500k per annum but in the first year the cost will be £333,330 reflecting part year effect. This is a High Value Procurement. As the total cost of this contract is over £250k it is therefore subject to call-in and has been published on the forward plan.

Recommendations

The Director of Children's Services is recommended to approve the award of the Youth Inclusion Commission contract to Barca-Leeds as the lead practitioner in partnership with Nacro at a maximum cost of £500k per annum. The contract length will be 2 years and 8 months, with the option to extend for a period of up to 12 months.

1.0 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to request the award of a 2 year and 8 months contract (with the option to extend for a further 12 month period) to Barca-Leeds for the provision of the Youth Inclusion Commission from 1st August 2014.

2.0 Background information

- 2.1 Leeds has made effective interventions to prevent and reduce the level of youth anti-social behaviour in the city. For example the percentage of 10 to 17 year-olds, committing one or more offence in 2010/11 was 1.9%, whilst in 2011/12 the figure was 1.5%. This is a trend the Council is keen to see continue supported in part through the provision of this service.
- 2.2 CSLT noted that there were several agencies delivering youth crime prevention interventions in Leeds, i.e. YIP (Youth Inclusion Project) and, PAYP (Positive Activities for Young People) and three area based youth offending teams (YOS) all of all whom had slightly different delivery models mainly in the age of the children targeted, details of which are below:
- YIPs (including Junior YIPs) are services commissioned from the voluntary sector in Leeds with an 8 – 16 age range;
 - PAYP key-work model (13 – 19 age group) is a Leeds City Council provision managed within Leeds YOS;
 - The YOS area based supervision teams are part of the statutory multi agency YOS partnership providing 10 – 18 age services.
- 2.3 Therefore, the intention of this commission is to secure a service to 8 – 13 year olds, whilst YOS would continue to provide the statutory out of court provision and to accept referrals for preventative support for 13 plus year old young people. It is envisaged that the majority of referrals will come from the Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour team and directly from the Police. Whilst this will be now a city-wide service it is expected that there will be particular focus on those areas of the city with high indices of deprivation and need.

2.4 Across the city the service provider will be required to work with targeted youth crime prevention teams linking in with a range of locality partners but in particular the following key partners:

- Youth work providers;
- Targeted Services;
- Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team;
- Youth Offending Service.

2.5 The service provider will be required to deliver a core programme and provide a core offer which will be accessible to children and young people (CYP) from different parts of the city. However, the provider would be encouraged to make the use of the different resources available in the locality of the CYP, consequently delivery would be a mixture of casework and centre based provision to achieve the best outcomes for the young person.

2.6 The overall requirements of the funding is for the successful contractor of this new service to assist in a full year a minimum of 180, 8 -13 year olds working with their families to find alternatives to their chaotic lifestyles which may involve significant levels of truancy, offending and or anti-social behaviour, which could in turn result in poor educational attainment and hamper future employment prospects. Success of this procurement would be judged against the following:

- A reduction in risk factors as indicated in initial Onset assessment scores for each young person (Onset is a referral and assessment framework for CYP at risk of committing crime or anti-social behaviour);
- A reduction in the number of reports of offending or anti-social behaviour for those children who had previously been reported for such behaviours;
- Improved attendance at school for those with identified as having a poor attendance record.

2.7 The development of the service specification used for this commission was built on good practice derived from local and national practice within the field of youth crime prevention.

3.0 Main Issues

3.1 The tender was advertised on the Councils regional tender portal, YOREtender. The tender process used was the Open Procedure by which the tender and the PQQ documentation are sent out and returned at the same.

Both CPR 9.0 and CPR 10.0 which relates to contracts over £100K and High Value Procurements have been complied with.

3.2 Tender documents were prepared using standard procurement documentation. The award criteria were based on a split of 60% for a quality submission and 40% for the price submitted. The quality/price evaluation split was also agreed by the Project Team, which comprised of representatives from Youth Offending Service, Children's Commissioning, and Procurement. The evaluation model was approved by the

Head of the Leeds Youth Offending Service and the Head of Commissioning and Market Management.

- 3.3 A 'Bidders' Event advertised via YOREtender was held on the 20th November 2013. This provided interested parties an opportunity to receive a presentation on the intended commission and to ask questions. There were 7 organisations who attended the event and 1 apology was received. Following the event, all organisations were sent copies of the presentation.
- 3.4 An open procedure was commenced on the 16th January and was originally due to close on the 5th February, however, due to a request received by the Council from an organisation preparing their submission; the closing date was extended from Wednesday 5th February to Monday 10th February 2014. Organisations were required to submit a method statement consisting of a series of responses to questions based on the requirements and outcomes stated in the service specification. They were also required to complete and submit a pricing schedule.
- 3.5 Three (3) tenders were received from:
- 4Children,
 - Barca-Leeds, and
 - The Children's Society.

Of these 3 submissions, Barca-Leeds, and The Children's Society were shortlisted for interview having been deemed to have met or exceeded the minimum quality threshold requirement.

- 3.6 On the 19th February the shortlisted organisations, Barca-Leeds, and The Children's Society were interviewed and outcomes of the interviews were fed in to the overall scoring for quality.
- 3.7 Following the interviews and the overall evaluation of the bids received, Barca-Leeds' submission was first overall in terms of quality and cost, so if they will be approached in the first instance if this report recommendation is approved.

4.0 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 The commissioning process involved consultations with key stakeholders such as, the Head of YOS, the Youth Offer Lead, staff teams, the Trade Unions in Children's Services, the 3 current providers and the Anti-Social Behaviour Team. The Youth Crime Prevention Partnership was informed of the changes. The Lead Member for Children's Services has been briefed on several occasions concerning the development of this commission.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 4.2.1 An equalities impact screening (attached at appendix 2) was conducted at the time it was agreed by CSLT to bring together the YIP and PAYP resources for this

commission. The outcome of this screening document indicated that a full equality impact assessment was not required.

4.3 Council policies and City Priorities

4.3.1 The Youth Inclusion Commission will provide a telling contribution to the successful delivery of the CYPP 5 key outcomes namely:

- Be healthy
- Stay safe
- Enjoy and achieve
- Make a positive contribution
- Achieve economic well-being

It is expected this commission will impact on the above outcomes for example in the following way by:

- Providing access to and encouraging the use of leisure, culture and sporting opportunities
- Helping children to live in safe and supportive families
- Helping children and young people make full and constructive use of their leisure time
- Improving behaviour, attendance and achievement.

4.3.2 The council's ambition to be the best city for children and young people to grow up in, to study, work, and play will form an essential part of the overall vision for Leeds.

4.3.3 It is envisaged that this commission will also contribute to the child friendly city initiative by ensuring:

- Children and young people are treated fairly and feel respected
- Children and young people have the support and information they need to make healthy lifestyle choices
- Children and young people express their views, feel heard and are actively involved in decisions that affect their lives.

4.4 Resources and value for money

4.4.1 An annual maximum budget of £500,000 has been set aside for this commission. The first year of this funding will be part year affect for eight months at a cost of £333,330. The successful tender for this contract has come in almost on price therefore, the savings are marginal. However, by combining the YIP and PAYP services over £200k has been saved over the life of this contract.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.5.1 The contract value of this commission is over £250k and is therefore a high value procurement and will be subject to call in.

4.6 Risk Management

- 4.6.1 As already stated earlier in this report, Leeds over recent years has been making steady progress in reducing the level youth anti-social behaviour. Therefore, if this report's recommendation was not agreed, a significant number of the city's children/young people particularly in those areas of with high indices of deprivation, would possibly not fulfil their educational potential which would subsequently impact on their future training and employment prospects.
- 4.6.2 The commission as it stands would involve the transfer of staff from the PAYP service and therefore, TUPE (Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) would apply. Legal Services has confirmed that TUPE would apply. In line with corporate guidelines, discussions with PAYP staff and trade unions at local and city-wide level have been held. Further discussions are to take place with affected staff and the trade unions once the outcome of this report is known. As part of the tender evaluation process, bidders were asked to submit an 8 week plan on how they would address staffing transfer issues over the transitional period. This plan would be further explored with the successful bidder at the start of mobilisation period.
- 4.6.3 As the successful contractor for this commission is a current provider of YIP services, it is anticipated that this will provide continuity of service to the children and young people and will assist with a smooth transition. However, this matter will also be covered during mobilisation period.

5.0 Conclusion

- 5.1 This procurement process has successfully identified a supplier to provide a much needed service to children / young people in need of support at a critical time in their lives.
- 5.2 The recommended provider for this commission has met a quality threshold of 60% and has submitted a competitive price

6.0 Recommendations

- 6.1 The Director of Children's Services is recommended to approve the award of the Youth Inclusion Commission contract to Barca-Leeds as the lead practitioner in partnership with Nacro at a maximum cost of £500k per annum. The contract length will be 2 years and 8 months, with the option to extend for a period of up to 12 months.

7.0 Background documents¹

- 7.1 None

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.