

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:-	Cabinet Member for Communities and Cohesion
2.	Date:-	29 th April, 2013
3.	Title:-	Restorative Justice – waiving of Standing Orders
4.	Directorate:-	Resources

5. Summary

The restorative justice service is currently 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 current contract has been extended until 31st March, 2013. A waiver is now being requested to extend this contract by a further six-month period to 30th September, 2013. This waiver will allow a sub regional tendering approach to be undertaken to be led by Sheffield Council and also including Doncaster and Barnsley Councils, to produce a joint tender for four services. Those services are reparation, victim support, the co-ordination of referral order panels, including the recruitment and training of volunteers, and also the recruitment and training of appropriate adults. Rotherham will be participating in the tender for three of the four services, reparation, victim support and the co-ordination of referral order panels.

6. Recommendations

The Cabinet member is recommended to: -

Waive Standing Order 48.1 (requirement to invite between three to six tenders from external contractors for contracts valued at £50,000 or more) so that the contract for delivery of the Restorative Justice Service can be extended for the period 1st April, 2013, until 30th September, 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 of the joint commissioning approach with Sheffield Council is to incorporate a minimum of a 20% reduction in costs for delivery of the Rotherham element which would equate to a saving of £11,800. A budget of £24,549 has been identified to cover the costs of provision of co-ordination of referral order panels.

The proposed waiver will allow sufficient time for the open tender process for the four services to take place for the larger contract value.

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, Achieve and the Making a Positive Contribution Action Plans.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

N/A

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