

BRIEFING PAPER

1.	Date:	24 February 2020
2.	Title:	Re-commissioning of CSE Support Services
3.	Directorate:	CYPS

1. Background

- 1.1 Three voluntary sector providers are currently commissioned by Children and Young People's Services to deliver support to victims / survivors of Child Sexual Exploitation. These contracts have been extended until September 2020, with an option to continue with a rolling month by month contract until March 2021.
- 1.2 Work on the Needs Analysis has now been ongoing for 12 months. Work commenced when ACEPPE were commissioned to undertake an independent consultation exercise / needs analysis. This process was interrupted when significant concerns were raised in relation to clinical governance and service user safety by Rotherham Rise, GROW and the Trauma and Resilience Service.
- 1.3 ACEPPE provided a pre-consultation report which was primarily drawn from work with non-commissioned providers, Swinton Lock and Apna Haq. This work has been combined with other sources of rich information to provide a full needs analysis. The needs analysis also includes contract performance information, an academically led evaluation of the Trauma and Resilience Service and service user feedback facilitated by current providers.
- 1.4 A sub-group of the Improving Lives Select Committee also undertook a benchmarking exercise, conducting interviews with other Local Authorities who had identified the need for post-CSE services. Benchmarking included conversations with Telford, Oxford and Blackburn and Darwen.
- 1.5 A public survey will be launched during the week beginning 2 March 2020 and this will provide the final component to ensure that a robust Needs Analysis informs the re-commissioning process.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 The Needs Analysis is attached to this Briefing Note. The input from ACEPEE is contextualised on page 8 of the Needs Analysis as follows:

This pre-consultation has corroborated some of the understanding taken from the feedback from RMBC Commissioned services. However much of the pre-consultation report is concerned with the period prior to any services being in place and does not account for the impact of any work undertaken between 2015-2019 which places limitations on its value to the overall analysis.
- 2.2 The original intention was to further develop this work by gathering public opinion via an art exhibition including art work completed by victims / survivors as part of the consultation process. Initial links were made between ACEPEE and the Culture and

Leisure Service, however, it has not been possible to progress the art exhibition within the commissioning timescale. The artwork will now be returned to respective artists and public opinion will be gathered via an online survey, due to launch during week beginning 2 March 2020.

- 2.3 During the completion of the Needs Analysis, it was confirmed that the funding source for the Trauma and Resilience Service was secure for an additional three years. The Trauma and Resilience Service provide support to victims / survivors of CSE who are involved with Operation Stovewood. The model of support and the allocation of referrals to wider CSE services is already managed via the Trauma and Resilience Service (as represented in the Needs Analysis). On this basis, it is recommended that the new service specification, and the commissioning timescales are fully aligned with the provision of services through the Trauma and Resilience pathway.
- 2.4 A joint commissioning arrangement was considered, however, this is not the recommended option as the following risks have been identified:
 - 2.4.1 Respective commissioners (RMBC and Rotherham CCG) need to be assured that there are robust arrangements in place to manage waiting lists for services that are offered to victims of CSE, including a timely response to support provided to service users who are part of Operation Stovewood.
 - 2.4.2 Respective commissioners (RMBC and Rotherham CCG) need to be assured that the procurement process guarantees a fair and transparent process that is compliant with the relevant legislation.
- 2.5 A timeline has been developed by the Council's procurement team that will ensure that new RMBC contracts are in place prior to the current contract expiring.
- 2.6 The operational delivery of the services will continue to have oversight of the Trauma and Resilience Steering Group which is a multi-agency group that includes colleagues from RMBC, Rotherham CCG, RDaSH and the National Crime Agency.

3. Key actions and relevant timelines

Improving Lives Select Commission is asked to:

- 3.1 Note the Draft Needs Analysis (Appendix 1) and further note that this will be supplemented by a public consultation process during March 2020.
- 3.2 Note the proposal that CSE Support Services are re-commissioned by the Council and that new services commence from January 2020.
- 3.3 Note the proposal that the service specification is developed based on findings of the full needs analysis and that the commissioning timescale is aligned with the Trauma and Resilience Service (both contracts will end in April 2023).
- 3.4 Note the timescale for re-commissioning that is set out in Appendix 2.

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