

# **BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**South Area Council Meeting:**

**19<sup>th</sup> February 2016**

**Agenda Item: 7**

**Report of South Area Council  
Manager.**

## **South Area Council update on Recommissioning of Existing Commissioned Projects during 2016/17**

### **1. Purpose of Report**

1.1 To update the South Area Council on progress towards the recommissioning of existing commissioned projects previously agreed at the Area Council meetings of 26<sup>th</sup> June, 4<sup>th</sup> September and 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2015

### **2. Recommendations**

**2.1 That members note the progress towards the recommissioning of existing commissioned projects as outlined in Section 4 of this report**

**2.2 That members formally approve that authorisation be given to the Executive Director (Communities) to complete the necessary paperwork in order to waive the relevant contract procedure rules to allow the Tidy Team contract to be extended to March 2017, as outlined in Section 4.1.3 of this report**

### **3. Background**

3.1 Following the approval of four priorities in September 2013, The South Area Council commissioned the following projects to tackle these priorities:

- One Stop Shop Advice Sessions
- Tidy Team & Tidy Team Apprentices
- Summer Internship Programme
- Environmental Enforcement contract
- Business Survey and Programme of courses for Local Businesses

3.2 The South Area Council discussed and agreed to recommission the following projects at its meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> October. The outline costs agreed are in brackets:

- One Stop Shop Advice Sessions (£73,950 per year)
- Tidy Team & Tidy Team Apprentices (£171,000 for Tidy Team + £24,720 for Apprentices per year) – this figure has been amended to take into account the rise in the Living Wage
- Summer Internship Programme (£36,000 per year)
- Environmental Enforcement contract (£135,092 per year)

3.3 It was decided not to recommission the courses for Local Businesses, because takeup of the pilot scheme by businesses had been low.

#### **4. Update on recommissioning of projects already agreed by the South Area Council**

4.1 The following progress has been made towards the recommissioning of the existing projects outlined in Section 3.2 of this report.

##### **4.1.1 Environmental Enforcement Contract**

At its meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2015, the South Area Council decided that it would like to recommission this project, which made an important contribution to meetings its local priorities.

Kingdom Security currently holds the Environmental Enforcement contract with the South Area Council. Their original contract was due to end in August 2015, but a waiver report was produced to extend this contract to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 to enable a recommissioning process to take place with no break in service delivery.

After significant negotiation with other BMBC departments (most notably Parking Enforcement and Community Safety) a revised joint specification with South, North, North East, Central and the Dearne Area Councils was put out to tender at the end of November 2015. The tender went out to the EU (because of the high joint value) in 'lots'. This means that the appointed provider must be able to provide the service across all of the five areas within the specification, but that each Area Council will still be able to manage its own contract independently.

Interviews with the two shortlisted providers took place in late January 2016, in order that there is sufficient time to award the new contract before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016, when the current contract ends.

The current provider, Kingdom Security, were successful in securing the new contract from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 for one year, plus a further one year extension if funding is still available post March 2017, there is evidence that the service is still required, and subject to satisfactory performance.

A pre-contract meeting is arranged with Kingdom on 9<sup>th</sup> February, where new performance measures will be agreed.

##### **4.1.2 One Stop Shop Advice Sessions:**

At its meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2015, the South Area Council decided that it would like to recommission this project, which made an important contribution to meetings its local priorities.

The current contract finishes in June 2016, which means that it is not currently possible to put this contract out to tender because current Area Council funding is only in place until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017. This means that the tender could currently run for only ten months, which is not considered good commissioning practice.

As a result of this, a waiver to standing orders has been produced and signed off by the Executive Director (Communities) which will enable the existing contract with Barnsley Citizen's Advice Bureau and BMBC Welfare Rights Service to continue in its current form until March 2017.

This allows time for the future funding of Area Councils to be clarified, whilst still leaving enough time for future commissioning of this work.

This will also allow time for the impact of the recent Welfare Review and recent cuts to funding for both services to be fully understood, and for the future service to be developed in a way which complements the new ways of working which are emerging out of these cuts to existing mainstream services.

#### **4.1.3 Tidy Team + Tidy Team Apprentices**

At its meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2015, the South Area Council decided that it would like to recommission this project, which made an important contribution to meetings its local priorities.

This contract currently runs until August 2016, after which it will need to be recommissioned – this would mean beginning the commissioning process in March/April 2016 to avoid any break in service delivery. It is not currently possible to start the recommissioning process until the future funding of Area Councils after April 2017 is clear. As outlined above, commissioning only until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 would offer a contract of only eight months.

The South Area Council Manager had discussed the possibility of a waiver similar to the One Stop Shop outlined above with the Executive Director (Communities) before Xmas 2015. This was felt to be too early for a waiver to be considered, and is currently being looked at again, since the budget position for Area Councils after March 2017 is still unclear. In the light of this, members of the South Area Council are asked to approve that authorisation be given to the Executive Director (Communities) to complete the necessary paperwork in order to waive the relevant contract procedure rules to allow an extension of the Tidy Team contract to March 2017.

Although the staff are already paid the current Living Wage of £7.85 per hour, recent increases to £8.25 per hour in April 2016 announced in the recent Budget will affect the future cost of the contract and result in a further £6,000 in cost to the contract price, coming in at a total of £171,000.

#### **4.1.4 Summer Internship Programme**

At its meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2015, the South Area Council decided that it would like to recommission this project, which made an important contribution to meetings its local priorities.

The contract with C+K Careers to support the cohort of young people attending the Summer 2015 courses will continue into the autumn of 2016, to ensure they are all settled into a positive first destination after Year 11.

The contract for the 2016 cohort approved by the South, North and North East Area Councils was tendered in December 2015, with interviews held in January 2016. Four organisations were shortlisted and interviewed. The contract was awarded

again to C+K Careers, who delivered the contract in 2015 (and in 2014 in the North Area as a pilot).

A pre-contract meeting will be held with C+K Careers in mid- February, to enable the earliest possible access to the schools and young people. This ensures they will have sufficient time to encourage applications from pupils, work with school staff to enable referrals and source suitable work experience placements to meet the interests of those taking part.

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**Date: 9<sup>th</sup> February 2016**