

Invitation to provide feedback to the Service Specification for Health & Social Care Staffing Agency Services for Children and Young People



Plymouth City Council intends to establish a new Framework Agreement, from which it can commission health and/or social care staffing agencies to deliver individual packages of services, on a 'call-off' basis.

Whilst subject to change, it is currently anticipated that:

- the new Framework Agreement will be in place for an initial period of 5 years, with the option for further extension;
- the indicative annual value of services to be commissioned by Plymouth City Council within the Framework Agreement will be approximately £3million per annum;
- other local authorities in the South West may also potentially opt to commission health and/or social care staffing agency services via this Framework Agreement.

The scope of the Framework Agreement will include health and/or social care staffing agency services to be provided in a range of circumstances, including but not limited to:

- a child or young person with disabilities needs 'short break' care/support in the community, enabling them to take part in a wide range of activities that other children experience;
- a child or young person with profound and complex physical or mental disabilities needs 'short break' care/support in the family home, enabling parents/carers to continue caring for them at home;
- a child or young person's level of health and/or social care need is at 'edge of care', and further escalation of need would be likely to result in the child or young person becoming 'looked after' by the local authority;
- a parent and newborn baby/ies subject to statutory children's social care intervention require support and/or supervision whilst in hospital;
- a child or young person subject to statutory children's social care intervention requires support and/or supervision whilst in hospital;
- a child or young person subject to court ordered Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) requires services to meet their needs;
- a child or young person enters local authority care in response to an 'emergency' or 'crisis' (for example acute stress experienced within a family, resulting in a breakdown of familial relationships) and whilst arrangements are made for an appropriate matched placement to meet their assessed needs;
- a 'looked after' child or young person is in transition between placements as a result of changing needs;
- the placement of a looked after child or young person is at risk of breaking down, to promote stability and continuity;
- a child or young person is in the process of reunification with their family following a period of being looked after by the local authority.

In advance of a formal procurement process, Plymouth City Council would very much welcome your organisation's views on the draft Service Specification.

It would be appreciated if you could please submit any comments via the messaging facility on the Supplying the South West portal, no later than **12 noon on Friday 8 July 2022**.

We would like to thank you in advance for engaging with this opportunity to inform the design of the final Service Specification, and look forward to receiving your feedback.