



# Buckinghamshire County Council Select Committee

Children's Social Care and Learning Select Committee

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## Report to the Children's Social Care and Learning Select Committee

<b>Title:</b>	Child Sexual Exploitation Service
<b>Committee date:</b>	Tuesday 31 January 2017
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<b>Cabinet Member sign-off:</b>	Lin Hazell, Zahir Mohammed

### **Purpose of Agenda Item**

To inform the Select Committee of the outcome of the tendering process for the contract for Missing & Child Sexual Exploitation Services and progress in implementation.

### **Background**

The current contract, provided by Barnardo's ('R-U-Safe?' project), is due to finish on the 31st March 2017, with no further extensions to contract available. The Council examined the available options and made a decision to conduct a competitive tendering exercise. The agreed option was to draw up a revised specification for Missing and CSE Services, based on Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC) priorities and to tender for a delivery partner to add value by providing investment to deliver additional outcomes. The benefits of this option were to keep the level of service as close to the current practice as possible; for continued provision of intelligence to support the police in the pursuance of perpetrators and to locate missing children and young people in a timely manner and for the Council and partner agencies to receive training and support, advice and guidance. The contract term is 3 years with the option for two further extensions of 12 months each and the anticipated start date of the contract is 1st April 2017.

### **Summary**

Despite apparent initial interest from 4 providers across the market only one organisation, Barnardo's, submitted a bid in response to the tender. The Council followed a robust assessment process of the bid in relation to quality and price and Barnardo's achieved a



total score of 83.7% with an excellent overview and understanding of BCC and partnership strategic priorities and the requirements of the specification.

### **Key issues**

As the Select Committee had reported on how Buckinghamshire supports children subject to CSE their feedback was sought at the start of the tendering process. Cabinet Member decision was to award the contract to Barnardo's and the award was published on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

BCC priorities have meant that there is a greater emphasis on the missing work than the CSE work in the new contract but there are key performance indicators (KPI) for both elements of the contract; the % Return Interviews (RI) completed within 72 hours of notification of return, the % of Young People (YP) in care with reduced missing episodes, the % of YP with reduction in risky sexual behaviour and the % of YP with reduction in association with risky adults/peers. These KPI will be monitored on a quarterly basis.

Following Ofsted visits in August and November/December, concerns were raised about the quality, timeliness and frequency of RI. We have developed an improvement plan with Barnardo's which is monitored weekly. These areas are already showing improvement and will continue to be monitored under the new contract from 1<sup>st</sup> April.

### **Resource implications**

The budget cap over the three year life of the contract was set at £912,000 with an expectation that around 50% of added value contribution was required to deliver the required specification. Barnardo's bid came in on budget at £912,000 but they will contribute 46% of the total service cost through their own funds to cover the 'Added Value' element of the specification. In summary the winning bid is made up of budget of £912,000 and voluntary funds of £777,670. The gross amount including added value is £1,689,670. So for every £1 invested by the Council this is matched by £0.85 in committed funds from Barnardo's for the next 3 years.

### **Next steps**

Within the bid, Barnardo's included an implementation plan which is already in progress and being monitored. The new contract will commence 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017.