

Public Report
Delegated Officer Decision

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting

Delegated Officer Decision – 16 May 2023

Report Title

Decision to extend the 19-161 Post CSE Support Contracts for an additional 24 months.

Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?

No

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report

Ian Spicer, Strategic Director of Adult Care, Housing and Public Health

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Ward(s) Affected

Borough-Wide

Report Summary

This report outlines the decision to extend the associated contracts for 19-161 Post CSE Support for an additional 24 months, this period will commence the 1st January 2024 and expire the 31st December 2025 for each of the following services:

Lot 1 – Practical and Emotional Support Grow

Lot 2 – Counselling - Rothacs

Lot 3 – Practical and Emotional Support and Counselling – Rotherham Rise. ,

Recommendations

1. To extend the current Post CSE Support Services for 24 months commencing 1st January 2024 to 31st December 2025, utilising extension clause 22.1.

List of Appendices Included

None

Background Papers

The initial procurement was approved by Cabinet on 15th June 2020. Agenda Item 9.

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Transfer of Post CSE Service from Children's Young People Services to Adult Care Housing and Public Health Directorate was agreed at Cabinet on 14th February 2022. Agenda Item 7.

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Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

No

Council Approval Required

No

Exempt from the Press and Public

No

Officer Decision Record to extend the 19-161 Post CSE Support Contracts for an additional 24 months.

1.	Background
1.1	<p>The Post CSE Services were commissioned in 2020 by Children and Young People Services (CYPS). The services were tendered as 3 separate lots and awarded to 3 different voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations. The contracts commenced 1st January 2021, on a 3-year contract term with an option to extend up to an additional 24 months under Clause 22.1 of the contract. The current contract term will end on the 31st of December 2023 (without the extension). The current services are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lot 1: Practical, emotional support and advocacy for Young People (up to the age of 25) and adults who have experienced child sexual exploitation. This includes support to immediate family members. This is Provided by Grow. • Lot 2- Evidence based therapeutic interventions for young people and adults who have experienced child sexual exploitation. This is provided by Rotherham Abuse Counselling Services (Rothacs), • Lot 3- Practical, emotional support and advocacy for Young People (up to the age of 25) and adults who have experienced child sexual exploitation. This includes support to immediate family members and evidenced based therapeutic interventions. This is provided by Rotherham Rise. <p>The combined cost of the Post CSE services to RMBC is £156k per year. Specific contract details are made available on the Councils Contracts Register which can be found at the following link: https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.rotherham.gov.uk%2Fdownloads%2Ffile%2F3195%2Fcontracts-register&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK</p>
1.2	<p>Following a Cabinet paper dated 14th Feb 2022, it was agreed that the RMBC commissioned services for survivors of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) would transfer from the Children and Young People's Services (CYPS) directorate to Adult Care, Housing and Public Health (ACH&PH). This transfer occurred on the 1st of December 2022, which has included budget transfer. Upon transfer, a process of service review has commenced.</p>
1.3	<p>The Improving Lives Select Commission (ILSC) receive updates on the Post CSE Support Services and provide recommendations to be actioned. From the most recent ILSC (31st January 2022) a new action was to provide an update on the Trauma Resilience Service (TRS) on Post Abuse Support alongside the Child Criminal Exploitation Annual Update.</p>
1.4	<p>The Trauma Resilience Service (TRS) is commissioned by the South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) and provided by Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust (RDaSH). The TRS is funded by Health and Justice NHS England in relation to 'The Strategic Direction for Sexual Assault and Sexual Abuse Services 2018-2023' policy document and the National Crime Agency Stovewood investigation, following the Jay Report.</p>

1.5	A meeting of Adult Care, Housing and Public Health Directorate Leadership Team (ACH&PH DLT) on the 21 st March 2023, minute number 6725-23, approved the extension of all 3 Lots of the Contracts 19-161 for an additional 24 months from 31 st December 2023 to the 31 st December 2025. This is on the grounds that performance from the services is as expected and the contracts terms allow this. The extension approval will allow appropriate time for a recommissioning process that includes a co-production approach.
2.	Key Issues
2.1	The Post CSE support services and TRS work in collaboration with an element of mutual reliance in respect of pathways and funding.
2.2	The officer decision confirms the decision to extend the RMBC commissioned contracts to the 31 st of December 2025.
2.3	The Post CSE support service contracts, without using the extension, are due to end on the 31 st of December 2023.
3.	Options considered and recommended proposal
3.1	Options have been considered at Adult Care, Housing and Public Health Directorate Leadership Team (DLT) on the 21 st of March 2023, where it was agreed that the best way forward is to approve the extension of the Contracts for an additional 24 months, utilising contract clause 22.1.
4.	Consultation on proposal
4.1	ACH&PH Commissioning have visited the three post CSE services to commence review of the services and have engaged with the TRS and ICB Commissioner.
4.2	A recent service evaluation by TRS by Sheffield Hallam University, Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research has been reviewed, which provides good evidence of the performance of the post CSE services and the benefits of the TRS.
4.3	The DLT paper has been reviewed at Adult Care, Housing and Public Health DLT meeting on 21 st March 2023. The decision was made to allow an appropriate timeframe and resource to recommission activity, including a service review.
4.4	The Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Housing and Public Health has been made aware of the Officer Decision and will be updated once the contract extension is formally agreed with providers.
5.	Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision
5.1	Following confirmation of the extension, the contract Providers will be informed on or before the 30 th of September 2023, however it is advantageous to notify as soon as possible to provide stability to the VCS organisations.

	The Services will continue to be monitored via quarterly contract performance and management meetings. Social Value commitments will be sought as outlined in Clause 69.2.4 from the providers for the duration of the extension period and will continue to be incorporated into ongoing contract management activity.
5.2	With the extension, the contracts will be extended up to the 31 st of December 2025.
6.	Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications (to be written by the relevant Head of Finance and the Head of Procurement on behalf of s151 Officer)
6.1	The total cost of the three contracts is £156k per annum, or £312k for the period of the extension, there is sufficient budget to cover this. The contract is not subject to inflation.
6.2	The procurement for the Post CSE Support Services was completed in compliance with Public Contract Regulations 2015 (as amended) and the Councils Financial and Procurement Procedure Rules in 2020. The resultant contracts were awarded 22 nd December 2020 and established on a fixed budget basis for an initial 3-year term commencing 01 st January 2021 and expiring 31 st December 2023. The contracts include an extension period for up to 24-months at the discretion of the Council and in formal agreement with the provider.
7.	Legal Advice and Implications (to be written by Legal Officer on behalf of Assistant Director Legal Services)
7.1	The initial procurement was approved by Cabinet on 15 th June 2020 for a period of 3 years with the option to extend for an additional two years. The contract commenced on 1 st January 2021 and the initial contract period will end on 31 st December 2023. The request to extend the contract for the additional two years falls within the terms of the decision made by Cabinet in 2020 and is therefore a decision which can be made by the Strategic Director.
8.	Human Resources Advice and Implications
8.1	There are no Human Resources implications arising from the report.
9.	Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults
9.1	The implication on service continuity will be minimal as the services will be continuing for an additional 24 months. The services will continue to support vulnerable adults, young people and children. Service users are predominately over 18, however there is no minimum age stated in the specification.
9.2	The Services will continue to form part of the wider Trauma Resilience pathway and will continue to provide victims and survivors of CSE in Rotherham with services that enable their needs to be identified and that enable victims and survivors to receive the support required.
9.3	The services will continue to achieve the following outcomes. All victims, survivors and their families will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start to recover from their trauma of child sexual exploitation

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build resilience and develop coping strategies for everyday life • Improve their self-esteem and self-confidence • Improve their mental health and wellbeing • Be supported in fulfilling their maximum potential • Reduce the risk of harm.
10.	Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications
10.1	Part of the initial tender process required the bidders to have an equality policy in place with an action plan that sets out the organisation's commitment to tackle discrimination and promote equality and diversity in employment and in service delivery. The Service provides must complete a service equality impact assessment on an annual basis.
10.2	There is evidence of access to services from a range of cultures and ethnicities from data collected.
11.	Implications for CO2 Emissions and Climate Change
11.1	During the initial tender, no carbon impact assessment was completed.
11.2	All bidders during initial tender submission described the outcomes that the bidder will deliver to support the Council Plan which included a commitment to the theme: A cleaner, greener local environment.
12.	Implications for Partners
12.1	The implication on partners is expected to be minimal as the providers have existing established partnerships and pathways.
12.2	The Service is an essential part of the Trauma Resilience Pathway and has existing relationships/pathways with statutory and non-statutory organisations across Rotherham.
12.3	Key partners: South Yorkshire ICB and the TRS are in support of the extension.
13.	Risks and Mitigation
13.1	The risks of extending the contracts are low. The extension will help provide stability to the voluntary community sector organisations.
13.2	The services evidence good performance and are well integrated across Rotherham Place system and the wider trauma resilience pathway.
13.3	Given the services without the extension are due to end on the 31 st December 2023, the extension allows an adequate time frame to gain Cabinet and Rotherham Place level approval for the future of the post CSE services and the follow up commissioning activity to take place following a review of service provision and developing need. This mitigates future risk through having an appropriate time frame to comprehensively undertake the commissioning activity to ensure the re commissioning of future post CSE services

	meets the demand explored through the future needs assessment and co-production work.
14.	Accountable Officers
	Ian Spicer - Strategic Director of Adult Care, Housing and Public Health