

Officer Decision Report

Title:	Short Breaks for Children with Disabilities
Date decision taken:	8 th July 2019
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Local Members Affected	All

Decision

Following an open procurement process, the Executive Director for Children's Services **AGREED** to award the following contracts to Action for Children:

- Provision of a Countywide Integrated Short Breaks Service for Disabled Children and Young People aged 0 – 19 years
- Provision of a Specialist Residential Short Breaks Service for Learning Disabled Young People aged 11 – 19 with Complex Behavioral Needs (to be referred to as The Vines)

Reasons for the decision

The decision follows agreement by the Cabinet Member for Children's Services to recommission our contracted short breaks services for children with disabilities, in line with the full business case, and by means of an open tender process.

This decision was taken on 21st March 2019. Further details are available on the Buckinghamshire County Council website (link provided at the end of this report).

Subsequent to this decision, an open tender process was completed. The decision to award both contracts was based on a full evaluation of all submitted bids.

Authority to take this decision

The decision to award these contracts was delegated to the Executive Director for Children's Services by the Cabinet Member for Children's Services. This decision was taken on 21st March 2019 and is recorded on the Buckinghamshire County Council website (link provided at the end of this report).

Other options available, and their pros and cons

A decision could have been taken not to award the contract. However:

- The tender evaluation process indicated that the provider had met the required threshold for contract award.
- The County Council has a statutory duty to provide short breaks for carers of disabled children and young people. Awarding the contract will support the Local Authority to demonstrate how it is continuing to meet this duty.

Conflicts of interest

None declared.

Feedback from Consultation

The decision to award the contracts was made in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children's Services.

Background papers

Cabinet Decision CS02.19 and associated papers are available on the Buckinghamshire County Council website at:

<https://democracy.buckscc.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=12247>

Other

None

Your questions and views

If you have any questions about the matters contained in this paper please get in touch with the Contact Officer whose email address is given at the head of the paper.