

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

COMMISSIONING AND PROCUREMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

**MINUTES of the meeting held at Loxley House, Nottingham on 11 June 2019
from 10.02 am – 10.50 am**

Membership

Present

Councillor Sam Webster (Chair)
Councillor Cheryl Barnard
Councillor Eunice Campbell-Clark
Councillor Adele Williams

Absent

Councillor Sally Longford

Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:

Amy Goulden	- Community Cohesion Senior Manager
Steve Oakley	- Head of Contracting and Procurement
Christine Oliver	- Head of Commissioning
Noel Oxford	- Refugee Resettlement Support Officer
Phil Wye	- Governance Officer

Call-in

Unless stated otherwise, all decisions are subject to call-in. The last date for call-in is 19 June 2019. Decisions cannot be implemented until the working day after this date.

1 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

RESOLVED to appoint Councillor Cheryl Barnard as Vice-Chair for the 2019/20 municipal year

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Sally Longford – personal reasons

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

4 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 March 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

5 PROCUREMENT OF FOSTERING AND CHILDREN'S RESIDENTIAL PLACEMENTS FOR CHILDREN IN CARE

Steve Oakley, Head of Contracting and Procurement, introduced the report detailing a new contract and purchasing mechanism for independent fostering and residential services for children in care.

RESOLVED to

- (1) approve to procure a framework for the provision of independent fostering in partnership with the D2N2 councils, with procurement carried out by Nottinghamshire County Council;**
- (2) approve to procure a framework for the provision of independent children's homes in partnership with the D2N2 councils, with procurement carried out by Nottinghamshire County Council;**
- (3) delegate authority to the Director of Children's Integrated Services to approve the outcome of the tenders (in partnership with the D2N2 councils) and award contracts to secure best value, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Early Intervention & Early Years;**
- (4) delegate authority to the Head of Contracting and Procurement to sign contracts arising from the tender process once the tender outcome is agreed;**
- (5) delegate authority to the Head of Contracting and Procurement to sign any inter Local Authority partnership agreement that may be required to set out the legally binding relationship and inter-dependencies between Nottingham City, Derby City, Derbyshire County and Nottinghamshire County Councils;**
- (6) approve the maximum expenditure from the Children's Placement Service budget in line with the predicted amount noted under total value of decision, which is based on 2018/19 prices.**

Reasons for decision

The EMRCF expires in January 2020 and a new arrangement will be required, as Nottingham City Council has a statutory duty to provide appropriate placements for children in care.

The D2N2 councils all experience the same shortages of both fostering and residential placements that meet the specific needs of some of our most vulnerable children and young people, and whilst the EMRCF has provided a mechanism to purchase a high volume of placements, it has not developed the regional market in line with the emerging needs of our children and young people.

NCC Children's Placement Service, and those in the other D2N2 councils wish to engage with the market in a more collaborative way, asking for more flexible and bespoke solutions to meet the needs of our more complex children and young people.

Operating frameworks over the smaller, sub-regional geography will allow us to develop the market over time, running subsequent procurement exercises to contract with providers to deliver against specific needs. These frameworks will allow us to work more closely with those providers that are ready to align their business development plans with meeting the needs of D2N2 children in care. This could represent a significant change in the way we work with the external market for fostering and residential care, and could prove a much more effective way to meet the needs of our most complex children and young people.

By operating our frameworks within the D2N2 footprint we aim to place an ever increasing proportion of our children and young people in 'local' fostering and residential placements (in this context local is accepted as being within 20 miles of Nottingham city centre). Over time we will work towards our aim of placing all Nottingham City children in care within the D2N2 footprint, unless specific care plans require a young person to take a placement outside of that area.

Other options considered

Nottingham City Council could commission fostering and residential placements as a single council either via framework contracts or spot-contracting but this would reduce the influence we have over sufficiency, quality and price.

6 VULNERABLE PERSONS' RESETTLEMENT SCHEME (VPRS) -- FUNDING EXTENSION

Noel Oxford, Refugee Resettlement Project Officer, introduced the report on the managed migration scheme providing casework and orientation support to resettled refugees fleeing the Syrian civil war in Nottingham and South-West Nottinghamshire.

RESOLVED to

- (1) roll forward the existing grant-funding arrangement, and amend the current Service Level Agreement with Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Refugee Forum, to meet the needs of resettled refugees for up to 12 months, at a maximum value of £372,932.74 for the financial year 2019-20;**
- (2) undertake a concurrent Commissioning-led 'Make or Buy' review, in consultation with all existing stakeholders, and supported by colleagues in the Community Cohesion & Safety Service. To be funded from Resettlement Grant funds.**

Reasons for decision

Since September 2018, Community Cohesion & Safety has engaged in an array of consultation, learning and evaluation exercises with stakeholders at all levels of the service, in order to assess the effectiveness of delivery to date. These exercises combined with action learning have highlighted the gaps in the service as it currently exists, and have allowed us to agree a comprehensive specification for its redesign.

Community Cohesion & Safety therefore needs to consider and establish the best means to consult on and implement this redesign, through a Commissioning-led

'Make or Buy' review, and time to consider carefully all implications arising from the outcome of this (e.g. TUPE, re-tendering etc.). Therefore, Community Cohesion & Safety are requesting an extension of the current grant-aid agreement with Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Refugee Forum by up to one year, while these processes take place.

Other options considered

None

7 CRIME AND DRUGS PARTNERSHIP CONTRACT APPROVAL 2019/20

Christine Oliver, Head of Commissioning, introduced the report seeking delegating authority to the Director of Commissioning and Procurement to receive and collate grants and other funding for the Crime and Drugs Partnership (CDP).

It was reported that arrangements for the needle exchange have not been fixed and will be funded separately through a delegated decision. Councillors requested that this be prioritised and funded from the Public Health Grant.

Councillors asked for more oversight of services and detail on which Portfolio area they come under.

RESOLVED to

- (1) approve the anticipated receipt and expenditure of the Public Health Grant, Police and Crime Commissioner Grant, Nottingham City Council and partner contributions by the CDP in 2019/20 as set out in the exempt appendix to the report;**
- (2) delegate authority to the Director of Commissioning & Procurement to allocate anticipated funds for the above expenditure to the Head of Commissioning, as set out in the exempt appendix to the report;**
- (3) delegate authority to the Director of Community Protection to receive the budget and allocate the anticipated funds to providers, for the purpose of Office of Police and Crime Commissioner grant funding for serious youth and red thread.**

Reasons for decision

To ensure the Public Health, Police and Crime Commissioner, Nottingham City Council and partner contributions funding allocations are utilised to commission and contract with services in an appropriate way and in accordance with the correct legislation.

To allow for relevant and necessary commissioning and commissioned activity to continue in order to maintain service provision for the citizens and meet identified local need.

To enable timely contract variations, extensions and allocations to be made to services in order to deliver continuation of services in 2019/20.

Other options considered

To cancel the provision of the services. This is not considered an option due to the impact on the Crime & Drug Partnership overall aims to reduce crime, substance misuse and domestic and sexual violence.

8 PROCUREMENT STRATEGY 2018-23 YEAR END REPORT

Steve Oakley, Head of Contracting and Procurement, introduced the report presenting the outcomes and achievements delivered under the Procurement Strategy in its first year 2018-19.

RESOLVED to note the outcomes delivered under the Nottingham City Council Procurement Strategy 2018-23 in its first year (2018/19) as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

9 FUTURE MEETING DATES

RESOLVED to meet on the following Tuesdays at 10am:

2019

9 July
10 September
15 October
12 November
10 December

2020

14 January
11 February
10 March
14 April

10 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the remaining items in accordance with Section 100(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the basis that, having regard to all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

11 CRIME AND DRUGS PARTNERSHIP CONTRACT APPROVAL 2019/10 - EXEMPT APPENDIX

RESOLVED to note the information contained in the exempt appendix