

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

SOUTH AREA COUNCIL – SPECIAL MEETING

5th February, 2015

25. **Present:** Councillors Stowe (Chair), Andrews, Dures, Franklin, Frost, Key, Lamb, Morgan, Saunders, Shepherd (the Mayor), and R. Wraith.

26. **Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests**

No member wished to declare an interest.

27. **Summer Holiday Internship**

The item was introduced by the Area Council Manager. Members noted discussions at the previous meeting about the successful Summer Holiday internship programme commissioned by North Area Council, and support was given to the development of a programme for the South Area.

The meeting noted that the programme would support delivery against the South Area priority of 'Opportunities for Young People' and would complement moves to improve apprenticeship opportunities within the Tidy Team commission.

Members were supportive of the proposal, however it was suggested that a minor amendment be made to the tender documentation requiring organisations to pay 'the living wage' to those employed to deliver the contract.

The meeting discussed how the performance of the contract would be monitored. It was noted that those submitting a tender would be asked to suggest relevant success criteria and metrics. It was agreed that this performance information should be provided to the Area Council through the Area Council Manager and Chair to ensure appropriate and more objective evaluation, rather than the contractor undertaking the evaluation in house. A suggestion was made that comparisons could be made with other Area Councils who had commissioned a similar programme.

A number of issues were raised around the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire. It was acknowledged that questions within may be asked in order to provide monitoring information, but it was felt that this level of information may discourage businesses from submitting a tender.

Members noted that concerns had already been raised following the business survey conducted in the South Area, and feedback had been given to NPS, with a view to making processes as simple as possible as

not to deter business from submitting tenders. It was agreed to also feedback concerns regarding the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire.

RESOLVED: -

(i) that the specification for a Summer Holiday Internship programme be approved to a value of £45,000, subject to amendments that require providers to ensure that all persons employed to deliver the contract are paid 'the living wage', and require the provider to supply relevant information to ensure the Area Council can evaluate the performance of the contract appropriately;

(ii) that the award criteria for the Summer Holiday Internship programme be approved, with a price/quality split of 20%/80% in favour of quality;

(ii) that NPS be informed of the reservations Members of South Area Council had with the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire.

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Chair