

ORIGINATOR: HEAD OF COMMISSIONING

DECISION NUMBER: C3 - 2023

REASON FOR SUBMISSION: FOR DECISION

SUBMITTED TO: POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

SUBJECT: MEDIATION SERVICE (POLICE REFERRAL)

SUMMARY:

1. In accordance with the provisions in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 the Police and Crime Commissioner can commission services that:
 - a) secure, or contribute to securing crime and disorder reduction in Suffolk;
 - b) are intended to help victims or witnesses of, or other persons affected by offences and anti-social behaviour.
2. The current grant arrangements for the mediation service in Suffolk expires on 31 March 2023. The service takes referrals from the police to deal with repeat incidents anti-social behaviour, in order to reduce demand on the Constabulary and avoid escalation to crime and disorder.
3. The OPCC has undertaken a tendering process to secure provision of a service from 1 April 2023.
4. Following the conclusion of this tendering process, the highest score of 90.5% has been awarded to Anglia Care Trust (ACT) with the unsuccessful tenderer, Catch 22, being awarded 81.5%.
5. The value of the contract for the initial term of three years is £57,819 and for the entire term, should the option to extend be taken, is £98,145.
6. The funding awarded will support delivery of Objective 2 in the Suffolk Police and Crime Plan 2022-2025.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. It is recommended that, subject to a voluntary 10 day standstill period, the PCC enters into a contract with Anglia Care Trust for the Mediation Service for three years commencing 1.4.2023 and expiring 1.4.2026, with an option to extend the contract for 2 x 12 month periods ending 1.4.2028.

APPROVAL BY: PCC

The recommendation set out above is agreed.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Parmore". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'T'.

Signature:

Date: 30 January 2023

DETAIL OF THE SUBMISSION

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 A key part of the Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC) role is to commission services that help reduce demand on the Constabulary and reduces crime and disorder. The PCCs intentions are set out in Objective 2 of the Police and Crime Plan for Suffolk 2022-2025.
- 1.2 Mediation has been delivered in for a number of years, taking referrals from the police to deal with repeat incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), predominantly between neighbours.
- 1.3 The types of issues addressed include neighbour disputes, anti-social behaviour, family conflict, property boundaries, parking, harassment, and litter. The service reduces escalation (to criminal offences and prosecution), reduces the time spent by the police on non-crime demand (reduced calls for service) and ensures better outcomes for the parties involved.
- 1.4 The current service is grant funded by the PCC and will conclude on 31 March 2023. The PCC has therefore tendered for new provision to be funded by the PCC's Crime and Disorder Reduction budget. The economic driver for the service is to reduce demand on policing through less time spent by officers on ASB cases and reduction in repeat ASB where one or both of the parties have engaged in mediation.

2. PROCUREMENT STRATEGY AND TENDER PROCESS

- 2.1 Given the value of the service over the contract period, and potential cost and efficiency savings it was agreed to competitively tender for the service with support from 7Force Procurement.
- 2.2 There were no comparable framework agreements from which to either select a suitable supplier or alternative run a tendering process from.
- 2.3 As part of the procurement strategy a supplier engagement event was held with three suppliers attending.
- 2.4 Using the Bluelight e-tendering process the Mediation Service was advertised on an open basis, with nine suppliers in total expressing an interest. Of those interested, seven withdrew their interest and only two submitted a fully compliant bid: Anglia Care Trust and Catch 22.
- 2.5 The contract award criteria was set at 50% quality, 40% Price and 10% social value which reflects the importance of the successful provider being able to deliver a high quality service as set out in the statement of requirements.
- 2.6 The tender evaluation process was undertaken by three stakeholders on behalf of the PCC:
 - Liz Hollingworth- Head of Commissioning and Governance OPCC
 - Rebecca Webster- Sergeant (ASB lead), County Policing Command, Suffolk Constabulary
 - Charlotte Sanderson- Prevent, Hate Crime and ASB Lead, Suffolk County Council
- 2.7 Applications were scored and then moderated, taking into account the responses to clarification questions.
- 2.8 Evaluation resulted in the highest score of 90.5% being awarded to Anglia Care Trust with the unsuccessful tenderer Catch 22 being awarded 81.5%. Full scoring is set out in the Contact Award Approval (Reg 84) Report which is appended to this Decision Paper.

- 2.9 The tender evaluation panel unanimously recommend that the contract is awarded to the Anglia Care Trust as they submitted the most economically advantageous tender and can meet the contract requirements.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 Each tenderer provided detailed financial information in the format prescribed in the tender documentation which enabled a comprehensive financial appraisal to be undertaken.
- 3.2 The five year cost for the service provided by Anglia Care Trust is £98,145 which is within the budget envelope provided by the PCC.
- 3.3 The recommended budget line is the PCC's Commissioning budget for Crime and Disorder Reduction.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

- 4.1 An implementation plan has been provided by Anglia Care Trust for the transition of the service. This will form the basis for discussion with the OPCC and Suffolk Constabulary to ensure a seamless transfer and minimal disruption to those using the service.


5. RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 It is recommended that, subject to a voluntary 10 day standstill period, the PCC enters into a contract with Anglia Care Trust for the Mediation Service for three years commencing 1.4.2023 and expiring 1.4.2026, with an option to extend the contract for 2 x 12 month periods ending 1.4.2028.

ORIGINATOR CHECKLIST (MUST BE COMPLETED)	PLEASE STATE 'YES' OR 'NO'
Has legal advice been sought on this submission?	NO
Has the PCC's Chief Finance Officer been consulted?	YES via 7FP processes
Have equality, diversity and human rights implications been considered including equality analysis, as appropriate?	YES
Have human resource implications been considered?	YES
Is the recommendation consistent with the objectives in the Police and Crime Plan?	YES
Has consultation been undertaken with people or agencies likely to be affected by the recommendation?	YES
Has communications advice been sought on areas of likely media interest and how they might be managed?	YES
Have all relevant ethical factors been taken into consideration in developing this submission?	YES

In relation to the above, please ensure that all relevant issues have been highlighted in the 'other implications and risks' section of the submission.

APPROVAL TO SUBMIT TO THE DECISION-MAKER

Chief Executive	
I am satisfied that relevant advice has been taken into account in the preparation of the report and that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the PCC.	
Signature:	
Date:	30 January 2023