

	<p align="center">ACTION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED POWERS BY OFFICER Friday 30th June 2017</p>
<p align="right">Title</p>	<p>Evaluation of the REACH Team</p>
<p align="right">Report of</p>	<p>Interim Operational Director, Family Services Early Help and Help & Protection Services</p>
<p align="right">Wards</p>	<p>All</p>
<p align="right">Status</p>	<p>Public</p>
<p align="right">Enclosures</p>	<p>None</p>
<p align="right">Officer Contact Details</p>	<p>Hannah Gordon, Strategy, Insight and Commissioning Manager Hannah.gordon@barnet.gov.uk 020 8359 2082</p>

<h2>Summary</h2>
<p>This report seeks approval to award a single contract to Research in Practice to undertake an evaluation of the new REACH team within Family Services.</p>

<h2>Decisions</h2>
<p>1. To award a single tender action contract to Research in Practice to undertake an evaluation of the new REACH team within Family Services, with a value of £56,055.</p>

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1 There is a need to evaluate the recently created REACH Team within Family Services.
- 1.2 The Barnet REACH (Resilient, Engaged, Achieving Children) Team offers a new and holistic multi-agency approach to working with young people presenting with a high risk of gang involvement and serious youth violence and a high vulnerability of being subjected to child sexual exploitation or being missing from home.
- 1.3 The REACH team has been created as a result of the growing Gangs and Serious Youth Violence (GSYV) issue in Barnet. GSYV has been growing as

an issue in Barnet over recent years but over the last eight months there has been a marked escalation of the issue.

- 1.4 Evidence from across London indicates that unless a different approach is put in place to increase interventions targeted at this high risk/high vulnerability cohort, the trend is set to continue and to escalate at a faster rate.
- 1.5 Evaluation of the REACH Team from implementation onwards is vital to ensure Barnet, the REACH team, stakeholders, and, most importantly, young people and families achieve the outcomes needed.
- 1.6 A single source contract is being sought from Research in Practice to undertake this project.

2. REASONS FOR DECISIONS

- 2.1 A single source contract is being sought because Research in Practice are uniquely placed to provide this service because of their significant experience in this specific field of research.
- 2.2 Research in Practice are sector leaders in evaluating evidence-informed practice with adolescents, particularly those at risk or involved with Gangs and Serious Youth Violence. In addition Research in Practice are experts in the research of resilience.
- 2.3 This expertise in resilience and evaluating adolescent risk is uniquely matched to the needs and requirements of this evaluation project. These areas of expertise are required in line with achieving the Family Friendly vision of Resilient Families, Resilient Children by 2020.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

- 3.1 Undertaking a procurement exercise for the project was considered and rejected because after doing research it is clear that Research in Practice are uniquely placed to undertake the project for reasons outlined above.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 Once the decision has been approved a contract will be issued with a view to the project commencing in April 2017.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 5.1.1 An evaluation of the REACH Team will support the corporate plan priority of developing more resilient communities. The evaluation will also contribute to delivering the Family Services vision of Family Friendly Barnet – Resilient Families, Resilient.
- 5.1.2 This research project also supports one of the Chief Executive's priorities for the next year of tackling gang activity. The evaluation of the REACH Team will

ensure our response to adolescents presenting with high risk and vulnerabilities are tackled and safeguarded effectively.

5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

5.2.1 This research project will require one off funding of £56,055 which will come from Transformation funding (budget code 30925). Transformation commissioning is on the 17 / 18 procurement forward plan.

5.2.2 This is one off funding as we will not be using this provider next year beyond March 2018 as the service will not be required.

5.2.3 This is not going through the usual procurement route due to timescales. The REACH team is already established and there is a need to start the evaluation now, mostly importantly to baseline to effectively measure the impact on outcomes of children and young people.

5.2.4 Family Services are in discussion with procurement about procuring a framework of research providers to ensure value for money for these research needs in the future.

5.2.5 Value for money with Research in Practice has been delivered through the relationship Family Services has with Research in Practice. This has been developed through previous similar work which has been carried out.

Procurement

5.2.6 As stated in the Family Services Scheme of Delegation (as published online), the Commissioning Director, Children and Young People, has authority to 'Sign off of single source tender action'.

5.3 Legal and Constitutional References

5.3.1 The Council's Contract Procedure Rules (CPRs) set out limited circumstances where the Council can proceed with a single tender action. These are set out in paragraph 9.1 of the CPRs.

5.3.2 Having considered alternative means of procuring the evaluation (as per 3.1 above), it has been determined that the Council may procure the services direct from Research in Practice (single source tender) pursuant to paragraph 9.1, bullet point 2, sub paragraph (ii) of the CPRs.

5.3.3 Namely, that the services can be supplied only by a particular supplier for the reason that competition is absent for technical reasons, as supported in paragraphs 2.1 to 2.3 above. Accordingly, it is reasonable to conclude that given all the circumstances, there are no reasonable alternative providers.

5.3.4 Furthermore in accordance with the CPR's, the single tender action has been approved by the Commercial and Customer Services Director. The award of contract will be recorded by means of Summary DPR and will be published online.

5.4 Risk Management

5.4.1 If the Council does not proceed with undertaking this evaluation then there is a risk that the valuable lessons learned from innovative new approaches is lost with the negative impact of informing practice developments in the sector in achieving successful outcomes for the most worrying and vulnerable young people in society.

5.5 Equalities and Diversity

5.5.1 The provider will have due regard for the Council's Equalities and Diversity requirements in the undertaking of their appointed duties.

The 2010 Equality Act outlines the provisions of the Public Sector Equalities Duty which requires Public Bodies **to have due regard** to the need to:

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010
- advance equality of opportunity between people from different groups
- foster good relations between people from different groups

The broad purpose of this duty is to integrate considerations of equality into day business and keep them under review in decision making, the design of policies and the delivery of services

5.6 Consultation and Engagement

5.6.1 No consultation undertaken.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 None

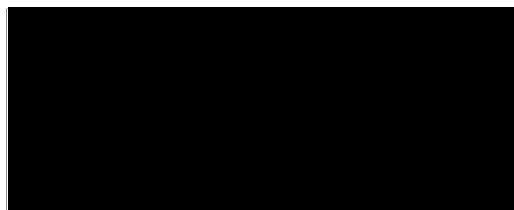
7. DECISION TAKER'S STATEMENT

7.1 I have the required powers to make the decision documented in this report. I am responsible for the report's content and am satisfied that all relevant advice has been sought in the preparation of this report and that it is compliant with the decision making framework of the organisation which includes Constitution, Scheme of Delegation, Budget and Policy Framework and Legal issues including Equalities obligations.

8. OFFICER'S DECISION

I authorise the following action

Signed

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Date

3rd July 2017