

Record of decision taken under delegated powers by a council officer



Surrey Specialist Domestic Abuse Outreach

Title:	
Divisions Affected:	Children, Families, Lifelong Learning and Culture Community Safety
Key Decision:	Yes Following consideration of the available options and the results of the procurement process to award the Surrey Specialist Domestic Abuse Outreach Contract to Surrey Domestic Abuse Partnership: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East Surrey Domestic Abuse – Lead Partner • Your Sanctuary • North Surrey Citizens Advice Elmbridge West • South West Surrey Citizens Advice Waverley
Reason Key:	This Commissioning affects two divisions within SCC (Community Safety and Children’s Services) and external partners (OPCC and Surrey Police)
Decision taken under delegation by virtue of:	Committee decision <i>Cabinet 24th September 2019 – Minute158/19</i>

Summary

The current domestic abuse provision in Surrey is supported by multiple complex grant funding arrangements which will not be renewed beyond the 31st March 2020. Surrey County Council (SCC), Surrey Police (SP) and The Office of Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) have worked in partnership to tender the Surrey Specialist Domestic Abuse Outreach Service contract under the Light Touch Regime. This approach will allow SCC, Surrey Police and OPCC to jointly fund and contract manage one contract to support domestic abuse survivors (adults and children) at the earliest opportunity and at the point of crisis.

Identified issues:

- Multiple yearly funding grants can make planning difficult for providers
- Geographical variation in delivery / needs and challenges (e.g. working with local social care teams, different types of need depending on demographic makeup of local population and rural / urban setting)
- Difficult to provide robust evidence on the overall impact of Surrey’s outreach services.

Surrey Specialist Domestic Abuse Outreach Service contract is part of Surrey’s long-term

ambition to rethink the vision, focus and strategy for Domestic Abuse. This commission is an interim solution which will provide time to allow for the wider whole system DA work to commence (working with health, safeguarding, district & borough councils and third sector partners planning a long term model).

Decision made

Decision made:

It was AGREED that:

East Surrey Domestic Abuse Service will be awarded the contract as lead provider for the Surrey Domestic Abuse Partnership (partners outlined above in Key Decision section). This contract will be to the value of £774k pa (£2,322,000 total), jointly funded by SCC, Surrey Police and the OPCC and will run for 2 years (+1).

Reasons for Decision:

A robust procurement process was followed. Following evaluation of ESDAS' bid and an interview with the provider, the quality of their bid was high enough to secure the contract. ESDAS were the only organisation to bid.

Decision taken by:	Dave Hill – Executive Director Children, Families and Lifelong Learning
Decision taken on:	16.10.2019
To be implemented on:	Mobilisation and contract start date 01.12.2019 Service commencement date 01.04.2020

Alternative options considered

Option	Description of Option	Relative Advantages/Disadvantages, Reasons for selection or not, and any cost implications
Option 1 (SELECTED)	Light Touch Regime procurement, incorporating features of the Open Procedure	<p>This option allows SCC to develop, refine and harmonise their requirements for a joint contract to ensure a consistent service as well as giving the opportunity for incumbent suppliers to bid for the work and support local firms.</p> <p>We have the advantage of adapting the contract to allow for contract variations in order to deliver a truly flexible Contract and Service.</p>

		<p>A Light Touch Regime with features of the Open procedure has been selected over a restricted procedure as there are not a huge number of providers operating in the market.</p> <p>We will also be able to leverage a tender to secure Social Value commitments as part of contract delivery.</p>
Option 2	<p>Whole integrated Service model with pooled budgets commissioned including accommodation based services</p>	<p>Rejected because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant resource implication in mobilising the model through negotiation across organisations and commissioners • Additional funding would be required • There is wider whole system work ongoing (working with health, safeguarding and third sector partners planning a long term model). An interim outreach contract is needed to bridge the gap in service provision while this transformation work is ongoing
Option 3	<p>Continue with Grant Agreements via Direct Award</p>	<p>Rejected because upon review of these agreements in line with the Strategic Grants Process and Grant Criteria and Funding Opportunities Guide, they should be awarded as contracts under the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. This will ensure there is robust governance and performance monitoring in place as well as appropriate safeguarding obligations imposed on the provider.</p>
Option 4	<p>Do nothing (Decommission)</p>	<p>Rejected because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residents in Surrey will remain at risk • Domestic abuse will not be seen as a priority • Homicide will not be prevented • Agencies will find it challenging to meet

		<p>statutory requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on Walby's (2004) estimated costs of domestic abuse, we estimate that the cost of domestic abuse in Surrey is £111,637,624 per annum. • There were 4,753 referrals to outreach services in Surrey in 17/18 which is indicative of demand. • The Surrey Against Domestic Abuse Strategy 2018-2023 sets out a need for an evidence based approach to tackling Domestic Abuse in Surrey so that <i>"every Surrey adult and child experiencing domestic abuse to be seen, safe and heard and to live free from the harm caused by perpetrator behaviour."</i> This contract will support this objective
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Summary of any financial implications

The financial baseline is based on current spend for SCC and Surrey Police (2019/20). The net contribution by Surrey CC is £322k, and this will remain the same. The Surrey Police contribution will continue to be £70k, while the contribution from the OPCC reduces by £17k to £382k. The budget responsibility breaks down as follows:

1. Jacquie Burke - £674k gross expenditure, and £452k gross income (net budget £222k) is held under Community Safety in Family Resilience
2. Charisse Monero - £100k funding for CYP work is held under Commissioning.

The reduction in OPCC contribution is due to the uncertainty of the £50k MoJ grant for Victim Support. Although guaranteed in 2019-20, it is not assured for the length of the contract and therefore is not in scope. The OPCC has included a £14k uplift and added a further £20k to the available resources.

This means that the core budget reduces from £791k to £774k.

OPCC, Surrey Police and SCC seek to join the funding for this commission committing for 2020/21, 2021/22 (+1) at the current level of spending. This will be supported by a Memorandum of Understanding covering joint funding arrangements. The total funding envelope for this procurement is hence **£2,322,000** (£774,000 pa).

More financial information can be found in the Procurement Paper (imbedded in the Summary section of this report).

Declarations of conflicts of interest

None

Consultation/Process Followed

The market was invited to attend an engagement event on 30th May 2019 to discuss the upcoming re-commissioning of the Service.

Providers were also invited to attend a further 'Demystifying the Bidding Process' event on the 18th July. During this event, bidders had the opportunity to refresh their knowledge of Intend (Surrey's online eTendering System), how to write and submit bids and ask questions about the Specification.

The service specification was shared and discussed for input with:

- DA Integrated Commissioning Group (including Head of Public Protection, Surrey Police; Head of Community Safety, SCC; Head of Commissioning & Policy, Police and Crime Commissioner)
- Children Services commissioners that manage the Recovery Grant
- CF safeguarding leads developing the new family resilience model to ensure alignment
- Public Health consultants that commission substance misuse for adults and children and young people
- Adult social care commissioners for Adult Mental Health
- Adult Safeguarding
- Surrey County Council (SCC) Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) Commissioner
- District and Borough Council (D&BC) Housing groups / floating support
- A group of survivors

The quality evaluation questions and the interview questions have been discussed and consulted on with a group of survivors. They have been jointly agreed by the DA Integrated Commissioning Group.

Background Documents

Procurement Report
Tender evaluation summary

Exempt:

yes
yes