

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

**On: 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2021**

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

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**Heading: Provision of a School-Based Counselling Service (RC-CPU-20-364)**

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**1. Summary**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Finance, Resources and Customer Services Policy Board to authorise the Head of Corporate Governance to award the contract for the provision of School-Based Counselling Services.
  - 1.2 The recommendation to award this Contract follows a Health and Social Care Services procurement exercise which was conducted in accordance with the Procurement (Scotland) Regulations 2016 for a Regulated Procurement and the Council's Standing Orders Relating to Contracts.
  - 1.3 A Contract Strategy for this Contract was approved by the Director of Children's Services and the Strategic Commercial and Procurement Manager on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021.
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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 Award a contract for the Provision of School-Based Counselling Service (RC-CPU-20-364) to Place2Be;
  - 2.2 the contract is subject to Place2Be entering into a Data Processor Agreement with the Council.
  - 2.3 To award the Contract for an initial period of 12 months with the Council option to extend for a further period of 12 months subject to funding. The commencement date of the contract is anticipated to be the 13<sup>th</sup> August 2021; the actual date will be confirmed in the Council's Letter of Acceptance.
  - 2.4 To award the initial contract spend up to a maximum of £175,000.00 excluding VAT and where the 12 months extension period is exercised, for spend of up to a maximum £350,000.00 excluding VAT.
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## **3. Background**

- 3.1 Renfrewshire Council is committed to improving the mental health of children, young people and their families by working with delivery partners to invest in preventative services. The recommendations and actions from the Better Mental Health in Scotland (2018), Audit Scotland Report (2018) and Mental Health Strategy 2017-27 highlight the significant need to provide opportunities for early intervention and prevention to avoid the unnecessary escalation of emotional distress in children and young people. By promoting positive mental health in children and young people from an early age, the range of positive school outcomes like attitudes to learning, better attendance and lower exclusion rates will greatly increase.
- 3.2 The provision of School-Based Counselling Service in five (5) Renfrewshire primary schools and one (1) secondary school will support delivery of one of Renfrewshire Council and Children's Services strategic priorities "to reduce inequalities and deliver improved health and wellbeing outcomes for children and young people". The service will be available to all pupils, parents and staff within these schools during term time.

- 3.3 The procurement process for this Contract was conducted in accordance with the Procurement (Scotland) Regulations 2016 for a Regulated Procurement for Health and Social Care Services and the Council's Standing Orders Relating to Contracts. A contract notice was despatched via the Public Contracts Scotland portal on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 and published on FTS on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021 with a tender return deadline of noon on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2021.
- 3.4 During the tendering period, twenty-one (21) economic operators expressed an interest in the tender opportunity with three (3) responses submitted and a further eighteen (18) economic operators failed to respond. A list of providers who submitted a tender response is detailed in 3.7 of this report.
- 3.5 In accordance with Standing Order relating to Contracts 11.5, the three (3) received tender submissions were each evaluated against a pre-determined set of criteria in the form of the Single Procurement Document (SPD) by representatives from Children's Services, and the Council's Corporate Procurement Unit, Corporate Risk and Corporate Health and Safety. All tenderers confirmed compliance with the minimum selection criteria set within the SPD and each tender submission was then evaluated against the published set of award criteria of 70% Quality and 30% Price.
- 3.6 The tender documentation detailed minimum requirements in relation to the insurance provision and health & safety requirements.
- 3.7 The scores relative to the Award Criteria for each of the three (3) Tenderers are noted below:

		<b>Quality (70%)</b>	<b>Price (30%)</b>	<b>Total (100%)</b>
<b>1</b>	Place2Be	67.64	29.97	<b>97.61</b>
<b>2</b>	Impact Arts (Projects) Ltd	58.98	29.71	<b>88.69</b>
<b>3</b>	Glasgow Council on Alcohol	40.08	30	<b>70.08</b>

- 3.8 The evaluation of tender submissions received identified that the tender submitted by Place2Be was the most economically advantageous tender submission.
- 3.9 Community Benefits were requested as part of this procurement process. Place2Be has confirmed the following will be delivered as part of the contract;
- 2 x Work Experience Placement for an individual 16+ years of age
  - 2 x Industry Awareness Events
  - 2 x Industry Skill Transfer to Schools
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### **Implications of the Report**

1. **Financial** - The financial status of Place2Be was assessed which confirmed that the organisation satisfied the Council's requirements in relation to financial stability.
2. **HR & Organisational Development** - None
3. **Community/Council Planning –**
  - Our Renfrewshire is thriving – the services being delivered are within Renfrewshire schools and will deliver support to children and young people residing in Renfrewshire
  - Our Renfrewshire is fair - ensuring all children within the selected schools have the opportunity to access the services
  - Reshaping our place, our economy and our future – Services delivered under this contract will be provided by a skilled workforce. People benefit from services that continually improve
  - Tackling inequality, ensuring opportunities for all – Flexible approaches in the delivery of the services will support school age children and parents
  - Working together to improve outcomes – The services delivered will help to improve outcomes for children within Renfrewshire
4. **Legal** - This Health and Social Care Services procurement process was conducted in accordance with the Procurement (Scotland) Regulations 2016 for a Regulated Procurement and the Council's Standing Orders Relating to Contracts.
5. **Property/Assets** - None

6. **Information Technology** - None
7. **Equality & Human Rights** - 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 has been assessed by Renfrewshire Council's Health and Safety Officers, Place2Be were deemed 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** - The submission by Place2Be was assessed by Renfrewshire Council's Risk Officer and was deemed to meet the necessary requirements.
11. **Privacy Impact** - The Contract contains Renfrewshire Council's General Conditions of Contract data protection provisions. Place2Be will be Data Controllers and, as such, have a legal responsibility to comply with Data Protection legislation when collecting, processing and storing personal data of those receiving a service. No Data Protection Impact Assessment was conducted or deemed necessary on the basis the service provided by the organisation awarded on to the contract will not involve new technologies or other ways of processing personal data. Place2Be will be required to complete the Council's Data Processor Agreement prior to the removal of the conditional award for the contract.
12. **Cosla Policy Position** – The Children and Young People's Mental Health Taskforce was jointly commissioned by Scottish Government and COSLA in June of 2018 to develop a whole system approach to children and young people's mental health in Scotland. COSLA and the Scottish Government have jointly published the recommendations of the Children & Young People's Mental Health Taskforce in July of 2019 and set out a blueprint for improving the mental health of young people in Scotland.

13. **Climate Risk** – The level of impact associated with provision of this service has been assessed using the Scottish Government Sustainability Test and is considered to be low risk.
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**List of Background Papers - None**

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