


<b>Report Title:</b>	<b>Procurement briefing regarding local SMEs/SMEs/VCS organisations within Children and Adults Services</b>	
<b>Meeting</b>	Education and Business Scrutiny Commission	
<b>Report Owner</b>	Cynthia Davis; Assistant Director of Commissioning, Children, Adults & Families	
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## **1. Summary:**

- 1.1 This report sets out the procurement exercise undertaken for the Local Community Offer (Information and Support Hub) for older people and all age disabilities and their carers that involved local SMEs and/or VCS organisations. The report sets out the process undertaken and the procurement outcome.
- 1.2 This report also informs of any future procurement exercises that will involve local SMEs and/or VCS organisations.

## **2. Background:**

- 2.1 The Information and Support Hub was designed to equip the council to manage its “front door” by assisting individuals living within the Borough to access information, advice, navigation and facilitation support that will link them with community opportunities and services across Southwark to support their independence and wellbeing.
- 2.2 The Information and Support Hub comprises a collaborative model across social care and the third sector to bring together key parts of the system, such as information, advice, navigation and signposting services.
- 2.3 This approach has already been tested with our existing adult mental health hub which has had positive results.
- 2.4 The aim of the procurement of the Local Community Offer (Information and Support Hub) was to source two separate lead providers, Lot 1 for the All Age Disability Hub and Lot 2 for the Older Person’s Hubs.

## **3. Procurement Outcome:**

- 3.1 The tender process took the form of a ‘Competitive Procedure with Negotiation’. The tender required suitable applicants to submit a qualifying questionnaire which was evaluated by council officers to assess the suitability of the applicants before being invited to submit an initial tender.

- 3.2 The initial tender was evaluated and issues that had arose from the submission such as proposed service models that needed to be addressed and further developed formed the basis of the negotiation stage.
- 3.3 Negotiations were held for both lots with the aim of improving final tenders. Once the negotiations had concluded, bidders were invited to submit their final tenders.
- 3.4 The outcome of the evaluation of Lot 1 All Age Disabilities and Carers Information and Support Hub resulted in the council unable to award a contract as the tender submission from the sole bidder did not pass the quality threshold.
- 3.5 The outcome of the evaluation of Lot 2 Older Person's and Carers Information and Support Hub resulted in the council awarding a contract to Age UK Lewisham and Southwark.
- 3.6 Age UK Lewisham and Southwark are an incumbent provider who are part of a consortium of six local charities called COPSINS who provide services to older people in Southwark. The consortium will deliver the new contract with Age UK being the lead provider managing the network of partners.
- 3.7 The All Age Disabilities Hub will be reviewed as a result of the contract not being awarded. Commissioners will be assessing the options going forward.
- 3.8 The new contract for the Older Person's Hub will commence on 1 June 2020.

#### **4. Future Procurements:**

- 4.1 Southwark currently have five contracts offering a range of activities and services mainly in evening, weekends and during school holidays for children and young people (CYP).
- 4.2 Commissioners are in the process of reviewing the service and plan to hold a public consultation on the proposed service model in due course.
- 4.3 The contract will be suitable for local SMEs/SMEs/VCS organisations to bid for.