

## Post Scrutiny - Executive Response

**In Respect of:** Scrutiny Review into The Commissioning of Youth Provision in Tameside

**Date:** June 2013

**Cabinet Deputy:** Councillor Allison Gwynne (Children and Families)  
**Partnership:** Children's Trust Board

Recommendations	Accepted/ Rejected	Executive Response	Officer Responsible	Action By (Date)
1. That the Council ensure that the time between the contract being awarded and implementation is increased, allowing organisations to undertake sufficient consultation and workforce planning.	Accepted	Future procurement exercises will comply with the timetable and practice of the Joint Commissioning and Performance Management Team – a minimum of 12 weeks will be allowed between contract award and commencement. This may be longer if deemed appropriate.	Joint commissioning team / Lead Officer	Immediate
2. That the Council involve Tameside Youth Workers, Senior Practitioners and Young Inspectors in the future design and monitoring of contracts; also look to increase the diversity of the children involved in the consultation process i.e representatives of different groups and primary school age children.	Accepted	We will utilise the Youth Forum, School Councils and Young Inspectors programme to ensure engagement from a range of diverse groups as part of our consultation process for future youth delivery models and contracts.  In addition, the Council will consult with partner agencies and colleagues across neighbourhoods and communities. The revised youth offer will be delivered from September 2013.	Pauline Venus	September 2013
3. That the Council look at the possibility of separating the contracts into smaller amounts, similar to the holiday grant scheme, which has the potential to encourage more local organisations to bid for contracts.	Accepted	Consideration will be given to how contracts are configured. This will include considering best outcomes for users and potential users, and for local providers.	Joint commissioning management team / Directorate	Immediate and ongoing

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4. That the Council introduce social value clauses into contract design and criteria, where possible.	Accepted	Social Value clauses will be introduced into contract design and criteria where possible and when at the appropriate opportunity.	Joint commissioning team / Lead Officer	Immediate and ongoing
5. That the Council ensure that comprehensive details relating to service delivery is made clear in the contract details and confirmed with the commissioned organisations before delivery is due to start.	Accepted	Contracts and service specifications will be clear about expected outcomes and this will be confirmed with successful organisations to ensure services delivered are reflective of the Council's expectations and requirements. Where Method Statements are used, these will be a further check that the commissioned organisation is clear about the expected outcomes.	Joint commissioning team / Lead Officer	Immediate and ongoing
6. That clear criteria is set out in the contract about the marketing that needs to be undertaken by the commissioned organisations.	Accepted	Where marketing of a service is a requirement within the service model, this will be stated explicitly in the contract and service specification.	Joint commissioning team / Lead Officer	Immediate and ongoing
7. That the Council review the type of contracts that are being offered, with regards to age range. With the possibility of delivering separate youth work for children age 8 to 11 (primary age), 11 to 16 (secondary age) and 16 to 19 (post school age).	Accepted	As part of our current remodelling of youth provision within a wider neighbourhood offer, we are reviewing all youth provision and seeking opportunities to develop new delivery models that respond to the outcome of consultation with young people and partners. This will include targeted provision for particular groups of young people, including different age groups. In addition, we will review the number of after school clubs that are delivered by schools to ensure there is no duplication in junior provision The revised youth offer will be delivered from September 2013.	Pauline Venus	September 2013

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8. That towards the end of the contract period the Council provides information to the commissioned organisations about the approach about the plans for the contracts going forward; and looks at the benefits of introducing a longer contract period.	Accepted	This will be part of standard practice. The length of a contract may need to be determined by the length of funding we know we can commit to, but generally a contract will be issued that allows for consistency and is of a sufficient length to offer stability to users of the service and the provider.	Joint commissioning team / Lead Officer	Immediate and ongoing
9. That the Council review the number of buildings that are available for commissioned organisations to use, and their location. With the view that this can improve accessibility, popularity and increase BME attendance.	Accepted	As part of the work to develop a revised youth offer from September 2013, we will review the use of buildings for delivery by both council staff and partner agencies, voluntary, community and faith organisations.	Pauline Venus	September 2013
10. That the Council ensures that a sufficient performance monitoring framework is developed, agreed and monitored with the commissioned organisations at the start of the contract. With the possibility of introducing performance targets and incentives i.e staggered payments or payment on performance.	Accepted	Contracts will reflect the monitoring details and arrangements. Where appropriate this will include targets and outcomes. Regular contract monitoring will ensure compliance with contract requirements, and where performance is not adequate, appropriate action will be taken to improve this, with action being taken where performance is not improved.	Joint commissioning team / Lead Officer	Immediate and ongoing
11. That the Council work towards improving communication between commissioners and the operational delivery of the contract.	Accepted	The service will have an identified Planning and Commissioning Officer and Contract Performance Officer who will maintain regular contact with the provider. This will include regular contract performance meetings.	Joint commissioning team / Lead Officer	Immediate and ongoing
12. That Council's internal youth services and the commissioned youth work providers meet with partners, such as the Police on a regular basis. Improving communication during contract design, the consultation process and for the duration of the contract.	Accepted	As part of our current remodelling of youth provision within a wider neighbourhood offer we will engage with partner agencies and colleagues across neighbourhoods and communities on a regular basis during the consultation and design phase.	Pauline Venus / Lisa Lees	September 2013

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13. That the Council considers the points made relating to the future options available to the commissioning of youth provision in Tameside.	Accepted	The points made in relation to future options will be taken into account when next steps are determined for future contracts and provision.	Lisa Lees / Adam Allen	September 2013