



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL CABINET
12 JULY 2005

Report of the Director of Social Services

Extending an Existing Contract with the Family Welfare Association as lead agency for Derby Children's Fund Programme

RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 That the Council agrees to extend an existing contract with the Family Welfare Association (FWA) as lead agency for the Children Fund Programme in Derby. This extension to the existing contract is for one year from April 2006 to the end of March 2007, with the insertion of an extension option of a further year until the end of March 2008. The current contract with FWA runs until the end of March 2006.
- 1.2 Under Contract Procedure Rules C6, a waiver of the Contracts Procedure Rule C15 relating to the requirement to obtain tenders is sought.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 FWA have been lead agency for the Children's Fund Programme in Derby since September 2002 with Derby City Council as the accountable body. The aim of the Children's Fund is supporting multi-agency working for preventive services for children and young people aged from 5 to 13 years. Central to this is partnership working and the participation of children, young people and their families.
- 2.2 There is national extension of The Children's Fund for three years until March 2008 and new requirements to ensure that Children's Fund Partnership Boards and activities are linked to meeting the five outcomes in Every Child Matters. Derby Children's Fund is establishing links with the Integrated Children's Services team to ensure compatibility as we move into children's trust arrangements. The Children's Fund will be a central partner in these trust arrangements and the funding is included in the Local Area Agreement. It is envisaged that at the end of the contract in March 2007 the Children's Fund Programme will have migrated into the work of the Children's trust arrangements. The extension option within the contract for 2007 to 2008 may be required if the trust arrangements are not able at that time to coordinate and be responsible for the Children's Fund Programme.
- 2.3 The Children's Fund budget for 2005-2008 is £2,499,577. The contract with FWA gives a total yearly figure of £126,369, which has an original tender amount of £85,935 and £40,434 for the strategic participation service. The strategic work was previously funded within the project costs element of the fund but the DfES has now directed that these costs are to be seen as strategic posts.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3. The Children's Fund Partnership Board and Children's Strategic Partnership are in agreement of this request for a contract extension.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4. Under contract procedures Rule 6 Cabinet may waive any of the provisions of contract procedure rules if they are satisfied there are special circumstances justifying this.

For more information contact:	Hazel Lymbery: Planning and Commissioning Manager
Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1. The yearly contract price for FWA is for £126,369, which will continue to be funded from a grant into the authority of £2,499,577.

Legal

2. Under Contract Procedures Rule C6 Cabinet can waive the requirements to obtain tenders for the service if satisfied that there are special circumstances justifying this.

Personnel

3. There are 3 whole time equivalent employees within the Children's Fund with management oversight from the FWA.

Equalities impact

4. Family Welfare Association as lead agency for the Children's Fund supports multi-agency work for preventative for vulnerable children and young people from age 5 to 13 years.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

5. This accords with the Council's objective of **healthy, safe and independent communities** and furthers the priority of **modernising social care, including adult home care and the fostering service.**