

## Record of officer decision

<b>Decision title:</b>	<b>Award of contracts for Herefordshire Intensive Placement Support Service to Action for Children</b>
<b>Date of decision:</b>	<b>22 January 2018</b>
<b>Decision maker:</b>	Director for Children's Wellbeing
<b>Authority for delegated decision:</b>	<p>An executive decision was undertaken by Herefordshire Cabinet on 28 September 2017 (Report titled: Herefordshire intensive placement support service (HIPSS) and therapeutic intervention support service (TISS))  <a href="http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?id=4788">http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?id=4788</a>) authorising;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ a procurement exercise for the provision of the Herefordshire Intensive Placement Support Service (HIPSS) and Therapeutic Intervention Support Service (TISS).</li> <li>▪ delegated authority to the Interim Director for Children's Wellbeing (or the substantive Director for Children's Wellbeing once appointed) to award a contract to a maximum value of £2.5m for up to five years, effective from 1 April 2018</li> </ul> <p>Subsequently, on 13 October 2017, and following consultation with cabinet member for young people and children's wellbeing and approval from legal, finance and procurement services, the Interim Director for Children's Wellbeing authorised a procurement exercise to be undertaken with a revised service specification that dispensed with TISS delivering an estimated saving of some £500k over the period of the contract. (Report titled: Revised Herefordshire Intensive Placement Support Service (HIPSS) specification)  <a href="http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?id=4976&amp;LLL=0">http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?id=4976&amp;LLL=0</a></p>
<b>Ward:</b>	All wards
<b>Consultation:</b>	No consultation was undertaken as this decision is based on a competitive tendering process. Although a panel of young people were involved in the tender process by writing and evaluating one of the 5 quality questions. This has ensured their views have informed the decision.
<b>Decision made:</b>	The contract is to be awarded to Action for Children from 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2018 to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021 at a maximum cost of £2,015,000.
<b>Reasons for decision:</b>	<p>Having undertaken a competitive tender process, led by the Council's commercial services department, an evaluation panel identified Action for Children, having achieved the highest ranked tenderer.</p> <p>The evaluation was conducted in line with the criteria which was set</p>

	<p>out within the tender documentation with a percentage weighting of 50% price and 50% quality applied to evaluator's scores to determine a final moderated overall score.</p>
<p><b>Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:</b></p>	<p>The existing contract expires on 31 March 2018 with no option to renew further. If the contract is not awarded, the service would cease. This would immediately reduce clinical support for complex and challenging looked after children (LAC) and increase the risk of placement disruption for the children being supported by this service. If these placements are disrupted, the children are at high risk of being placed in residential care</p> <p>The contract will be monitored to ensure the service is on course to deliver the anticipated financial returns and outcomes.</p>
<p><b>Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:</b></p>	<p>The option not to continue with the service is has been rejected, as this will immediately reduce clinical support for complex and challenging looked after children (LAC) and increase the risk of placement disruption among the HIPSS cohort. Assuming that without this support, five HIPSS placements with specialist carers were to break down, spend on residential provision could increase costs by up to £700,000 per year.</p>
<p><b>Details of any declarations of interest made:</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>

Signed..... Date: 25/01/2018