

ANGUS COUNCIL

CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE - 12 APRIL 2016

CONTRACTS WITH VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES 2016/2017

REPORT BY MARGO WILLIAMSON, STRATEGIC DIRECTOR - CHILDREN AND LEARNING

ABSTRACT

This report seeks committee approval of the proposed contracts with the voluntary sector providers for children's services. It also provides details of other third party agreements for information

1 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Children and Learning Committee:

- (i) approves the contracts for children's services for 2016/17 detailed in this report and authorises the Head of Quality and Performance to enter into these contracts on behalf of Angus Council; and
- (ii) notes that there are also 33 Contracts for the Provision of Early Learning and Childcare. These are due for renewal in June 2016 and a report regarding these will be brought to the committee in May 2016.

2 ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT AND THE STATEMENT OF AMBITION FOR THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OF ANGUS

This report contributes to the following local outcomes contained within the Angus Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement.

We have a sustainable economy with good employment opportunities

We have improved the health and wellbeing of our people and inequalities are reduced.

Individuals are supported in their own communities with good quality services.

The report also contributes to meeting the commitments set out in The Statement of Ambition for the Children and Young People of Angus.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The provisions of Section 4 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 allow a local authority to make arrangements for assistance in the performance of the functions by organisations or persons who are able to do so. Every year, Angus Council enters into a range of contracts with a number of voluntary sector service providers to carry out these functions.
- 3.2 These contracts facilitate the provision of a number of essential services through partnership working. Working in partnership with the voluntary sector is essential to the provision of effective and efficient services and brings added benefits for the people of Angus in terms of sharing skills and experience; generating new insights and solutions; and attracting additional sources of revenue funding. In a number of instances, external funding from other agencies is obtained by the providers on the strength of the commitment shown by Angus Council.
- 3.3 It should also be noted that the services provided under the contracts are subject to the monitoring arrangements as set out in corporate standards. In addition all contracts require regular reporting on the level and quality of services provided which is actively monitored by staff within Children and Learning.

- 3.4 An exercise using the LEAN methodology has been carried out to consider the process for the identification, development, monitoring, review and reporting in relation to service level agreements within Children and Learning. Arising from this exercise the following actions were identified.
- 3.5 In future the term "service level agreement " would be reserved for agreements which defined what a voluntary organisation would do in return for grant funding and that arrangements for the purchase of services from the voluntary sector would be designated as contracts. This report applies that principle and refers to contracts rather than service level agreements.
- 3.6 Reviews would be undertaken of existing service level agreements to ensure they are used appropriately to commission and enhance the provision of services. The results of these reviews will be presented to the Children and Learning Committee in due course.

4 CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 The level of funding for 2016/17 is in line with the budget measures agreed by Angus Council in Report 61/16, February 2016 and as a result all contracts have been reduced in value
- 4.2 Funding from the Angus Alcohol and Drugs Partnership (ADP) is still to be confirmed and therefore no change has been made to the ADP contributions.
- 4.3 Any change to NHS Tayside's contributions will be in line with any nationally agreed change to Resource Transfer. No agreement has yet been reached on this and therefore no change has been made to NHS contributions.
- 4.4 If the funding from the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership or NHS Tayside is reduced or not available, the contracts will be reduced to reflect this.
- 4.5 As well as the contracts detailed below which are currently due for annual update, Children and Learning Directorate also contracts with a number of pre-school providers. These contracts run in line with the academic year. A report will be brought to the May Committee to seek approval to renew these contracts.
- 4.6 The funding provided by each agency is shown separately in each contract.

5 PROPOSALS

It is proposed to enter into the contracts with voluntary organisations as detailed in the appendix to this report.

6 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The total value of the contracts is £559,144. the funding sources are shown in Table 1 below.

TABLE 1

CATEGORY	AMOUNT
Total Cost	£559,144
Funded by:	
NHS Tayside	£25,889
Alcohol & Drugs Partnership	£10,000
Revenue Budget	£523,255

Provision for these sums has been made in the relevant revenue budget.

NOTE: The background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.

- Report No 61/16 Provisional Revenue Budget and Savings Proposals

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CHILDREN'S SERVICES

The proposed spend on contracts with voluntary sector providers for children amounts to £559,144. This is broken down in the following table. Please note activity levels for 2015/16 are not yet available.

**Angus Special Playscheme
Funding for 2016/17 - £28,552**

Playschemes for children with disabilities aged 5 to 18 and youth scheme for young people with disabilities aged 12 to 18

Activity	2013/14	2014/15
Number of children receiving a service	28	28

**Barnardo's Family Service Angus (refocused service) and Family Group Conferencing
Funding for 2016/17 - £285,853**

To support children most in need to enable them to stay in their local communities.

To support carers in meeting the needs of children recovering from abuse and neglect.

(£12,914 of this funding is provided by NHS Tayside)

Facilitate Family Group Conferences to develop care and support plans for young people who are or are at risk of becoming looked after and accommodated

Activity	2013/14	2014/15
Number of referrals	64	43
Family Group Conference referrals	59	30

It should be noted that this service is currently undergoing a review

**Homestart Angus
Funding for 2016/17 - £70,671**

Support for families with children under-five (£12,975 of this funding is provided by NHS Tayside)

Activity	2013/14	2014/15
Number of referrals	66	76
Number of families receiving a service	84	116

**Parent to Parent
Funding for 2016/17 - £35,416**

Support and advice for parents of children with additional support needs.

Activity	2013/14	2014/15
Referrals - Support and advice to families	60	51
Referrals - Young persons advocacy	29	29

**Web Project -Streets Ahead Project
Funding for 2016/17 - £53,613**

Provision of an intensive assessment, interventions and care service to young people aged 14 – 25 years who have problems as a result of substance misuse

Education, advice and support to young people aged between 18 – 25 who are at risk in relation to sexual health (£10,000 of this funding is provided by Angus ADP)

Activity	2013/14	2014/15
Total number of new referrals	41	32
Total number of education sessions	18	7
Total attendance	651	184

Please note the significant drop in activity levels is due to discontinuation of college drop in sessions.

Who Cares? Scotland
Funding for 2016/17 – £39,478

Advocacy and representation for young people and corporate parenting.

Activity	2013/14	2014/15
Number of young people seen	18	23

Relationship Scotland Family Mediation Tayside and Fife
Funding for 2016/17 - £6,367

Support and counselling for divorced or separated couples and their children

Activity	2013/14	2014/15
Total number of referrals	115	86
Total number of mediation sessions	58	45

Blind Children UK (Previously Guide Dogs for the Blind)
Funding for 2016/17 - £19,194

Habilitation for young people, advice and referral to other agencies as appropriate. Advise & support parent/carers and professionals in relation to this service

Activity	2013/14	2014/15
Number of children receiving a service	18	17

Princes Trust Carers
Funding for 2016/17 - £20,000

Working in partnership to change the lives of the hardest to reach young people through a number of programmes: -

Personal development programme targeting hardest to reach young people.

12 week programme to develop confidence & skills

Personal development programme aimed at young people aged 13 to 19 years

Supports unemployed young people consider being self-employed

Activity	2013/14	2014/15
Fairbridge Programme	N/A	20
Team Programme	N/A	45
XL	N/A	60
Explore Enterprise Course	N/A	15
Development Awards	N/A	10

N.B. This contract commenced in 2014/15.

Dundee City Council – Kings Park School

Agreed unit cost per pupil £35,000 per place up to 12 places with an additional £10,000 per place for each additional place.