



Glasgow City Council

Contracts and Property Committee

Report by Pat Togher, Chief Officer, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership

Item 1

6th February 2025

Contact: Geri McCormick, Head of Commissioning Ext:72732

Award of the Framework Tender for Fostering Families and Adult Caring Households (Continuing Care and Aftercare) Services GCC006086SW

Purpose of Report:

- 1) To advise Contracts and Property Committee of the outcome of the tender for Fostering Families and Adult Caring Households (Continuing Care and Aftercare) Services.
- 2) To seek Contracts and Property Committee approval for the award of Contract to the recommended Providers as outlined in Section 2.3 of this report.

Recommendations:

Committee is asked to:

- a) Approve the award of a Ranked Framework Agreement for Fostering Families and Adult Caring Households (Continuing Care and Aftercare) Services to the providers as detailed within Section 2.3 of this report, for a period of three years from 1 April 2025 with an option to extend for a further year;
- b) Note that continuance of contractual arrangements will be subject to satisfactory service review outcomes being achieved; and
- c) Note that Lot 5 of this tender is unfilled.

Ward No(s):

Citywide: ✓

Local member(s) advised: Yes ☐ No ☐ consulted: Yes ☐ No ☐

1 Background to the Tender

- 1.1 Providers and fostering families / adult caring households play a key role in supporting the Council to meet its statutory duties in providing care and support to children and young people who need to be Looked After or Looked After and Accommodated (LAAC) in a family setting. Providers work in collaboration and close partnership with Social Work staff and key partner agencies, including NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (NHSGGC) and Education Services to deliver the outcomes for the children and young people as specified by the Council in the child or young person's My Plan.
- 1.2 Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership (GCHSCP) Children's Services have undertaken a profound shift in how they support families since 2016, further consolidated in the light of [The Promise](#). Children's Services aim to support families through child and family-centred services, to resolve their difficulties, and remain together, through mobilising the strengths and assets of the family, their network and services, and to mitigate and manage risks. We believe that Glasgow's children and young people can best flourish when they are able to sustain their relationships and connection to family, kin, friends, school, and community.
- 1.3 While Children's Services continue to work to prevent family breakdown and enable children and young people to be cared for within their own families, it continues to need fostering families and adult caring households for children and young people who cannot remain within their own family care in the short or long term.
- 1.4 Where children and young people cannot live within their family network, GCHSCP recognises the profound role that foster carers can play in children and young people's lives in the immediate time in their care, as they move to young adulthood and towards independence. GCHSCP want to support children and young people to sustain and develop their networks which can increase their sense of self, their resilience and understanding of their life story. GCHSCP recognises that these relationships can and may offer lifelong support to children and young people as they move into adult independent lives after formal care arrangements have ended.
- 1.5 The tender opportunity was advertised on Public Contracts Scotland on 27 August 2024 for an initial contract term of three years with an option to extend for a period of up to a further year. This framework will replace the current framework at its expiry on 31 March 2025.
- 1.6 The tender was published for 5 Lots as undernoted with a framework value of £39.6m over the 4 years:

Lot 1	Fostering Families
Lot 2	Individual Fostering Family Support
Lot 3	Adult Caring Households (Continuing Care and Aftercare)
Lot 4	Providers for Children and Young people with Complex Learning, Physical Disability and Mental Health Conditions
Lot 5	Short Breaks (Respite) Providers / Adult Caring Households

2 Evaluation

- 2.1 There were bids across the various Lots received from 10 bidders. Not all bidders submitted a bid for each of the Lots. One bid failed to meet the minimum qualifying criteria and was excluded from the tender process.
- 2.2 The tender evaluation was based on 60% Quality and 40% Price. The Quality evaluation comprised of generic questions in addition to a Lot specific question based on a case study.
- 2.3 The successful bidders for Lots 1 – 4 for this framework are as follows:

Lot 1 – Fostering Families

Provider	Rank
Barnardo's	1
The National Fostering Agency (Scotland) Ltd	2
The Adolescent & Children's Trust	3
Carevisions Fostering Ltd	4
Aberlour Child Care Trust	5
Fosterplus (Fostercare) Ltd	6
Foster Care Associates Scotland Ltd	7
Action For Children	8

Lot 2 – Individual Fostering Family Support

Provider	Rank
The Adolescent & Children's Trust	1
Aberlour Child Care Trust	2
Barnardo's	3
The National Fostering Agency (Scotland) Ltd	4
Carevisions Fostering Ltd	5
Fosterplus (Fostercare) Ltd	6
Foster Care Associates Scotland Ltd	7
Action For Children	8

Lot 3 – Adult caring households (Continuing Care and Aftercare)

Provider	Rank
Barnardo's	1
The National Fostering Agency (Scotland) Ltd	2
Fosterplus (Fostercare) Ltd	3
Carevisions Fostering Ltd	4
Aberlour Child Care Trust	5
Foster Care Associates Scotland Ltd	6
The Adolescent & Children's Trust	7
Action For Children	8

Lot 4 - Providers for Children and Young people with Complex Learning, Physical Disability and Mental Health Conditions

Provider	Rank
Carevisions Fostering Ltd	1
Quarriers	2
Fosterplus (Fostercare) Ltd	3
The National Fostering Agency (Scotland) Ltd	4
Aberlour Child Care Trust	5
Foster Care Associates Scotland Ltd	6
The Adolescent & Children's Trust	7

- 2.4 The introduction of a specific Short Break Service (Lot 5) is new to the market, and the bids received did not meet the service requirements. This Lot is therefore unfilled and GCHSCP will undertake further engagement with the market to determine next steps. Current operational processes will remain until a decision is reached on any re-tendering for Lot 5.

3 Contract Implementation and Contract Management

- 3.1 This contract will be managed under the Social Work Services Contract Management Framework.
- 3.2 The implementation plan including the transition from the existing framework will be overseen and progress monitored by the Children and Families Commissioning Team.

4 Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

Financial: The estimate framework contract value over the full four years is £39.6m.

The award is based on prices submitted during the tender which remain fixed for the duration of the contract except at the discretion of the

Council in line with any increases awarded to the Council for social care purposes.

Legal:

The Director of Legal and Administration will be required to conclude the contract.

Personnel:

No direct personnel implications.

Procurement:

The procurement has been undertaken in line with the requirements of the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015.

Council Strategic Plan: The services delivered under this contract will support;

Grand Challenge 1 to Reduce Poverty and Inequality in our communities - Mission 1 End child poverty in our city using early intervention to support families, Mission 2 Meet the learning and care needs of children and their families before and through school, Mission 3 Improve the health and wellbeing of our local communities.

Grand Challenge 2 to Increase Opportunity and Prosperity for all our citizens - Mission 1 Support Glasgow residents into sustainable and fair work, Mission 3 Raise attainment amongst Glasgow's children and young people.

Grand Challenge 4 to Enable staff to deliver essential services in a sustainable, innovative and efficient way for our communities - Mission 2 Run an open, well-governed council in partnership with all our communities, Mission 3 Enable staff to deliver a sustainable and innovative council structure that delivers value for money.

Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:

Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2021-25? Please specify.

Yes, and full EQIA has been completed and published; [Glasgow City Health and Social Partnership, Purchased Foster Care and Continuing Care \(Adult Placements\) Framework Tender](#)

What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report?

Overall, it is expected that the service to actively address equalities issues and have an ethos that shows understanding of the circumstances and experiences of children and young people. The contract includes a requirement that the Provider's staff recruitment and training reflects an understanding of and a commitment to the above.

Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio-economic disadvantage.

Foster Families support is an integral element of Glasgow's Family Support Strategy, which is underpinned by the commitments outlined within The Promise Glasgow's Promise. The service delivered will assist the Council in meeting its obligations and deliver a range of supports to children and young people in Foster Families including support to mitigate the impact of poverty.

Fair Work First was included as part of the quality evaluation with a weighting of 5%.

As part of the tender submission bidders were required to indicate the Community Benefits being offered should spend reach the values outlined at various thresholds across the contract. Community Benefit themes were Recruitment and Employment, Skills and Training, Supply Chain Development and Community Engagement.

Providers being recommended for award to this framework have offered a range of community benefits including; career events, workplace visits, recruitment from priority groups, work experience placements, trauma training sessions to education staff, community support including clean ups and tree planting, support and site visits to businesses in the Glasgow area to promote foster care, donation of surplus equipment to charities, support to organisations in the Glasgow area who work with young people, opportunities for staff to volunteer in local communities, foodbank donations, and donations to toy appeals.

Climate Impacts:

Does the proposal support any Climate Plan actions? Please specify:

A sustainability test was completed for this tender and no specific actions were identified.

What are the potential climate impacts as a result of this proposal?

N/A

Will the proposal contribute to Glasgow's net zero carbon target?

N/A

Privacy and Data

Protection Impacts:

Are there any potential data protection impacts as a result of this report
Y/N

Yes, there are potential data protection impacts as a result of this report. Social Care Providers are required to comply with GDPR and the Council's Privacy, Data Sharing and Data Protection policy requirements which form part of the contractual terms.

If Yes, please confirm that a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) has been carried out.

Yes, a DPIA has been carried out.

5 Recommendations

5.1 Committee is asked to:

- a) Approve the award of a Ranked Framework Agreement for Fostering Families and Adult Caring Households (Continuing Care and Aftercare) Services to the providers as detailed within Section 2.3 of this report, for a period of three years from 1 April 2025 with an option to extend for a further year;
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