



Report of the Youth Strategy Implementation Manager

To: Chief Officer for Early Years and Integrated Youth Support Service

Date: 9 September 2009

SUBJECT: Connexions Phase two Tender Evaluation Outcome Recommendations

This Report is for;			
Advice/consideration prior to taking a Key or Major decision or reporting to a Committee <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Significant Operational Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	Administrative Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	
Decision to be taken by:			
Full Council <input type="checkbox"/>	Corporate Governance and Audit Committee <input type="checkbox"/>		
Executive Board <input type="checkbox"/>	Standards Committee <input type="checkbox"/>		
An Area Committee <input type="checkbox"/>	Member Management Committee <input type="checkbox"/>		
A Regulatory Committee <input type="checkbox"/>	A Relevant Chief Officer using delegated authority <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Executive summary

This paper provides the Chief Officer for Early Years and Integrated Youth Support Service with information to support the award of the Connexions Intensive Support Services contract.

The paper outlines the procurement process undertaken and the recommendations of the Joint Preventative Commissioning Panel (JPCP) on the 30th of July 2009; of Integrated Youth Support Service (IYSS) Leadership Team on the 4th of August 2009; and the subsequent actions and further meetings arising from these recommendations.

This report summarises the outcomes and recommends that a delegated decision be taken to award the contract for all five wedge Connexions Intensive Support Service to Igen. The contracts will be for a period of 3 years commencing 1st January 2010 subject to continued funding within the Comprehensive Review April 2011- 2014, as reflected in the contract, with an option to extend for a further two, twelve month periods.

1.0 Purpose of this report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- Inform the Chief Officer for Early Years and Integrated Youth Support Service of the outcome of the procurement process for the Connexions wedge based Intensive Support contracts.
- Seek a delegated decision to award that contract to Igen valued at £5,017,120 for a period of three years.

2.0 Background

2.1 Tender specifications for the Connexions Intensive Support Services were developed as a result of Children's Services decision to develop and reconfigure these services on a wedge based locality basis.

2.2 These specifications, developed with partners, were advertised via the SCMS Alito system by the Corporate Procurement Unit. Potential bidders were invited to tender using Alito. The tender process itself was a restricted tender process requiring all potential bidders to submit a PQQ (Pre-Qualifying Questionnaire). The PQQ's were evaluated and those reaching the required standard were invited to submit full bids for evaluation.

2.3 The full evaluation panel met over a four and a half day period which also involved interviewing all the bidders submitting at full evaluation stage. The recommendation of that panel was that the five wedge contracts be awarded to Igen. The contract value is £5, 017,120 for the three year period.

2.4 The recommendations of the panel proceed to JPCP, IYSS Leadership team in preparation for signing as a delegated decision by the Chief Officer for Early Years and Integrated Youth Support Service.

3.0 Main issues arising from JPCP and IYSS Leadership endorsement

3.1 The full evaluation panel recommendation was referred to the JPCP for ratification. At that meeting on July 30th, JPCP raised a number of queries including:

- Igen registration status
- Method of sub contracting that would be used by Igen

3.2 IYSS Leadership met on August 4th and supported the recommendations of JPCP, and agreed that Igen be invited to meet with IYSS representatives to deal with the issues raised by the JPCP on August 19th. Questions were provided to Igen in advance and the meeting was attended by the Head of IYSS, the Youth Strategy Implementation Manager and the Finance Officer for Early Years and Integrated Youth Support Service.

3.3 It was the view of the senior group that Igen had offered sufficient safeguards and put forward a robust partnership focused argument in respect of the concerns raised by the JPCP and IYSS. A report detailing Igen responses was presented to IYSS and JPCP members. JPCP were satisfied with the responses and endorsed the

recommendation to award the contract to Igen. IYSS Leadership team considered the outcome of the meeting and endorsed the outcome to award the contract to Igen.

4.0 Recommendation

4.1 The Chief Officer for Early Years and Integrated Youth Support Service is requested to:

- Endorse the way forward outlined above, relating to the decisions reached by the JPCP and IYSS in relation to the award of the contracts for wedge based Connexions Intensive Support Services.
- Award the contract to the value of £5, 017,120 for the three year period subject to continued funding within the Comprehensive Review April 2011- 2014, as reflected in the contract, with an option to extend for a further two, twelve month periods.

4.2 It is recommended that the JPCP panel report and addendum, the contract award report and appendices 1 to 7 are confidential, under access to information procedure rule 10.4(3), as they contain the detailed prices submitted by the contractor for the goods/services to be supplied as well as commercially sensitive information in respect of the bidders. It is considered, therefore, that the public interest in maintaining the content of reports and appendices as exempt outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information contained in the reports and supporting documentation, as disclosure would prejudice the commercial interests of the contractor and the prices submitted relates to the financial/business affairs of a particular company.