



Report of the Youth Strategy Implementation Manager

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

Date: 22nd October 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

Significant Operational Decision

Administrative Decision

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 report provides the Chief Officer for Early Years and Integrated Youth Support Service with information to support a second decision to award the Connexions Intensive Support Services contract valued at £5,017,120 for a period of three years.

The report 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 notes the first delegated decision for this contract signed on September 16th 2009, DDN number D 35924, the subsequent call in of that delegated decision on October 1st and the referral back to the decision maker for reconsideration on October 15th.

Appendix 8 outlines the information, advice and evidence presented to the decision maker in support of this second decision 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:

- remind 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.
- present the Chief Officer for Early Years and Integrated Youth Support Service with the further information, advice and evidence sought in response to the recommendations of Scrutiny Board Call In of the delegated decision to award each of Connexions Wedge Based Intensive Support contracts to igen.
- seek a second 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 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 unanimous 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 proceeded to JPCP and the IYSS Leadership Team for endorsement in preparation for signing as a delegated decision by the Chief Officer for Early Years and Integrated Youth Support Service.
- 2.5 The Chief Officer for Early Years and Integrated Youth Support Service signed the delegated decision on September 16th 2009, DDN D35924 2009/2010. The decision was called in on October 1st 2009 and considered by Scrutiny on October 12th 2009. Scrutiny Board referred the decision back to the decision maker for reconsideration highlighting five areas for consideration.

3.0 Main issues arising from JPCP and IYSS Leadership

- 3.1 The unanimous full evaluation panel recommendation was referred to the JPCP for ratification. At that meeting on July 30th, JPCP recommended clarification on a number of issues 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 on August 19th to clarify the issues raised by the JPCP. 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 that senior group that igen had offered sufficient safeguards and put forward a robust partnership focused argument in respect of the points for clarification 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. The IYSS Leadership Team considered the outcome of the meeting and endorsed the outcome to award the contract to igen.

4.0 Main issues arising from the Call In of DDN35924

- 4.1 The Chief Officer for Early Years and Integrated Youth Support Service signed the delegated decision on September 16th 2009. The decision was called in on October 1st 2009 and considered by Scrutiny Board on October 12th 2009. Scrutiny Board referred the decision back to the decision maker for reconsideration highlighting five areas for consideration. The five areas for reconsideration are detailed in appendix 8.
- 4.2 Further careful thought has been given to each of the five points for reconsideration raised by Scrutiny Board. Further information, advice and evidence to support the decision making process has been provided by Resources Directorate, Legal and Democratic Services, Corporate Procurement, the Director of Children's Services Unit and Executive and Lead Members for Children's Services. The information and evidence collated against each of the five areas for reconsideration is presented in appendix 8

5.0 Recommendation

- 5.1 The Chief Officer for Early Years and Integrated Youth Support Service is requested to:
- endorse again the way forward outlined above, relating to the decisions reached by the JPCP, IYSS and Director of Children's Services in relation to the award of the contracts for wedge based Connexions Intensive Support Services.
 - consider the additional information and evidence presented in appendix 8 in response to the recommendations of Scrutiny Board on the Call In of the first decision and in support of the second decision.
 - award a contract to the value of £5, 017,120 for all five wedge based Connexions Intensive Support Services 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.
- 5.2 It is recommended that the JPCP panel report and addendum, the contract award report and appendices 1 to 8 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.

Background Papers

Youth Strategy – Aiming High for Young People