

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

North Area Council:
Monday 23rd January 2017

Agenda Item: 4

Report of the
North Area Council Manager

NAC Opportunities for Young People –Procurement Update

1.0 Purpose of Report

To update the North Area Council on the progress that has been made by the working group to develop a project to meet the priority – *Opportunities for Young People*.

2.0 Recommendation

2.1 That the North Area Council note the progress to date for this project.

3.0 Background

3.1 In April 2016 it was agreed that although the Area Council have been very pleased with the Summer Internship project and can see that it has produced good outputs and exciting outcomes, the Area Council would like to explore a more targeted piece of work.

3.2 North Area council representatives identified that they would like to develop a project that is specifically aimed at re-engaging young people who have triggered the Risk of NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) Indicator (RONI). It is hoped this would enable early preventative action to be taken and help improve life chances for the young people who meet the criteria.

3.3 Chris Sorby, Team Manager in Education Services and the Area Manager met with representatives from all the schools eligible to participate in the project to consult with them prior to finalisation of the specification. The majority of the schools were keen to participate in the programme. However the schools were disappointed that the Summer Internship programme has been discontinued.

3.4 A procurement pack was subsequently produced which included the following objectives:

For Participating Young People

- Improve attendance by an agreed % from the end of Year 10 until the end of Year 11
- Ensure GCSE target grades are achieved and in some cases exceeded
- Ensure progression into Post-16 learning
- Stay in Post-16 learning for at least 12 months

Social Value Indicators

- Increased number of economically active young people
- Enable young people to take personal responsibility for their own career development and future employability
- Contribution to the development of strong local networks
- Stronger, more cohesive communities
- Sustainable development of communities to promote their independence (self-help), ability to thrive and resilience
- Local spend
- The provider will ensure that all persons employed to deliver the contract are as a minimum paid the national 'living wage'.

4.0 Coproduction and Contract Management

- 4.1 It has been acknowledged that to ensure this project is successful ongoing knowledge, support and advice will be needed from the Skills, Enterprise and Employment Service.
- 4.2 It has been agreed that the development, procurement and contract management is conducted jointly for the duration of the project to maximise the likelihood of success.

5.0 Area Council Input

- 5.1 Contract Value: approximately £55,000 - £60,000 per annum (Accommodating: two part time staff, plus contract management, activities and overheads.)
- 5.2 Contract Length: 18 months working with a cohort of 20 young people. With the option to extend by a further two years (+1+1). A 6 month break clause is incorporated in the contract.
- 5.3 Price : Quality Split for procurement: 20:80

6.0 Procurement Update

- 6.1 The project was advertised on YORtender between Wednesday 26th October and noon on Wednesday 30th November.
- 6.2 Eight providers returned tender pack although only seven could be scored due the eighth provider failing to provide financial information.
- 6.3 The panel completed that quality scoring between the 6th December 2016 and the 19th December. At which point the moderation meeting was held.
- 6.4 As stipulated in the procurement plan three providers have been invited to attend interview on the 19th January 2017.
- 6.5 It is anticipated that the contract will be let in early February 2017
- 6.6 Contract will commence in April/May 2017.

7.0 Risks

- 7.1 Level of school engagement. To reduce this risk all the school eligible to participate in the programme were consulted prior to the tender packer finalisation. It has been suggested that a steering group be introduced that will meet at regular intervals to share operational information and keep the stakeholders engaged. This would involve specific cases being discussed so would be an officer meeting.

- 7.2 Overlap with other core services: Education Welfare, Stronger Families. It is proposed that other stakeholders are involved in the identification of suitable programme participants. The Early Intervention and Prevention Strategy Lead has offered support to help prevent duplication.
- 7.3 Schools may object to the withdrawing of the Summer Internship 2014, 2015, 2016 provision, which has been very well received.
- 7.4 The identified cohort will be challenging and this may have implications on engagement and retention for a provider. However engagement and retention are key part of the performance monitoring criteria.
- 7.5 The service outline dictates that the provider will work with Darton College, Holy Trinity, Carlton Community College and Horizon Community College. Working with 20 young people from up to four schools in the first year of delivery will be extremely challenging for any provider.

8.0 Next Steps

- 8.1 Interviews will take place on the 19th January 2017.
- 8.2 Once the preferred model of delivery is known planning work can commence with schools.
- 8.3 The Risk of NEET (RONI) data will be investigated in more detail and compared and contrasted with real time information held by schools.

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9th January 2017