



Report of Carmel Kent, Commissioning Officer

Report to The Head of One Adoption West Yorkshire (OAWY)

Date: September 2018

Subject: Request to waive Contracts' Procedure Rules 8.1 and 8.2 in order to enter into a contract with Grandparents Plus for a period of 18 months at a value of £78000

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 purpose of this report is to seek permission from the The Head of One Adoption West Yorkshire waive Contracts' Procedure Rules 8.1 and 8.2 to enter into a contract with Grandparents Plus for a service to support One Adoption West Yorkshire in the setting up of a Kinship Connected Kinship Care Support Programme.
2. Grandparents Plus is a National Charity which champions the role of Grandparents and the wider family in childrens lives. They provide advice, information and peer support for Special Guardians grandparents and other family members who step in to care for children who cannot live with their birth parents for whatever reason..
3. Grandparents Plus has a credible reputation for supporting the national development of good kinship care practice.

Recommendations

4. It is recommended that the The Head of One Adoption West Yorkshire approves the waiver of Contracts' Procedure Rules 8.1 & 8.2 (intermediate value procurement) in order to enter into a 18 month contract with Grandparents Plus.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek approval from The Head of One Adoption West Yorkshire to waive Contracts' Procedure Rules 8.1 & 8.2 (intermediate value procurement) in order to enter into a contract with Grandparents Plus for the provision of a service.

2 Background information

- 2.1 Grandparents Plus was set up in 2002. Grandparents Plus has a credible reputation for supporting the national development of good Kinship care practice. There is a national network of approximately 4000 kinship care members. There is a Kinship Care professional group, sector leading research and a national advice service which supports around 1600 kinship families a year.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 This service is needed to facilitate the setting up of a Kinship care Supported programme.
- 3.2 The Head of Service for One Adoption West Yorkshire has consulted with the other local authorities in West Yorkshire in reaching this decision.
- 3.3 This service will allow One Adoption West Yorkshire to better support Special Guardians
- 3.4 The Grandparents Plus programme comprises the following
- 3.4.1 Development of existing peer support groups to become independently constituted and self sustaining. Setting up of new support groups where needed.
- 3.4.2 One to one support for Special Guardians from a Grandparents Plus project worker
- 3.4.3 Access to a specialist Kinship care Advice Service by phone or online
- 3.4.4 Access to the breadth of information on the Grandparents Plus website.

3.5 Strategic Priorities

- 3.5.1 Special Guardians support is closely aligned to a large number of important national and regional strategy, policy and priorities in Children and Families. It supports Child Friendly Leeds and supporting families. It helps in reducing looked after children by supporting families to ensure children do not enter care post adoption.
- 3.6 Grandparents Plus Kinship Connected Support Programme

3.6.1 The service will assist One Adoption West Yorkshire in the development of better Special Guardians Support across West Yorkshire.

3.6.2 Grandparents Plus will provide the full package of policies and Information resources to support the work in West Yorkshire.

3.7 Consultation and engagement

3.7.1 Consultation with the other Local Authorities in West Yorkshire has been undertaken in reaching this decision.

3.7.2 This contract will allow the Grandparents Plus service to commence quickly.

3.8 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration

3.8.1 An Equality Impact Assessment Screening document has been undertaken and there is no impact in respect of equality and diversity.

3.9 Council policies and best council plan

3.9.1 The outcomes this service will be commissioned against are those within the Leeds Children and Young People's Plan 2015 – 2019. This contract will contribute to a number of the outcomes and priorities within the plan including the outcome to ensure all young people are safe from harm and the priority to help children live in safe and supportive families and safely. It also makes a significant contribution to the key obsession to safely and appropriately reduce the number of Children Looked After.

3.10 Resources and value for money

3.10.1 This report requests £78000 for 18 months to enable the setting up of a Kinship Care support programme in West Yorkshire. We believe that the programme will result in Improved Kinship carer confidence, engagement and trust with the local authorities, a reduced number of children on Child Protection plans and Children in Need, cost savings to the local authorities in West Yorkshire.

3.11 Legal Implications, access to information and call In

3.11.1 This report seeks approval to waive Contracts' Procedure Rule and 8.1 & 8.2 to enter into contract with Grandparents Plus.

3.11.2 This report does not contain any exempt or confidential information under the Access to Information Rules.

3.11.3 Giving the work to this provider without competition could leave the Council open to a potential claim from other providers, to whom this contract could be of interest, that it has not been wholly transparent. In giving the work to this provider without competition there is a potential risk of challenge from other providers who have not been given the chance to tender for this opportunity.

3.11.4 The Head of Service for One Adoption West Yorkshire has consulted with the other local authorities across Yorkshire and Humberside and there is a clear desire to use Grandparents Plus to deliver this programme of support.

3.12 Risk management

3.12.1 In the event that this decision is not approved this could have an impact on the council's priorities as outlined in the Child and Young People's Plan 2015-2019 including the key obsession to safely and appropriately reduce the number of children looked after.

4 Conclusions

4.1 The Head of One Adoption West Yorkshire is requested to note the contents of this report and to approve the waiver of Contracts' Procedure Rules 8.1 & 8.2 in order to enter into a contract with Grandparents Plus valued at £78,000 for a period of 18 months for the delivery of the service.

5 Recommendations

5.1 It is recommended that The Head of One Adoption West Yorkshire approves the waiver of Contracts' Procedure Rule 8.1 & 8.2 (intermediate value procurement) in order to enter into a contract Grandparents Plus

6 Background documents¹

6.1 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.