

DIRECTOR'S RECOMMENDATION

Directorate	CYPS
Master Category	People
Supplier name	Nurture
Contract title	Assessment and Intervention programme
Responsible officer	Gavin Hayman
Senior Category Manager	Rachel Woodward
Proposed contract period <i>(including extensions)</i>	18 months – no extensions.
Total contract value	£100,000
Budget / cost centre (which will pay for this Contract)	Locality Board/NYC Opportunities Area
Type of contract	Services to Schools via the Locality Board
RECOMMENDATION	
<p>Locality Boards across North Yorkshire are beginning to identify priorities for Inclusion over the next 1-2 years. The Boards represent a partnership between leaders from education settings and the local authority and are taking collective action to promote inclusion, school improvement and the sharing of good practice with the ultimate aim of maximising outcomes for children and young people.</p> <p>Having researched the area extensively and reviewed services and training offered by other providers, the recommendation is to award the contract to NurtureUK for a period of 18 months to provide a comprehensive assessment and intervention programme which will transform practice in Scarborough.</p>	
GOVERNANCE COMPLIANCE	
<p>CPR 16. EXCEPTIONS TO CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES</p> <p>16.1 A Director does not need to invite bids in accordance with Rule 8 in the following circumstances:-</p> <p>(e) the purchase of Supplies, Works, Services or Social and Other Specific Services which are of such a specialised nature as to be obtainable from one Contractor only; or</p> <p>(h) Contracts where the Director with the agreement of the HoP agree that for reasons of extreme urgency brought about by unforeseeable events unattributable to the Council, the timescales for obtaining bids cannot be met.</p>	
BACKGROUND TO SUPPORT THE RECOMMENDATION	
<p>As part of the Opportunity Area strategic plan for coastal schools, funding was allocated to provide a training offer around behaviour to a small number of primary schools in Scarborough and Whitby.</p>	

In Summer 2020, proposals were received from the four training providers (who were already delivering training to Scarborough and Whitby secondary schools) including Pivotal Education; NurtureUK; Restorative Thinking and Tom Bennett Training. Following conversations with local Headteachers, consultation with the Locality Board, the development of additional projects and a wider focus from the directorate on developing Nurture as a response to SEMH (Social Emotional Mental Health) need across the LA (prompted by long-term issues, exacerbated by the pandemic/lockdown), the original plan was revised and sharpened.

To support schools to meet this immediate and pressing challenge, we wish to roll out a programme of CPD to a wide number of schools in the area, focussing on assessment and intervention for Nurture. The SWR Locality Board and Opportunity Area are ready to proceed with the training in this financial year and have funding to commit to the programme. Funding to the Locality Boards must be spent within the financial year and cannot be carried over and therefore there is a need to progress to maximise use of the money in 2020-21. Furthermore, given the immediate SEMH needs of children and young people in the area, a response is required now.

Having thoroughly reviewed the marketplace – with the added benefit of seeing detailed proposals received from four providers last summer – we have concluded that there is only one supplier who can meet our requirements to provide Nurture and the unique Boxall Profiling assessment and intervention tools. While other interventions to support SEMH exist, they do not combine whole-school and pupil-level support and, regardless of this, the Boxall tools are proprietary and only offered by NurtureUK.

In terms of local 'buy-in', over 20 Scarborough and Whitby schools have committed to the training, with this approach already being taken by a handful of schools on the coast. The LA has also adopted Nurture as a preferred approach, having invested in training (delivered to SEMH staff in February 2021).

The training for schools has been specified and developed to exactly meet local requirements so does not contain unnecessary elements and offers enhanced value over similar training available 'off the peg' via the NurtureUK website. We have negotiated a 20% discount and secured additional complimentary content (including bespoke mentoring sessions for each school in the project) and so have confidence that we are achieving value for money.

The contract will be managed jointly by the Locality Board and Opportunity Area Project Manager and clear KPIs around delivery and outcomes have been agreed with both supplier and schools.

CYPS and Locality Boards are engaging with colleagues in the procurement service to develop an Approved Provider list to ultimately reduce the need for Director Recommendations in the future.

APPROVAL	
Director Name	Stuart Carlton
Director Signature	
Date of approval	19/2/21