

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 5 September 2013

REPORTING OFFICER: Chief Executive

PORTFOLIO: Children, Young People and Families

SUBJECT: Waiver - Sector Led Improvement (Frontline Social Worker Programme Support)

WARD(S) Borough-wide

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To note the actions of the Chief Executive under his delegated powers to grant a waiver under 1.8.4(e) to enable Griffin Care to deliver a frontline Social Worker Programme of support for the Regional Board for Sector Led Improvement without seeking competition via the Chest as there is a requirement for this service to be delivered by a particular supplier.

2.0 **RECOMMENDATION: That the Board note the waiver under Procurement Standing Orders 1.8.4(e) to waive Procurement Standing Order 4.1 Competition requirements.**

3.0 **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 The NW Regional Board CYP – Sector Led Improvement (“the Board”) are working regionally and have committed to procuring this training as part of their development programme for Social Workers. Halton has been asked to procure this training on behalf of the Board.

The programme has been developed by Griffin Care; it has been used previously in the region and received very positive feedback. The programme has delivered effective outcomes and is rated highly as a provider of quality provision. The Board have confirmed that this specific approach would not be available in the timescales required from other providers. In addition the methodology used also supports individualised coaching which will be provided as a bespoke adaptation of the programme. The localised nature of this coaching is important in providing on the job support and challenge.

4.0 **Supplementary Information**

- 4.1 The programme will deliver effective outcomes from proven methodology and will be monitored by the Board. It will support individualised coaching that will be provided as a bespoke adaptation of the programme.

This waiver will be for this sole programme amounting to a sum of £20,400 which will be spent during September 2013 to January 2014 plus 22 days follow up coaching as part of this total spend.

There is no requirement to tender this as the value is £20,400 therefore below EU thresholds. The contractor was selected based on past performance, ability to deliver this programme within tight timescales and has a proven record of developing a bespoke programme and is a continuum of past training development.

The programme will be formally monitored by the Board in order to ensure prescribed outcomes are achieved. This links with Corporate objectives indirectly as it supports our frontline workforce in training and development.

5.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 None

6.0 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The cost of providing this service will be £20,400. This cost will be met by the Board, there will be no cost to Halton.

7.0 **IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

7.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**

Supporting frontline training and development of social workers.

7.2 **Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton**

None identified.

7.3 **A Healthy Halton**

None identified

7.4 **A Safer Halton**

As per 7.1.

7.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

None identified.

8.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

8.1 None identified, will improve the development of our workforce.

9.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

9.1 None identified.

10.0 **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

None