

To: SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE	Subject: RESTRICTED TENDERING PROCESSES	
From: JIM DICKIE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK		
Date: 28 AUGUST 2003	Ref: DOD/EOC	

## 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to seek homologation of a decision taken to extend the range of service providers for inclusion in two previously reported tendering exercises.

## 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. On 5 June 2003 Committee authorised a restricted tendering process for the following services commissioned under the Youth Crime Agenda, namely:

- a Group Conferencing service with funding of £143,000 allocated over 3 years;
- a Remand Fostering Scheme with an initial funding commitment of up to £200,000 per annum for two years.

## 3. TENDERING PROCESS

### Group Conferencing

- 3.1. The innovative nature of this service which focuses on the involvement of all relevant people connected with young offenders, including their families and victims, will require submissions from providers with proven experience in the restorative justice field. Committee approved a restricted tendering process be implemented on that basis and at that stage two organisations- SACRO and Children 1<sup>st</sup> -were identified as having the requisite credentials.
- 3.2. A third organisation, Barnardos, are also considered to have similar credentials. Their inclusion will improve options available to the Council and on that basis it was deemed competent to include them at the initial stage of the tendering process, which simply seeks expressions of interest.

### Remand Fostering Scheme

- 3.3. The nature of this service, as an effective alternative to youth custody, equally requires experienced providers with a proven track record. Again a restricted tendering process was approved and three organisations- Includem, Barnardos, and NCH - fitting the required criteria were initially identified. Subsequent research has identified a fourth organisation, CARE, which has substantial experience in England in this specialist service area and it was considered appropriate to include this organisation in the initial stage of the tendering process.
- 3.4. With the Convener's agreement this first phase of the tendering process has proceeded, this being conditional that progress of Barnardos and CARE in the process will be dependent upon retrospective Committee approval being given for their inclusion.

#### 4. LEGAL/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1. The legal position on this matter has been verified and no impediments to this action were identified. Standing Orders indicate that Committee approval should be sought regarding the type of tendering process to be followed. Whilst they do not require potential providers to be identified this information is given to provide greater transparency.

#### 5. RECOMMENDATION

5.1. Committee is asked to:

- (i) homologate the decision to include Barnardos in the restricted tendering process for the award of the Group Conference Service and CARE in the restricted tendering process for the Remand Fostering Scheme; and
- (ii) otherwise note the contents of this report.



**Jim Dickie**  
**Director of Social Work**  
**30 July 2003**

*For further information on this report please contact Susan Devlin, Manager, Children, Families and Justice Services.  
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