

Report of Head of Service, Targeted Services

Report to The Director of Children's Services

Date: January 2016

Subject: To invoke Contract Procedure Rule 21.3 to extend the Families-First framework contract 9X4K V3HKYA for a further 6 months from 1st April 2016 to 30th September 2016.



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 type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" 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

1. The report seeks the approval of the Director of Childrens Services in invoking Contracts Procedure Rule 21.3 to extend the Families First framework contract for a further 6 months from 1st April 2016 – 30th September 2016.
2. Families First is a National programme funded by Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) which aims to “turn around” the lives of 400,000 troubled families following further funding in the November spending review. The programme is payment by Results. In Leeds we have been given a figure of 6990 families to support over the life of the four year programme.
3. The Families First framework contract was initially awarded for 8 months with 1 x 6 month extension available. This is the invocation of the available extension period.
4. There had been a proposal submitted to reduce the overall value of the contract. However, CSLT felt that a reduction in the contract value was not sustainable in maintaining the effectiveness of the contract. Therefore, the contract is being extended at the same value for the remaining available 6 month extension period.

Recommendations

5. The Director of Children's Services, is recommended to agree the extension of the Families First framework contract for a period of 6 months from 1st April 2016 – 30th September 2016 to ensure continuity while the service is being reviewed.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The report seeks the approval of the Director of Childrens Services in invoking the Contracts Procedure rule 21.3 to extend the Families First framework contract for a further 6 months from 1st April 2016 – 30th September 2016.
- 1.2 The value of the 6 month extension is £185,000

2 Background information

- 2.2 Families First is a National programme funded by Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) which aims to "turn around" the lives of 400,000 troubled families. The programme is payment by Results. In Leeds we have been given a figure of 6990 families to support over the life of the three year programme.
- 2.3 The Families First framework contract was initially awarded for 8 months with 1 x 6 month extension available. This is the invocation of the available extension period.

3 Main issues

3.1 Reason for Contracts Procedure Rules Waiver/ Invocation

- 3.1.1 The current budget position has led to an annual detailed analysis, on a contract by contract basis, of whether the service purchased continues to be required and represents good value.
- 3.1.2 Throughout Sept – Dec 2015 all current contracts were reviewed with Heads of Service and Service leads in terms of continuing value for money and strategic fit. Due to the issues noted at 2.2 it is necessary to extend the Families First framework contract until further review can take place.
- 3.1.3 The extension of the Families First framework contract will ensure that LCC is meeting its duties for the delivery of services to children and young people.
- 3.1.4 This contract has resulted in additional income for the Local Authority through the high achievement of payment by results outcomes. One provider has achieved 100% PbR outcomes.
- 3.1.5 The service lead and contracts team will review the monitoring arrangements to ensure the priorities, targets and outputs still meet the needs of the service required.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 None

4.2 Consultation and Engagement

4.2.1 The current service providers have been informed of the intention to extend their existing contract.

4.2.2 Discussions have taken place with the Heads of Service and Service Lead to confirm proposed contract arrangements for service delivery.

4.3 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

4.3.1 The extension of the current contract means that the current service delivery model will continue. The service will be to the same client group at the same value. The decision to continue delivery of current service arrangements will not have any adverse impact on any equality group.

4.4 Council policies and City Priorities

4.4.1 This fits with the children's plan priorities to;

- Ensure the most vulnerable are protected
- Support children to be ready for learning
- Help children to be in safe, supportive families
- Spend money wisely.

4.5 Resources and value for money

4.5.1 The extension of this contract represents value for money by reducing disruption to the existing services by ensuring continuity from 1st April 2016 – 30th September 2016 (6 months) and generating further income through Payment by Results.

4.5.2 There is a budget in place to cover the value of this extension.

This framework contract was recently refreshed and awarded August 2015. The service is being delivered on target, therefore a new commissioning is not considered good value for money at this point. This will be reviewed as part of the on-going contract management process to inform the next milestone decision

4.5.3 The decision to continue delivery of current service arrangements will not have any adverse impact on any equality group. The Leeds Troubled Families Programme compliments and strategically fits with the Vision for Leeds:

- Leeds will be fair, open and welcoming
- Leeds economy will be prosperous and sustainable
- All Leeds Communities will be successful

4.5.4 The value of the 6 month extension is £185,000

4.6 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.6.1 This report should not be subject to 'Call In' due to the overall value of the extension (£185,000) for 6 months.

4.7 Risk Management

4.7.1 Through an annual detailed analysis, on a contract by contract basis, the project teams have identified risks and actions to mitigate these as part of the commissioning programme plan for each service.

4.7.2 There is no risk of challenge as the initial contract let allowed for an extension to the contract.

5. Conclusions

5.1 The Director of Children's Services is recommended to note the contents of this report and approve the invocation of the contracts procedure rule 21.3 as detailed in this report.

6.0 Recommendations

6.1 The Director of Children's Services is recommended to agree the extension of the Families First framework contract for a period of 6 months from 1st April 2016 – 30th September 2016 (6 months) to ensure continuity while the service is being reviewed.

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.