

## RECORD OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

Tuesday, 17 July 2018

**Decision No:** (CAB 18/19 20853)

DECISION-MAKER:	CABINET
PORTFOLIO AREA:	Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care
SUBJECT:	Consortia Commissioning of Children's Residential Care
AUTHOR:	Alison Boynton

### THE DECISION

- (i) To agree and accept the outcome of the procurement of a Framework Agreement for children's residential care commissioned by a regional consortium led by Southampton City Council.
- (ii) To delegate authority to the Director of Quality and Integration to do what is necessary to implement recommendation (i) above.

### REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The Framework Agreement has been procured in partnership with 18 Local Authorities via a fair, compliant, open and transparent commissioning and procurement process.

Effective and appropriate use of the Framework Agreement will give Southampton City Council and participating Local Authorities assurance of quality in the provision of children's residential care and price stability in what will otherwise be a market characterised by variable and escalating costs over the coming years.

The Framework Agreement will provide Southampton City Council regulation-compliant access to significantly more providers than under current arrangements, as well as a wider range of options (detailed below) for cost-effectively meeting need, thereby ensuring good future outcomes for the city's looked after children.

**DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

Option 1 – Spot purchase.

This option was rejected because of non-compliance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015, the resource intensity of individual negotiation and the increased risks in terms of cost and quality where each placement required would be subject to market forces on a case-by-case basis.

Option 2 – Procure a ‘Southampton-only’ Framework Agreement.

This option was rejected, as experience and analysis suggested that greater economies of scale, improved outcomes (e.g. placement stability) and best value for money could be obtained through a collaborative procurement process with other authorities.

**OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION**

None.

**CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

None.

**CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD**

We certify that the decision this document records was made in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 and is a true and accurate record of that decision.

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Decision Maker:  
The Cabinet

Proper Officer:  
Claire Heather

SCRUTINY

Note: This decision will come in to force at the expiry of 5 working days from the date of publication subject to any review under the Council's Scrutiny "Call-In" provisions.

Call-In Period expires on

Date of Call-in (*if applicable*) (*this suspends implementation*)

Call-in Procedure completed (*if applicable*)

Call-in heard by (*if applicable*)

Results of Call-in (*if applicable*)