

BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

This matter is a Key Decision within the Council's definition and has been included in the relevant Forward Plan

Report of the Executive Director
(People)
to Cabinet

(7th September 2016)

COMMISSIONING OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUBSTANCE MISUSE SERVICE

1.0. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To inform Cabinet of the steps recently taken to commission the Young People's Substance Misuse Service, in the Borough.

2.0. Recommendations

- 2.1 **That Cabinet approves the award of a contract to Lifeline Projects Ltd for the provision of a Young People's Substance Misuse Service, in Barnsley for a period of up to 3 years, commencing on 1st October 2016, at a value of £1,020,000.**

3.0. Introduction To The Report

- 3.1 Two of the Strategic Priorities of the Borough's Children and Young People's Plan (2016-19) (*considered and approved by Cabinet at its meeting held on 1st June 2016*) are:
- Keeping children and young people safe from harm.
 - Supporting all children, young people and families to make healthy lifestyle choices.
- 3.2 As part of this, the Plan is underpinned by the outcomes of the Borough's current and future Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, together with the views of children and young people in Barnsley on what they consider to be the top priorities concerning the commissioning of services, aimed at improving their physical and emotional wellbeing.
- 3.3 One of these priorities is to help and support young people with problems associated with the misuse of alcohol and substances, such as drugs, through effective early help and targeted intervention.
- 3.4 The Barnsley Children and Young People's Trust commissions a young people's substance misuse service (YPSM) in order to meet these needs. The Service aims to:
- Identify children, young people and families with substance misuse issues, at an early stage.
 - Intervene at the earliest opportunity and;
 - Offer a menu of targeted and treatment options to children, young people and families.

- 3.5 The overarching aim is that children and young people are prevented from becoming adult problem drug and alcohol users, supporting them to reach their full potential to be healthy, stay safe, enjoy and achieve, make a positive contribution and achieve economic wellbeing.
- 3.6 The number of young people presenting themselves to drug treatment services, in the Borough, has remained consistent at around 200 young people per year. There have been some specific trends in substance misuse, locally, particularly with the increase in use of both Mephedrone and synthetic cannabinoids. Mephedrone, in particular, became a common presenting issue during 2012/13 with Mephedrone related presentations to services at times equalling those of alcohol and cannabis.
- 3.7 This trend has, since, significantly reduced but it illustrates the speed at which a significant trend can emerge and impact on service presentation. A possible new emerging issue is that of image and performance enhancing drugs and, if trends in steroid use among young adults start to be adopted by younger people (particularly males) then wider health challenges will emerge for local services.
- 3.8 Nationally, young people present to services in greater numbers as they get older and almost all presentations, locally, are from White British ethnicity. In Barnsley, referrals come from a wide variety of sources with education and youth justice pathways being the most utilised. Work undertaken, locally, has introduced a screening tool and clear referral pathway into Barnsley Hospital (BHNFT) aimed at identifying substance-misusing young people.
- 3.9 Local data concerning YPSM, highlights the following:
- 200 referrals per year
 - 70 entries to treatment
 - Primary substances involved are cannabis and alcohol
 - Popularity of Mephedrone (MCAT) and synthetic cannabinoids
 - Complexity of presenting issues (issues beyond the consumption of a substance)
 - General population decline in experimentation
 - High completion rate (Latest figure is 89%)
- 3.10 In commissioning a service which can best tackle these issues, the Trust has developed a service specification in line with the latest recommendations for the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS) and includes treatment modalities that are recognised as the most successful in the delivery of a Young Persons Substance Misuse service. These modalities are:
- Psycho-social interventions including family, parent/carer support
 - Specialist harm reduction interventions including needle exchange
 - Pharmacological interventions
 - Young person multi agency working
- 3.11 The outcomes sought through the specification have been aligned with those in the Children and Young Peoples Plan (2016-19) together with a number identified in the National Public Health Outcomes Framework, summarised below:
- 16-18 year olds not in education employment or training
 - Pupil absence
 - First time entrants to the youth justice system
 - Under 18 conceptions

- Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries in children (aged 0-14, 15-24 years)
- 3.12 Work undertaken with colleagues in the Communities Directorate, who are procuring a substance misuse service for Adults, has been ongoing to ensure synergy between both services.
- 3.13 Outcome Of Commissioning And Procurement Exercise
- 3.14 The contract for the provision of the YPSM Service was advertised via YORTender following approval to re-tender. The process attracted seven bids which were evaluated. The evaluation panel consisted of representatives from Commissioning, Public Health and Youth Offending Team. Bidders were also asked to present to a Young Persons Panel on a brief designed by the young people.
- 3.15 The evaluation was split on a 90% quality/10% price basis. All of the bids received were within the initial cost envelope of the service.
- 3.16 Lifeline Projects Limited were the successful bidder on the basis of the evaluation process advertised within the tender document. The proposed commencement date of the contract will be 1st October 2016 (*in order to allow for TUPE provisions, which apply to seven members of the provider's staff, an intent to award was given on 1st July 2016*)

4.0. Consideration of Alternative Approaches

- 4.1 The commissioning of a specific substance misuse service for young people, rather than a combined service for both adults and young people, adheres to best practice concerning the treatment modalities for most effectively tackling YPSM as identified by the National Drug Treatment Monitoring Service.
- 4.2 On the options, leading to the recommendation of a preferred provider, the evaluation process considered the approaches of seven different providers and concluded that Lifeline's approach offers the best solution. To award to a provider who scored less than Lifeline would be in breach of the advertised tender process and could be challenged.

5.0. Proposal and Justification

- 5.1 The tender process has been exploited effectively to drive efficiencies in the delivery of young people's substance misuse services. The successful provider has a proven track record of increasing the impact and reach of service delivery through developing expertise and support across the network of children and young people's services, thereby equipping more professionals to engage confidently with issues relating to early intervention, including young people's substance misuse and, as part of the life course approach, reducing the need for onward referral to specialists.
- 5.2 As a result, the provider brings a wealth of experience in engaging volunteers in their work with children and young people which will extend the reach of the service for the safe delivery of low level, diversionary support for young people identified as being at risk of developing substance misusing behaviour.
- 5.3 On this basis, Cabinet is recommended to approve the awarding of the contract for the provision of the YPSM Service, to Lifeline Projects Ltd.

6.0. Implications for Local People and Service Users

- 6.1 In order to minimise the risk of any potential disruption for service users, Barnsley MBC as the commissioning authority, has, on this occasion, allowed a preliminary 'lead-in' time to allow for TUPE arrangements, relating to staff employed by the provider, to be finalised and any potential handovers to be managed carefully.
- 6.2 It is anticipated that the proposal concerning the awarding of the contract for the provision of the YPSM Service should not have any detrimental impact on other young people's health and wellbeing services, commissioned through the current provider, during the contractual period, including at Area Council level (*Please see Paragraphs 5.1 – 5.2*)

7.0. Financial Implications

- 7.1 The contract value is in line with the approved budget of £385k for the provision of this service for 2016/17 within the Joint Commissioning Unit as is detailed in Appendix 'A'.
- 7.2 Please also see Paragraphs 5.1 – 5.2 of the report.

8.0. Employee Implications

- 8.1 There are no implications for the Authority's employees directly arising through the commissioning and provision of the YPSM Service.

9.0. Communications Implications

- 9.1 As part of identifying needs and ensuring take up, arrangements for the marketing and promotion of the YPSM Service will be made, in conjunction with the Director (Human Resources, Performance and Communications).
- 9.2 There are no, further, communications implications emerging for the Authority.

10.0. Consultations

- 10.1 The commissioning of the YPSM Service and the development of the service specification is based upon the extensive and regular engagement of children and young people in the Borough, concerning their perception of priorities over improving their physical and emotional wellbeing.

11.0. Key Policy Considerations And The Council's Corporate Plan

- 11.1 The YPSM Service supports two of the Strategic Priorities of the Barnsley Children and Young People's Plan (2016-19) namely (a) Keeping Children and Young People Safe and (b) Supporting All Children and Young People To Make Healthy Lifestyle Choices.
- 11.2 The Service also supports the 'Vision' outlined in the Barnsley Health and Wellbeing Strategy, of ensuring people, throughout the Borough lead healthy, safe and fulfilling lives, through measures which ensure the safeguarding of children and young people and which eliminate the harm caused by alcohol or substance misuse.
- 11.3 In terms of the Council's Corporate Plan, the outcomes sought will encourage children and young people who are successfully undergoing treatment for alcohol or substance misuse, to improve their potential and lead healthier, happier and more inclusive lives.

12.0. Tackling Health Inequalities

12.1 The YPSM Service is an important element in supporting the health and wellbeing of children and young people in the Borough, through provision of treatments that can help in eliminating substance misuse and, thereby, provide the help needed to ensure those affected are able to focus more on making the essential choices that will close the gap in health and education outcomes, in comparison to other peers.

13.0. Consideration of Risks

13.1 Any constraints to the provision of the YPSM Service will be monitored by the Commissioning Authority against the specification and remedial action taken to ensure progress, through regular review of the Business Unit 1 (Education, Early Start and Prevention) Risk Log.

14.0. Health and Safety Implications

14.1 There are no implications for the wider public or Council employees emerging through consideration of this report.

15.0. Compatibility with the European Convention on Human Rights

15.1 There are no implications for the Articles and Protocols of the Convention, emerging through this report.

16.0. Promoting Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

16.1 The Service Specification for the YPSM Service, places emphasis on the requirement to offer equal access for all groups with protected characteristics, as defined by the Equality Act (2010) and to take necessary steps in ensuring any specific needs, relating to a vulnerable individual presenting him/herself for treatment, as a result of a protected characteristic, including culture, faith or sexual orientation are met.

16.2 As part of reviewing the provider's performance against the objectives of the specification, the level of compliance in meeting the specific needs of individuals or cohorts of young people with protected characteristics will be monitored to ensure no gaps in provision emerge.

17.0. Reduction of Crime and Disorder

17.1 Successful treatments will help sufferers to refrain from such risky behaviour which can commonly lead to crime, disorder and anti social behaviour, in communities, including youth offending and re-offending as well as significantly reduce the risk of young people going missing from home, school or care which can lead to them being increasingly vulnerable to harm and exploitation.

18.0. Conservation of Biodiversity

18.1 There are no implications for the local environment or the conservation of biodiversity, emerging through this report.

19.0. Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

19.1 None, applicable.

20.0. List of Appendices

20.1 Appendix 'A': Director of Finance, Assets and Information Services Summary of Financial Implications .

21.0. Details of Background Papers

21.1 Background papers used in the compilation of this report are available to view by contacting the People Directorate, Barnsley MBC, PO Box 639, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S70 9GG

Officer Contact: (Richard Lynch: Head of Commissioning, Governance and Partnerships, People Directorate)

Tel. No. (01226 773672 or e-mail richardlynch@barnsley.gcsx.gov.uk)

Date: (28th July 2016)

Financial Implications/
Consultation
*(to be signed by senior Financial Services officer
where no financial implications)*