

**Report of Head of Commissioning and Market Management**

**Report to The Deputy Director of Children's & Families**

**Date: January 2020**

**Subject: To invoke Contract Procedure Rule 21.2 to extend the Youth Inclusion Project DN398681 for a further six months from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 to the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020.**



Are specific electoral wards affected? If yes, name(s) of ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Has consultation been carried out?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Will the decision be open 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**

**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 Youth Inclusion Project for a further six months from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 to the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020.
2. **Best Council Plan Implications** (click [here](#) for the latest version of the Best Council Plan)

Approval for the request will support a number of priorities in the Best Council Plan:

**Child Friendly City:-**

- Supporting families to give children the best start in life.
- Improving educational attainment and closing achievement gaps for children and young people vulnerable to poor learning outcomes.
- Improving social, emotional and mental health and wellbeing. Helping young people into adulthood, to develop life skills and be ready for work.

**Priorities:-** OUTCOMES we want everyone in Leeds to...

- Be safe and feel safe
- Enjoy happy, healthy, active lives.
- Do well at all levels of learning and have the skills they need for life.
- Enjoy greater access to green spaces, leisure and the arts.

### **3. Resource Implications**

The original contract (2014) was extended and varied before it was waived in 2019 for a period of 1 x 12 months with an option to extend for a further six months. The original waiver equated to £340,000 per annum and the extension a further £170,000. The budget for the whole contract period equated to £510,000 which was secured and is available as states in the delegated decision notification.

### **Recommendations**

The Deputy Director of Children and Families is recommended to agree the extension of the (Barca Leeds) Youth Inclusion Project contract for a period of 1 x 6 months from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 to the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020. The total value for six months is £170,000 which will make the total value of this contract £510,000 which was agreed in the original Delegated Decision Notice.

#### **1. Purpose of this report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the contract with (Barca Leeds) Youth Inclusion Project to be extended for 1 x 6 month which was stated in the original DDN, to be invoked.

#### **2. Background information**

- 2.1 The purpose of the Youth Inclusion Commission (YIC) is to support 8 -13 year olds, find alternatives to chaotic lifestyles which may involve significant levels of truancy, offending or antisocial behaviour. Often such behaviour will result in poor educational attainment and hamper future employment prospects.
- 2.2 The contract with Barca Leeds for the YIC started on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014 and was awarded following a competitive tender exercise. This followed a decision by the Children's Services Senior Leadership Team (CSLT), in recognition of the need to clarify and simplify the landscape in terms of youth crime prevention, to merge the resources of the Youth Inclusion Project (YIP) and Positive Activities for Young People (PAYP) to form a targeted youth crime prevention program across the city, which would provide dedicated provision for 8 -13 year olds.
- 2.3 The aim of the contract is to engage and work with a minimum of 130 young people per year and where appropriate with their families. The service is delivered out of numerous venues around the city with some outreach undertaken with the LCC Youth Service based on need, home visits and visits to schools. The service adopts a case management approach using the Early Help assessment tool. There is a

minimum of three hours contact time per week with individual young people to progress their action plan.

2.4 The service is now delivering city-wide with a particular focus on those areas of the city with high indices of deprivation and need. In 2017-18, as part of a reduction in contract value, the contract was varied to prioritise resources on seven priority clusters; 2gether, ACES, Bramley, Beeston, Cottingley & Middleton, Inner East, JESS and Seacroft Manston. Assessments are based firstly on individual need and then secondly on area.

2.5 The top five reasons for referral to the YIC are:

• Offending/risk of offending	12	<b>92%</b> of referrals
• Negative peer groups	6	<b>46%</b> of referrals
• Anti-social behaviour	13	<b>100 %</b> of referrals
• Risk of exclusion	11	<b>85%</b> of referrals
• Poor school attendance	5	<b>38%</b> of referrals

### **3. Main issues**

3.1 There is the provision to extend for up to 6 months in the present contract which we are hoping to invoke so that a full commissioning process can be started after the Youth Work Review is completed or this extension is completed, whichever comes first.

3.2 Service user satisfaction is consistently high and impact measures demonstrate success in reducing harm related behaviour, reducing risk of domestic violence, reducing hate crime and increasing self-confidence and emotional well-being.

### **4. Corporate Considerations**

4.1 Consultation and engagement

4.1.1 Childrens & Families and the Youth Justice Services have been consulted and both agree with the extension, together with the current service provider (Barca Leeds) who also agree with the extension.

#### **4.2 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration**

4.2.1 The extension of the current contract means that the current service delivery model will continue. The service will be delivering to the same client group continued delivery of current service arrangements will not have any adverse impact on any equality group.

#### **4.3 Council policies and the Best Council Plan**

4.3.1 The Best Council Plan

Our strategic planning document, sitting at the top of a range of supporting strategies. It sets out what the council, working in partnership, will do to deliver better outcomes across Leeds. It informs our budget setting and financial strategies and is an essential tool for planning and delivering services. It also helps

our staff understand how the work they do makes a real difference to the people of Leeds and shows our partners how we contribute to citywide priorities. Our current Best Council Plan was approved by Full Council in February 2019 and covers the period 2019/20.

#### 4.3.2 Child Friendly Leeds

Supporting families to give children the best start in life. Improving educational attainment and closing achievement gaps for children and young people vulnerable to poor learning outcomes. Improving social, emotional and mental health and wellbeing. Helping young people into adulthood, to develop life skills and be ready for work. Enhancing the city now and for future generations.

#### 4.3.3 Leeds Children & Young Peoples Plan 2018-2023

Our vision is for Leeds to be the best city in the UK and the best city for children and young people to grow up in. We want Leeds to be a child friendly city. Through our vision and obsessions we invest in children and young people to help build an increasingly prosperous and successful city. We aim to improve outcomes for all our children whilst recognising the need for outcomes to improve faster for children and young people from vulnerable and deprived backgrounds.

#### 4.3.4 Climate Emergency

The specification requires the supplier to consider the environment impact of the delivery of the contract and identify ways of reducing and offsetting their carbon footprint.

### **4.4 Resources, procurement and value for money**

4.4.1 The extension was agreed in the waiver and so the budget is in place.

4.4.2 The decision to continue delivery with the current provider will have a positive impact on the service users as continuity will be maintained and robust contract monitoring process will continue to highlight best practice and adoption of innovative processes.

4.4.3 Value for money has been considered and a variation was made to reduce the value of the contract and also to target the most deprived areas of the city.

### **4.5 Legal implications, access to information, and call-in**

4.5.1 The Director of Children and Families should note that the proposed extension is in accordance with the contract terms. The value of this extension provision is £170,000 for the 6 months period.

4.5.2 This is a Significant Operational Decision which is not subject to call-in, there are no grounds for keeping the contents of this report confidential under the Access to Information Rules.

4.5.3 Whilst there are no legal implications in taking up the extension, in making their final decision, the Director of Children and Families should note the above comments and be satisfied that the course of action chosen represents best value for the Council.

## **4.6 Risk management**

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

4.6.2 There is no risk of challenge as the initial contract allowed for an extension to the contract

## **5 Conclusions**

The extension is permissible within the terms of the original contract, represents value for money, ensures that continuity is maintained and will enable a competitive tender procedure to be completed ensuring a suitable provider is commissioned in 2020.

## **6 Recommendations**

6.1 The Deputy Director of Children and Families is recommended to agree the extension of the (Barca) Youth Inclusion Project contract for a period of 1 x 6 months from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 to the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020. The total value for six months is £170,000 which will make the total value of this contract £510,000 which was agreed in the original Delegated Decision Notice.

## **7 Background documents<sup>1</sup>**

7.1 None

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<sup>1</sup> 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.