

Report of Head of Service, Learning for Life

Report to Director of Children and Families

Date: 5th March 2018

Subject: To invoke Contract Procedure Rule 21.2 to extend the Willow Young Carer contract DN 251839 for a further 12 months from 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019.



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

1. The report seeks the approval of the Director of Children and Families to invoking Contract Procedure Rule 21.2 to extend the Willow Young Carers contract for a further 1 x 12 months from 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019.
2. Willow is an essential service providing support to young carers by enabling them to maximise the opportunities and benefits provided in universal settings such as schools, sports centres and youth provision. These afore mentioned provisions together with organised and informal out of school settings provide the young carer with specific opportunities for those whose circumstances mean that they need more targeted support in their family life which in turn impacts on their educational attainment.
3. The current Willows Young Carers contract is jointly commissioned with Adults & Health together with Leeds CCG Partnership. The contract was initially awarded for 9 months with a 1 x 12 month extension available. This report seeks approval to invoke this extension for the additional 1 x 12 months.
4. The Willows Service has recently been reviewed and was found to be giving positive outcomes and shows good value for money. A Young Carers Strategy is being formulated to enhance the Councils commitment to Carers and their families by enhancing the statutory requirements of the Carers Act 2014. This will be drawn up in

the extension period which takes this contract to the end date of the Adults contract (31st March 2019), leaving joint commissioning of both a possibility.

Recommendations

5. The Director of Children and Families Services is recommended to agree the extension of the Willow Young Carers contract for a period of 1 x 12 months from 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019.

1. Purpose of this report

1.1 This report seeks the approval of the Director of Children and Families in invoking Contract Procedure rule 21.1 to extend the Willow Young Carers contract for a further 12 months from 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019.

1.2 The funding breakdown for this contract is as follows:

Children's Services:	£161,473	
Adult Social Car	£104,252	
CCG Funding:	£ 40,000	
Total Funding:	£305,725	per annum

2 Background information

2.1 Willow is an essential service providing support to young carers by enabling them to maximise the opportunities and benefits provided in universal settings such as schools, sports centres, youth provision, organised and informal out of school settings which provide young carers specific opportunities for those young carers whose circumstances mean that they need more targeted support.

2.2 The Willow Young Carers contract was initially awarded for 9 months with a 1 x 12 month extension available. This is report seeks approval to take up the 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 as proved in the recent review.

3.1.2 The extension of the Young Carers contract will ensure that LCC is meeting its duties for the delivery of services to children and young people.

3.1.3 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 Childrens and Families have recognised the need for a Young Carers Strategy to compliment that of the Adult Carers and to be compliant with the 2014 Carers Act.

4.2 Consultation and Engagement

4.2.1 The current service provider has 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 Best Council Plan

4.4.1 This fits with the children's and young people'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

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 2018 to 31st March 2019 (12 months). The recently finalised review of the Service found that value for money has been shown and that outcomes have improved across the city.

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

4.5.3 The decision to continue delivery of current service arrangements will not have any adverse impact on any equality group

4.5.4 The service represents the only provision of its kind in the city for young carers.

The funding breakdown for this service is as follows:

Children's Services:	£161,473,
Adult Social Care	£104,252,
CCG Funding:	£ 40,000
Total Funding:	£305,725 per annum

4.6 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.6.1 The extension is subject to Call In due to the overall value of the contract.

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 21.2 as detailed in this report.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1** The Director of Children and Families is recommended to agree the extension of the Willow Young Carers contract for a period of 1 x 12 months from 1st April 2018 – 31st March 2019.

7 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.