

SCRUTINY BOARD (CHILDREN'S SERVICES)

CALL-IN OF DELEGATED DECISION

Reference 2009/2010 D35924

1.0 DETAILS OF CALLED IN DECISION

- 1.1 This report relates to a Delegated Decision of 16 September 2009 to award a contract for the delivery of Connexions Intensive Support Services – Wedge Based Services.

2.0 DETAILS OF CALL- IN

- 2.1 The Call-In was requested by Councillors A Ogilvie and D Blackburn and was received on 1 October 2009. Two other signatures were also included on the Call In request form in the names of Councillors A Lowe and M Coulson.
- 2.2 The Call-In request was considered by a meeting of the Scrutiny Board (Children's Services) on 12 October 2009 which was attended by:

Councillor W Hyde (Chair)
Councillor J Chapman
Councillor B Cleasby
Councillor J Dowson
Councillor G Driver
Councillor R D Feldman
Councillor G Kirkland
Councillor J Lewis
Councillor B Selby
Councillor E Taylor
Ms C Foote
Prof P Gosden
Mrs S Hutchinson
Mrs S Knights
Ms J Morris-Boam

3.0 EVIDENCE CONSIDERED

- 3.1 The Board considered the following written evidence:
- Delegated Decision Notification form – D35924
 - Report of the Youth Strategy Implementation Manager to the Chief Officer for Early Years and Integrated Youth Support Service – 9 September 2009 – Connexions Phase Two Tender Evaluation Outcome Recommendations

The Board also considered the following written evidence which was confirmed as exempt under Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4 (3):

- Report of the Youth Strategy Implementation Manager to the Joint Preventative Commissioning Panel – 27 August 2009 – Recommendation relating to the IYSS Wedge Tender Evaluation Outcome – Report and appendices

3.2 The following officers attended the meeting to give evidence to the Board and answer questions

Sally Threlfall – Chief Officer for Early Years and Integrated Youth Support Service
Gerry Hudson – Integrated Youth Support Services Manager
Maz Asghar – Youth Strategy Implementation Manager
Barbara Newton – Chair of Joint Preventative Commissioning Panel
Iain Dunn – Strategic Category Manager, Procurement Unit
Andy Palin – Principal Finance Manager, Early Years and Integrated Youth Support Service
Neil Warren – Head of Finance, Children’s Services

3.3 The following signatories of the Call-In attended to present the reasons for the Call In:

Councillor A Ogilvie
Councillor D Blackburn
Councillor A Lowe

3.4 The following witnesses were called by the signatories of the Call-In to support the original justification for the decision having being Called In:

Lynne McLaughlin – Archway
Louise Megson – St Luke’s Cares

4.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 At the conclusion of the Meeting, the following statement was agreed:

“That the Board resolves unanimously that the decision be referred back to the decision maker for reconsideration. The specific areas the Board wishes the decision maker to reconsider are:

- *Whether sufficient consideration has been given to the financial status of each of the bidders, and their track record in reducing the number of young people not in education, employment and training (NEET), and the consequent risk assessment regarding the delivery of the contracted service to the young people of Leeds;*
- *Whether the specification and tender questionnaire contained sufficient input and emphasis on local wedge needs for the bids to be appropriately quality assessed on this acknowledged important aspect of the proposed service;*
- *Whether the proposed sub-contracting model is desirable as opposed to a direct relationship between the council as contractor and the provider;*
- *Concerns regarding public perception of the appropriateness of the composition of the evaluation panel;*
- *Clarification regarding the suggestion that TUPE regulations could rule out the proposed sub-contracting model, and consideration of any implications arising.*