

# Contract award to Adoption UK for a Regional Adoption Peer Mentoring Scheme

Date: 29/06/2021

Report of: Head of Commissioning and Market Management

Report to: Director of Children and Families

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

## What is this report about?

### Including how it contributes to the city's and council's ambitions

- This reports seeks approval to award a contract to Adoption UK following a competitive tender exercise. Permission to procure was approved by the Director of Children and Families on 24/03/2021.
- This proposal provides strong support for the refreshed Children and Young Peoples Plan and the Council's ambition to be a Child Friendly City. The outcomes delivered through 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.
- This proposal also supports the 2020-25 Best Council Plan priority make Leeds the best city for children and young people to grow up in.

## Recommendations

- a) The Director of Children and Families is recommended to approve the decision to award a contract to Adoption UK for delivery of a Regional Adoption Peer Mentoring Scheme on behalf of One Adoption West Yorkshire, One Adoption North and Humber and One Adoption South Yorkshire following a competitive tender. The contract will commence on 01/10/2021 for a period of two years, with the option to extend by a further 12 + 12 months. The maximum budget available for this provision is £114,790 per annum and so the maximum potential value is £459,160.

### Why is the proposal being put forward?

- 1 This contract award follows a competitive tender exercise, where Adoption UK were the successful tenderer in both lots. Adoption UK passed all the quality score thresholds and submitted prices within the price caps set in the tender. Adoption UK were the only bidder and so there are no unsuccessful tenderers.

### What impact will this proposal have?

**Wards Affected:** N/A – regional provision

Have ward members been consulted?      Yes      No

- 2 Permission to procure was obtained in March 2021 and full details are included in the delegated decision report dated 23/03/2021.

### What consultation and engagement has taken place?

- 3 The proposal to procure a contract was agreed by all five Local Authority members of OAWY and all Yorkshire and Humber RAAs, and have been involved or kept informed throughout the tender process. The Executive Member for Children and Families was consulted about the decision to procure.

### What are the resource implications?

- 4 This is a new regional procurement with an overall maximum budget of £114,790 pa. One Adoption West Yorkshire's contribution to the overall value is approximately £40,000 per annum.
- 5 Each RAA will pay the contractor directly for services.

### What are the legal implications?

- 6 The total estimated value of the contract will be £459,160 and so approval to award a contract is a significant operation decision. This decision is not subject to call in.

### What are the key risks and how are they being managed?

- 7 This service is part core delivery and part draw down, where the value is based on previous usage and costs. The risk to this service is that it could overspend. The risk will be mitigated by setting the maximum available budget and maximum prices for each Lot and then regularly monitoring the budget to identify at the earliest stage whether any overspend is likely to occur, so appropriate action can be taken.

### Does this proposal support the council's 3 Key Pillars?

Inclusive Growth      Health and Wellbeing      Climate Emergency

- 8 Children in care benefit greatly from adoption leading to better outcomes for their wellbeing, education and future prospects.

## **Options, timescales and measuring success**

### **a) What other options were considered?**

9 N/A

### **b) How will success be measured?**

10 The contract includes key performance indicators and outcomes to be achieved. Performance will be overseen by the OAWY team based within Leeds City Council. Support for contract management will be provided by the Leeds City Council Commissioning and Market Management team as required.

### **c) What is the timetable for implementation?**

11 The contract is due to start 01/10/2021 and so it is anticipated the contract will be awarded in early July to allow sufficient mobilisation time.

## **Appendices**

12 None – please see EDCI screening form attached to permission to procure report dated 23/03/2021.

## **Background papers**

13 None