

**OFFICER DELEGATION SCHEME
RECORD OF OPERATIONAL DECISION**



TO BE UPLOADED TO THE E-MEETINGS MANAGER

Date: 13/11/2020	Ref No: CS 646
Type of Operational Decision:	
Executive Decision <input style="width: 150px; height: 25px;" type="checkbox"/>	Council Decision <input style="width: 150px; height: 25px;" type="checkbox"/>
Status: Non Key	
Title/Subject matter:	
Tendering for the SEND Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS)	
Budget/Strategy/Policy/Compliance – Is the decision:	
(i) within an Approved Budget	Yes
(ii) not in conflict with Council Policy	No
(iii) not raising new issues of Policy	No
Equality Impact Assessment [Does this decision change policy, procedure or working practice or negatively impact on a group of people? If yes – complete EIA and summarise issues identified and recommendations – forward EIA to Corporate HR]	No


Details of Operational Decision Taken [with reasons]:


1. The Children and Families Act 2014 requires Local Authorities (LAs) to provide children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities and their parents with information and advice about matters relating to their SEN or disabilities, including matters relating to health and social care.
2. Since April 2018 Barnardos has been contracted to provide and IASS service for Bury. The current value of the contract is £89,500 over 2 years (£44,750 per year), up to March 2020 and a further sum of £44,750 was agreed for the Contract to extend at the Council's option for a further year at the same amount of £44,750.
3. The term of the existing contract has been requested to extend until April 2021 and we are recommending that the current IASS contract is retendered for the period 1st May 2021 – 31st March 2023 with the potential for this to be extended for a further 12 months until April 2024 if required. This is to ensure that we have a continue to deliver the best outcomes for our families in line with the national Standards for SENDIASS
4. Discussions took place with other Local Authorities across Greater Manchester with regards to the potential for a joint commission and further discussions were held with Rochdale MBC with regards to this. As a result, it was deemed that there would be no added value or cost savings in this approach.
5. If a new provider is successful, there is a potential TUPE transfer of staff. This will be addressed through the tendering process.
6. An updated specification for the SENDIASS service in Bury has been produced which takes account of the national Quality standards for impartial Information, Advice and Support Services. It also takes account of a review of current provision and best practice to ensure the highest quality provision is provided. This and all necessary documents and checks are required by the service using the CHEST portal.
7. The timeframes are:
 - Invitation to tender advertised – 1st December 2020
 - Closing Date - 8th January 2021
 - Selection interviews and appointments – w/c 11th January 2021
 - Successful applicant informed – 1st February 2021
 - New contract to start 1.5.2021

Decision Required

Following decision by the CMT, the request is to:

Agree to the tendering of the SENDIASS service using the CHEST portal and in compliance with the Councils' procurement procedures.

Decision taken by:	Signature:	Date:
Director or Chief/Senior Officer		03.12.20

Members Consulted [see note 1 below]		
Cabinet Member/Chair		03.12.20
Lead Member		
Opposition Spokesperson		
<p>Notes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It is not generally a requirement to consult with any Members on Operational Decisions but where a Chief Officer considers it necessary to consult with the appropriate Cabinet Member and/or Lead Member, they must sign the form so as to confirm that they have been consulted and that they agree with the proposed action. The signature of the Opposition Spokesperson should be obtained to confirm that he/she has been consulted. 2. This form must not be used for urgent decisions. 		