

Officer Decision Record – Executive Decision

If Key Decision: Decision Ref. No.

B111/23

If not a Key Decision write n/a above

OFFICER DECISION RECORD ⁱ

Officer Key Decisions are subject to the Council's Call-In Procedure (Annex 9 of the Council's Constitution <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/about-the-council/freedom-of-information-and-council-data/open-data-statistics-about-hertfordshire/who-we-are-and-what-we-do/who-we-are-and-what-we-do.aspx>)

Subject: An Emotionally Based School Avoidance Support and Alternative Therapies Service for Children and Young People

Type of Decision: Executive

Key Decision (Executive Functions only): Yes

Executive Member/Committee Chairman:

Cllr Fiona Thomson

Portfolio (Executive Functions only):

Children, Young People and Families

Officer Contact: Emma Sinclair

Tel: 01438 845635

1. Decision

Option 2 – Complete Tender Process for Alternative Therapies Service and Emotional Based School Avoidance Service/Team

2. Reasons for the decision

Officers are proposing to run a tender for the provision of “Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA) and Alternative Therapies Support for Children and Young People”. The tender will be split into five lots, Lot one to four “Alternative Therapies and Lot five Emotionally Based School Avoidance.

Running the tender to obtain this new offer will allow us to reach and provide a service for those CYP whom our current provision and services have been unable to help.

3. Alternative options considered and rejected

Option 3 - Run a quotes process

Officers did not feel this is a viable option as it would limit the financial envelope that could be assigned to each category and at this point, officers are unaware of which type of therapy would be most utilised. Doing an open process allows us the flexibility to ensure the therapies available are ones that are most suited to our CYP cohort, and their individual assessed needs. This option would not suit the proposal of an EBSA team as does not provide sustainability of the service.

Option 1 - Do nothing

CYP currently do not have an offer for either element of the service and without undertaking this process we fail to provide support, advice, and guidance to the numerous CYP for whom mainstream services have not been successful and who are unable to attend school due to emotional issues. The Mental Health of these CYP could worsen without this service, and this is already increasing pressure on other services within Hertfordshire.

4. Consultation

Was any Councillor consulted? No

If yes:

(a) Comments of Executive Member/Committee Chairman (*delete as applicable*)

(b) Comments of other consultees

5. **Any conflict of interest declared by a councillor who has been consulted in relation to the decision**

None

6. **I am proceeding with the proposed decision.**

Signed: Jo fisher

Title: Executive Director of Children's Services...

Date: 07.09.2023

Copies of record to:

- All consultees
- hard & electronic copy (if required to be made available for public inspection) to Democratic Services Manager - Room 213 County Hall.ⁱⁱ

Summary of Requirements to Inform/Consult Councillors

Significance of Proposed Action	Controversial	Relevant Councillor(s) to be Consulted
Technical/Professional/ Routine	No	No need to inform or consult councillors
Technical/Professional/ Routine	Yes	Executive Functions: Consult relevant Lead Executive Member and, where appropriate, Local Councillor Non-Executive Functions: Relevant Committee Chairman and, where appropriate, Local Councillor
Local	No	Executive Functions: Inform Lead Executive Member and Local Councillor Non-Executive Functions: Inform Local Councillor
Local	Yes	Executive Functions: Consult Lead Executive Member and Local Councillor Non-Executive Functions: Consult Local Councillor

General or County-wide	No	<p>Executive Functions: Consult relevant Lead Executive Member (s)</p> <p>Non-Executive Functions: Consult relevant Committee Chairman</p>
General or County-wide	Yes	<p>Executive Functions: Consult relevant Lead Executive Member (s) and the Leader of the Council</p> <p>Non-Executive Functions: Consult relevant Committee Chairman/Leaders all Political Groups</p>