

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO CABINET MEMBER

Meeting:-	Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families' Services
Date:-	Wednesday 15th January 2014
Title:-	Young Carers Service Commissioning
Directorate:-	NAS

5. Summary

The Young Carers service for Children & Young People in Rotherham is commissioned from Barnardo Services Limited until 31 March 2014 at a contract value of £42,300 per annum.

The Young Carers service is only part funded by RMBC Children and Young Peoples Services, with the remaining monies coming from the charitable arm of Barnardo Services Limited.

Due to the low value of the contract and part financing by Barnardo Service Limited, previous tendering exercises have resulted in only Barnardos coming forward with a tender.

It is proposed that, whilst we continue to have a contract and specification in place with the provider, the service be exempt from a competitive tendering process. This is on the basis of cost effectiveness and that there is only one external provider that can undertake this work.

6. Recommendations

Cabinet Member is asked to:

- 6.1 Waive (in accordance with Standing Order 49 - Tender invitation and receipt of tenders) for the delivery of the Young Carers Service in Rotherham.**

7. Proposals and Details

Many Young People within Rotherham are helping to care for a parent or sibling. The person being cared for may have mental health difficulties, a physical, sensory or learning impairment, a long term illness or they may have difficulties relating to substance misuse.

Rotherham Young Carers service, which is currently commissioned from Barnardo Services Limited until 31 March 2014, works with young people aged 8-18 years, and offers the young people guidance and support around issues they face as a young carer. They also offer the young people activities during the school holidays, giving young carers a break and a chance to get together as a large group. The service also provides training and advice to other services and schools in contact with young carers.

The service is part funded by RMBC Children and Young Peoples services, with the £42,300 annual allocation funding the 1.5 WTE workers within the service and some of the activity costs. The frontline administration, training, travel, premises and management costs are picked up by Barnardo Services Limited through their charitable arm at a value of £16,120 per annum.

When the service was last tendered in 2012, only Barnardo Services Limited came forward. It is the view of commissioners that tendering for the service by other providers is not an attractive proposition, as the contract value only covers staffing costs and an element of activity costs i.e. with the TUPE of staff to a new provider, there would be no monies for service overheads and management costs.

We are seeking a waiver from Standing Orders to not undertake a competitive tendering exercise on the basis of cost effectiveness and that there is only one external provider that can undertake this work.

8. Finance

The Young Carers service is funded at a recurrent value of £43,200. The current contractual allocation to Barnardos, is primarily to cover staff costs.

Barnardos Services Limited contribute the remaining £16,120 to meet the overall service running cost of £58,970.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

That if we were to go out to tender we would not attract submissions from providers other than Barnardos Services Limited.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Work to support Young Carers is a high profile service area both locally and nationally. All services for Young Carers should be consistent with the CYP Plan and Health and Wellbeing Board priorities.

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