

**To: Finance, Resources and Customer Services Policy Board**

**On: 5<sup>th</sup> June 2019**

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**Report by: Joint Report by the Chief Executive and the Acting Director of Children's Services**

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**Heading: Provision of Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies Programme**

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**1. Summary**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek the approval of the Finance, Resources and Customer Services Policy Board to award a contract to Barnardo's for the Provision of Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies Programme (PATHS).
  - 1.2 This procurement exercise has been conducted in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders Relating to Contracts and the Procurement Reform Rules for this Regulated contract.
  - 1.3 A Contract Strategy was approved by the Strategic Commercial and Procurement Manager and the Head of Child Care and Criminal Justice in April 2019.
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**2. Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Finance, Resources and Customer Services Policy Board authorise the Head of Corporate Governance to:

- 2.1 To award the Contract to Barnardo's for the Provision of Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies Programme;
  - 2.2 To award the Contract for a period of two (2) years from the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019 to 20<sup>th</sup> June 2021; and
  - 2.3 To award the Contract at an annual Contract value of £120,000 per annum with a total contract value of £240,000 excluding VAT.
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### 3. **Background**

- 3.1 As part of the Achieving Step Change Project, Renfrewshire Council agreed to investigate and deliver evidence based programmes to improve outcomes for children and young people in Renfrewshire. One of the programmes identified as being appropriate for implementation was Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies.
- 3.2 Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies (PATHS) is an evidence based social and emotional learning developmental programme aimed at primary age children that teaches pro-social skills, emotional understanding, social problem solving and self-control.
- 3.3 PATHS can only be delivered by staff trained and approved by the programme developers. Barnardo's hold the UK licence for PATHS and have mapped this across Scottish Schools to meet the requirements within the Curriculum for Excellence, on this basis, approval to enter in to a negotiated contract with Barnardo's for PATHS was given in February 2019 in accordance with Schedule 5 of the Council Standing Orders Relating to Contracts *(c) the service is of such a specialised nature that no cross-border market of suitable providers exists* and The Procurement (Scotland) Regulations 2016 (6)(b) *(ii) competitive is absent for technical reasons*.
- 3.4 Barnardo's are currently providing the PATHS programme in Renfrewshire schools however the contract is due to end on the 30 June 2019. Children's Services have identified the continuation and roll-out of the PATHS programme as a key element in the strategy for improving children's outcomes.
- 3.5 The tender documentation issued to Barnardo's on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2019 via the Public Contracts Scotland – Tenders portal included the European Single Procurement Document (ESPD). The tender response submitted by Barnardo's on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2019 was evaluated by representatives for the Corporate Procurement Unit, Risk Management, Health and Safety and Children's Services and was considered acceptable.

3.6 Barnardo's have committed to provide the following community benefits which are directly linked to the delivery of this contract;

- PATHS Parent Information Sessions
- PATHS Training for non-teaching staff
- PATHS Pals Training
- PE Sessions to introduce PATHS Pals
- Workshops based on PATHS themes to encourage parents to attend schools

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### Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – The financial status of Barnardo's has been assessed using Dun & Bradstreet credit report and satisfied the Council's requirements.
2. **HR & Organisational Development** - none
3. **Community/Council Planning –**
  - Our Renfrewshire is fair – within their tender submission Barnardo's confirmed payment of the Scottish Living Wage
  - Our Renfrewshire is well – the programme will help improve the resilience and emotional wellbeing of children and young people within Renfrewshire
  - Building strong, safe and resilient communities – The emotional learning development programme teaches pro-social skills, social problem solving and self-control
  - Working together to improve outcomes – The services delivered helps to improve the outcomes for children within Renfrewshire
4. **Legal** – The Procurement of this contract for social care and other specific services has been conducted in accordance with the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014, Regulation 6 of the Procurement (Scotland) Regulations 2016 and the Council's Standing Orders Relating to Contracts as the value is below the EU threshold for such services.
5. **Property/Assets** - None
6. **Information Technology** - None
7. **Equality & Human Rights** -

- (a) The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.
8. **Health & Safety** - the submission received was assessed by Renfrewshire Council's Health and Safety Officers. The recommended Provider's Health and Safety policy and procedures is considered to meet the necessary requirements.
9. **Procurement** – The procurement procedures outlined within this report shall ensure that the Council meets its statutory requirements in respect of procurement procedures, efficiency and modern Government
10. **Risk** - Barnardo's submission was assessed by Renfrewshire Council's Risk Officer and meets the necessary requirements
11. **Privacy Impact** - Barnardo's submission was assessed by Renfrewshire Council's Information Security Officer and meets the necessary requirements
12. **Cosla Policy Position** – none

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### List of Background Papers

- (a) none

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