

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

CENTRAL AREA COUNCIL

17th February, 2014 1:00pm

41. **Present:** Councillors D. Green (Chair), D. Birkinshaw, P. Birkinshaw, Bruff, Bruff, G. Carr, J. Carr, Clarke, Johnson, Mathers, Mitchell, Perrin and T. Sheard.

42. **Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests.**

Cllr Johnson declared a non-pecuniary interest in minute 43 as Chair of Oaks Millennium Technology Initiative and Cllr G. Carr declared a non-pecuniary interest in the same minute as vice-chair of Homestart Barnsley.

43. **Central Area Council priorities and commissioning update.**

The Area Manager introduced the item, reminding Members of the progress made to date. It was noted that the specification for 'Reducing isolation and loneliness in Older People', approved at the previous meeting, went live on the YorTender system on Friday 14th February, 2014. Members were urged to refer interested parties to use the YorTender system, or contact NPS directly if they received any information enquiries regarding the procurement of the activity

The meeting heard how the deadline for the return of tenders was mid March with the tender evaluation panel being held in mid April 2014. Expressions of interest had been received from a number of community representatives with a desire to be part of the panel and it was noted that one would be selected at random.

With regards to engaging local business who may wish to submit a tender, Members heard that three events had been held at various locations across the borough which were specifically targeted at engaging business. In addition a number of interested parties had come forward after an article in the local press had highlighted the approval of the specification at the previous meeting.

Members noted a number of specifications had been progressed including those pertaining to young people, both 8-12 and 13-19 age groups, which would be considered later on the agenda.

Also noted was the work to develop service specifications to respond to the Clean and Green priority. It was on that basis that the Head of Community Safety and Enforcement had been invited to the meeting to discuss potential environmental enforcement intervention.

It was noted that the numbers of frontline staff focused on litter and dog fouling had reduced from 25 in 2010 to 6 from April 2014. However, it was acknowledged that a wider range of officers who may be involved in other enforcement activity now also have the authority to issue fixed penalty notices for these offences to try to offset these losses.

Members heard that although numbers of officers specifically focused on littering and dog fouling had reduced, in recent years the number of fines issued had increased from 2012/13 to 2013/14, although this was still below numbers from around 3 years ago.

It was noted that other Area Councils had expressed an interest in developing an enhanced enforcement service, bespoke to the needs of the area, focused on litter, dog fouling and, to a lesser extent, parking. It was suggested that if there was interest in a similar service from a number of Area Councils, there could be potential for combined procurement with associated economies of scale.

Various questions were raised about how a service would be organised, including how the commissioned service would interface with town centre staff. Assurances were given that there would be no abstractions to assist in other areas or on other priorities, and that all resources commissioned would be retained in the area. It was also noted that any income received from the issuing of fines would be re-circulated for use in the area against the Clean and Green priority.

Members gave their support for the development of a specification to enhance enforcement within the Central Council Area, focused on litter, dog fouling and parking.

With respect to discussion about specifications for a services for children aged 8-12 years ad 13-19 years, Cllr Johnson made reference to his previously declared non-pecuniary interest and left the meeting.

The Area Manager introduced the specifications circulated under appendices 1 and 2 of the report. It was noted that on appendix 2, section 4, it should read that there are approximately 3,000 children 13-19 years old within the Central area.

The meeting considered the specifications, including the timeline included at appendix 4. A 6 week tender period had been put forward to give smaller businesses more time to prepare proposals.

It was noted that a market briefing event was being organised, which would hopefully engage smaller organisations with a view to them forming relationships, perhaps with larger providers with a view to subcontracting, or putting forward proposals in partnership.

For the specification related to 13-19 year olds, it was agreed that this ought to be extended to age 24 for those with a disability.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that the progress made against the Central Area Council priorities be noted;
- (ii) that support be given to the development of a specification to enhance the enforcement service within the Central Area;
- (iii) that the specification of requirements for a service for Children and Young People aged 8-12 years, with a contract value of £200,000 over 2 years (£100,000 per annum) with a break option after 1 year be approved;
- (iv) that the price/quality split and tender evaluation criteria for the specification of requirements for a service for Children and Young People aged 8-12 years be approved;

(iv) that the specification of requirements for a service for Children and Young People aged 13-19 years be approved, with a contract value of £200,000 over 2 years (£100,000 per annum) with a break option after 1 year, subject to extending the age range for disabled young people to 24;

(v) that price/quality split for the specification of requirements for a service for Children and Young People aged 13-19 be approved and the tender equality criteria be based up on that for the specification for 8-12 year group, subject to final approval by the Assistant Director Neighbourhoods Access and Support in consultation with the Chair;

(vi) that Cllrs P. Birkinshaw and Clarke take part in the tender evaluation panels for both specifications for services for Children and Young People referred to above.

44. **Minutes of the previous meeting of Central Area Council, held 20th January, 2014.**

The minutes of Central Area Council on the 20th January, 2014 were received and approved for accuracy.

The meeting noted that the Area Council Manager and a number of Members had been working to unblock delays in delivering projects at a ward level, for which finance had already been allocated.

Members noted that Steve Turnbull, Assistant Director Public Health would now be the link officer between Public Health and the Central Area and would be making contact with Ward Alliances

It was noted that Public health had been requested to deliver a briefing paper detailing actual activity in central Area Council, a draft of which had been submitted to the chair. An amended version with more detail was expected shortly.

RESOLVED:- that the minutes of the Central Area Council, held on 20th January, 2014 be approved as a true and correct record.

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Chair