
SUBSTANCE MISUSE SERVICE – CONTRACT AWARD DECISION

**Responsible Cabinet Member – Councillor Dixon
Efficiency and Resources Portfolio**

Responsible Director – Murray Rose, Director of Commissioning

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to present Cabinet with the details of the procurement process for Substance Misuse Service and make a recommendation for Cabinet to appoint the successful tenderer.

Summary

2. The Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT), as part of its commissioning cycle, has undertaken a review of the adult, integrated drug and alcohol substance misuse treatment service in 2014-15.
3. Due to the size and contract value of this service, it is considered 'strategic' on the Annual Procurement Plan and monitoring of progress falls under the remit of Cabinet.
4. The review led to a procurement exercise being undertaken and a tender document was submitted onto the NEPO Portal for four weeks throughout October 2014.
5. Two responses were received and individual tender submissions were evaluated by a panel during early November 2014, against the agreed criteria.
6. The scores against the evaluation criteria are detailed at paragraph 18.

Recommendation

7. It is recommended that Cabinet approve the Evaluation Panel's recommendation to appoint the successful tenderer for the Substance Misuse Service to the bidder ranked 1st, as detailed in paragraph 18.

Reasons

8. The recommendation is supported by the bid submitted by the supplier ranked 1st being the most economically advantageous tender in accordance with the evaluation criteria.

Murray Rose
Director of Commissioning

Background Papers

No Background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

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S17 Crime and Disorder	An effective substance misuse service makes a contribution to reducing offending and re-offending rates
Health and Well Being	An effective substance misuse service will improve the health and well being of the service users and of their families
Carbon Impact	This decision will not have a direct impact on the Council's carbon footprint.
Diversity	This decision will not have an impact on Diversity
Wards Affected	Service users are likely to be from all wards
Groups Affected	This decision will affect individuals in receipt of substance misuse services.
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not recommend changes to the Budget and Policy Framework
Key Decision	This is considered to be a key decision as it is a strategic procurement
Urgent Decision	No
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	This decision supports the delivery of health and community safety aspects of the Sustainable Community Strategy
Efficiency	Efficiencies have been achieved by: 1. Incorporating within the newly procured service's budget, a number services additional to those which form the current Substance Misuse Service, and 2. Merging the adults and young people's substance misuse service.

MAIN REPORT

Background

9. The Drug and Alcohol Action Team forms part of the wider Public Health team and, as such, moved into the Council in 2013 as part of the transition of Public Health responsibilities and functions from the Primary Care Trust (PCT) to the local authority.
10. At the point of transition, Cabinet agreed a Contract Waiver Paper, establishing a period of time during which existing contracts would continue and then reviewed. The report outlined a timescale and it was agreed that all Public Health services would be reviewed by 31st March 2015.
11. As part of this process, the DAAT has embarked on a review of the integrated adult substance misuse recovery treatment service.
12. As the contract value exceeds £1m, this is classed as a strategic service on the Council's Annual Procurement Plan
13. The Leader, as the Portfolio holder and DAAT Board have been regularly briefed throughout the process.

The Procurement Process

14. The tender was issued via the NEPO's Pro Contract E-Tendering portal as an 'Open' tender.
15. Evaluation of the quality element of the bids received was conducted by a panel of five suitably experienced and qualified personnel drawn from this Council and other North-East based public organisations, including a clinical professional.
16. The tender award criteria were split on a 30% price / 70% quality basis. Price evaluation considered the unit prices submitted for 14 different treatment/intervention types.
17. Quality evaluation considered the responses received to 12 questions covering all aspects of the provision of the service.
18. Two bids were received. The award criteria and the evaluation scores were as follows:

	Price (30%)	Quality (70%)	Total Score
Bidder 1	27.6	43.6	71.2
Bidder 2	25.39	44	69.39

19. The bidder that came first is Bidder 1 and it is recommended that Cabinet appoint this bidder.

20. There will be a standstill period before the contract can be awarded. The new contract will commence from 1 April 2015.

Outcome of Consultation

21. No consultation was carried out in preparation of this report.