

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO CABINET MEMBER

1.	Meeting:-	Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families' Services
2.	Date:-	4 th July
3.	Title:-	Restorative Justice – Waiver of Standing Orders
4.	Directorate:-	Resources

5. Summary

The restorative justice service is commissioned from REMEDI on behalf of Rotherham Youth Offending Services (YOS). They work with young offenders to liaise with victims of crime on application of restorative justice.

The previous contract ended on 31st March 2012 and a waiver was initially sought to extend the current contract by 3 months with the intention of developing a joint commissioning approach with Sheffield Council to commence on 1st July. Further work undertaken by Strategic Commissioning has resulted in a sub regional approach to be taken with Doncaster and Barnsley councils and an extension of that waiver by additional 9 months is now being sought to allow this joint commissioning to be achieved.

6. Recommendations

The Cabinet member is recommended to:

- 6.1 Waive of Standing Order (Standing Order 49 - Tender invitation and receipt of tenders) for delivery of the Restorative Justice Service for the period 1st July, 2012 until 31st March 2013.

7. Proposals and Details

7.1 Restorative Justice – Current Position

REMEDI are commissioned to deliver to a service specification supporting young offenders in Rotherham to liaise with victims of crime across the borough and deliver a restorative justice approach. The value of the current annual contract is £59,000.

REMEDI currently provide similar services for all four South Yorkshire Authorities. The intention going forward is to develop a joint commissioning approach with Sheffield, Barnsley and Doncaster Councils which will incorporate a minimum of a 20% reduction in costs for delivery of the Rotherham element. Agreement has already been reached between Rotherham and Sheffield Councils on adopting this approach and discussions are currently taking place with the other two YOS managers and representatives of their commissioning teams on the development of a shared commissioning approach to be awarded from 1st April 2013 onwards following an open tender process.

A waiver was originally agreed for a period of three months to allow discussions between Rotherham and Sheffield to agree a joint approach. Further work has across the sub region has achieved the position that a further 9 month extension would allow the additional discussions with Barnsley and Doncaster Councils to be concluded as well as allowing sufficient time for the open tender process for the larger contract value. The inclusion of the two additional area's work within the contract should allow for greater economies of scale to be achieved for all four local authorities.

8. Finance

The current commissioned service from REMEDI costs £59K pa. The intention is to achieve improved Value for Money and a reduction of at least 20% contributing a minimum of £11.8K to savings for CYPS. Funding for this service originates from the Youth Justice Board.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

That should the service not be recommissioned then the outcomes for young offenders and victims of crime through restorative justice will not be achieved.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

This work impacts particularly on one of the four Big Things within the recently revised Children and Young People's Plan namely Tackling Inequality as well as both the Enjoy and Achieve and the Making a positive contribution Action Plans.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

N/A

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