

Delegated Power Record

Are the details of the decision to be public or confidential?

Public

If the details of the decision are confidential, please select the category for exemption under the Local Government Act 1972

Choose an item.

Reference	CF-23-022
Corporate Plan Priority	Meeting Residents' Needs
Delegation Title	Family Action Start for Life
Delegated Power Number	Delegated Power 455: Exemption v) there are other circumstances which are genuinely exceptional.
Date of Exercise	22/03/2023
Cabinet Member	Cllr Alison Barnes
Assistant Director	Victoria McLeod

Type of Decision (Key/Executive/Non-Executive) See Scheme of Delegation to Officers – Council Constitution	Key - Executive
FOR KEY DECISIONS ONLY	
Delegated Power Forward Plan Ref	CDD0032
Date Decision Published in Forward Plan	Click or tap to enter a date. To be completed by Democratic Services
Urgency (For Key Decisions not included in Forward Plan only)	Not Applicable

Background to Decision:

75 local authority areas are eligible to receive a share of the £301.75 million Family Hubs and Start for Life programme funding package for the period 2022–2025. Redcar and Cleveland are one of the successful authorities. To deliver the programme we are encouraged to work with a range of providers including the VCS where there is a specialism that can add value to the services provided through the Family Hubs. In the model framework it states to achieve minimum expectations “There are agreements in place for Family Hubs to signpost and connect families to relevant voluntary, community and faith sector and peer support offers.”

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Family Action believes that every child has the right to the best possible start in life and that every family should be supported to enable their children to reach their full potential. “For all children, the quality of the home learning environment is more important for intellectual and social development than parental occupation, education or income. What parents do is more important than who parents are.”

There is extensive evidence that investment in the early stages of children’s lives makes sense – socially, morally and financially. Family Action’s Early Years services work with parents and the wider family from before conception until their child is ready to go to school delivering improved outcomes in health, social interaction and educational attainment.

We are now seeking approval to contract (acting as Lead Authority) with Middlesbrough Council for a provider to tackle some of the most complex and difficult issues facing families today – including financial hardship, mental health problems, social isolation, learning disabilities, domestic abuse, or substance misuse and alcohol problems across Redcar and Cleveland and Middlesbrough to meet the requirements of the Start for Life programme and associated funding. This award supports the DfE’s priority of LA’s commissioning VCS organisations which offer specialisms that can add value to the services provided through the Family Hubs as such we are seeking to award under exceptional circumstances.

Decision Considerations:

The exemption is required to purchase services from the provider to tackle some of the most complex and difficult issues facing families today – including financial hardship, mental health problems, social isolation, learning disabilities, domestic abuse, or substance misuse and alcohol problems across Redcar and Cleveland and Middlesbrough to meet the requirements of the Start for Life Early Help programme and associated funding.

The Supplier Questionnaire will be issued to the supplier to ensure appropriate checks are made.

Full details of decision:

To enter a joint contract (as Lead authority) with Middlesbrough Borough Council with Family Actions Charity Number 264 713 to deliver services across Redcar and Cleveland and Middlesbrough.

Contract start date is anticipated to be 1st April 2023 for a period of 2 years.

Financial detail:

The RCBC contract cost for year 1 - £110,000

The RCBC contract cost for year 2 - £110,000

The MBC contract cost for year 1 - £110,000

The MBC contract cost for year 2 - £110,000

Total contract value over 2 years is £440,000 and is fully funded from the Programme Income from the DfE. RCBC will pay our commitment directly to the provider and Middlesbrough Council will pay their commitment directly to the provider.

Delivering Social Value:

The service will deliver Social Value through its support in providing practical, emotional and financial support to those who are experiencing poverty, are disadvantaged and experiencing social isolation.





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Reasons for Decision: This investment will enable Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council and Middlesbrough Borough Council to transform our services into a family hub model. The Start for Life Early Help programme includes new investment for essential services which will transform lives by providing practical, emotional and financial support to those who are experiencing poverty, disadvantage and social isolation across our boroughs.	
Details of alternative options considered (if any) and reasons for rejection: This award supports the DFE's priority of LA's commissioning VCS organisations which offer specialism that can add value to the services provided through the Family Hubs.	
Details of any conflict of interest declared by any Elected Member consulted in relation to the decision:	
Details of any dispensation granted in respect of any conflict of interest:	
Background Papers: N/A	
Officer Name (Print)	Andrew Hames
Officer Signature	
Submission date	11.03.2023
Procurement Approval	Request complies with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules 

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Signatures

CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN 	Date 22/03/2023
CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER 	Date 21/03/2023
CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER 	Date 20/03/2023
CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES 	Date 22/03/2023

Call-In (Key Decisions Only)

Choose an item.

Reasons for dis-applying Call-In due to urgency to be added here if relevant. This will need to be reported to the next meeting of the Borough Council and the reasons must demonstrate that any delay likely to be caused by the call-in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests.

Date Decision will become effective	Click or tap to enter a date. To be completed by Democratic Services – date will be not less than expiry of 5 working days from publication unless urgency applies.
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