**PRE-PROCUREMENT CONSULTATION QUESTIONNAIRE**

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| **Organisation name:** |  |
| **Contact name for enquiries:** |  |
| **Contact position (job title):** |  |
| **Full contact address:** |  |
| **Telephone No.:** |  |
| **Email:** |  |
| **Website address:** |  |
| **Submission Date:** |  |

**DN485516– Emotional Wellbeing Support Team**

To help support in the development of our service specification, Wirral Council are engaging with potential service providers of mental health and emotional wellbeing support, prior to the release of any official tender documents over the next few weeks.

The aim of this questionnaire is to notify the market of our plans and to gauge interest in this opportunity with providers of mental health and emotional wellbeing services, particularly those that focus on supporting Children Looked After (CLA). This will provide Wirral Council with a controlled and a compliant route to market that focusses on added value and innovation.

Once we have engaged with the market and understand the types of services that are available a full procurement exercise will be conducted.

**Background to the project**

Wirral currently have 824 Children Looked After (CLA), and we want to ensure they have the right support with their emotional wellbeing. In December 2019 Wirral Children’s Commissioning carried out The Art of the Possible consultation, to explore what support for CLA should look like. We gathered a wealth of information that helped shape the service design. CLA told us they want consistent people in their lives and not to have to relate their story again and again, professionals including foster carers, told us they wanted to be better supported to help the young people they work with. Participants told us that placement stability, and stability in general needed to be prioritised. We heard that a non-clinical young person friendly space was needed, and that young people wanted choice. As a result, we have designed a specification that will form part of a wider approach to how we provide support.

**Overview of the service**

This emotional wellbeing support service is being commissioned to work alongside a pilot project for CLA that will be delivered by a local charity. Together the services will offer children and young people different options for support. We are looking for a provider who would welcome becoming part of a wider partnership model, as we hope to increase our delivery partners in the future and will be submitting a funding bid with this aim. The provider of this service will be expected to work closely with both social care and our community partners for the benefit of CLA.

The emotional wellbeing support provider will work with social care and our community partners to decide how to best use the resources across the services. For example, a young person might access yoga through a community provider that helps them to establish a feeling of connection and at the same time begin to access a relevant therapy through the therapeutic provider. This is a new, mixed model of support and we want the delivery partners to work closely together with the commissioners to learn what works for CLA, to find ways to flexibly respond to individuals and to work out how to use different expertise and experience to the best advantage.

The overall purpose of this service is to provide a team of 3 mental health professionals with demonstrable experience of supporting CLA, who will receive referrals, assess the emotional wellbeing needs of individual CLA and develop and monitor individual tailored therapeutic programmes. The focus of the team will be working with key professionals (social workers, foster carers, and residential workers) to deliver therapeutic programmes, not directly, but through these key professionals. The service will offer some direct delivery of therapy to children and young people, but this would be specific and time limited, and part of a wider plan for the young person. The service will provide ongoing advice and support for the key professional/s throughout the delivery of the plan, effectively mentoring them to ensure the support they provide is high quality, meets the young person’s needs and responds as they change.

**Project Goals**

**Objectives**

1. The overall purpose of Service is to provide a team of 3 mental skilled, emotionally intelligent, flexible, mental health professionals with clinically recognised qualifications (e.g. psychologist) who will work across multiple locations in Wirral
2. To assess the emotional wellbeing needs of individual CLA and plan a therapeutic programme for the individual, including planning who will be required to deliver or support the delivery of each element.
3. To offer experience of a range of appropriate therapeutic responses that support emotional wellbeing, particularly focused on trauma and anxiety related to abuse and neglect, and attachment issues. The specific range of interventions offered will be jointly agreed by the provider and commissioner but may include things like:

* Attachment therapy
* Therapeutic Parenting such as PACE
* Complex trauma/developmental trauma Therapy
* Play Therapy
* Person centred counselling
* Solution focused therapy
* Psychosocial interventions
* Creative therapies; including art therapy
* Harmful sexual behaviour therapy
* Other relevant evidence based psychological therapy

1. The team will work with the key professional to explore the young person’s needs, goals, the different options available to them and their preferred method(s) of support. They enable the key professional to support the young person to achieve specific identified outcomes wherever possible.
2. The team will offer a choice of formats for delivery, including face to face, phone and virtual. Any digital services used will be risk assessed by the provider to ensure online safety and choice of platform is secure and safe. Formats will be agreed with the key professional but will include:

· 1 to 1 consultation delivered in person in a partner venue

· 1 to 1 consultation delivered virtually or via telephone

· Group sessions for professionals only

· Group sessions for children and young people and their key professional

· Virtual training sessions via Teams which can be recorded and shared

· Face to face training sessions

· Attendance at multiagency meetings

· Providing written (report or email) practical strategies for support

· Other options suggested by young people, professionals, or the team

1. The team will work closely with the identified community partners to ensure children and young people access the best service(s) for them at that time and move between services smoothly as their needs change. The provider will actively ensure the young person’s consent to share information between partners and the commissioner.
2. The team will ensure the young person can access some form of appropriate ongoing support at times of instability, that offers continuity and builds relationships.
3. The team will actively contribute to placement stability.
4. The team will work closely with the commissioner and other partners to capture and share learning from the delivery of this service to shape future service design.

**Contract Value**

The approximate value of this contract will be £200,000.

**Procurement Structure**

Whilst the service requirements stated within this document are an early indication of what the services are looking to procure, the structure of this procurement may be subject to change and will be finalised following this consultation with the market.

**Pre-Procurement Consultation Questionnaire**

Wirral Council would like to hear from your company including any views, suggestions and proposals as part of this early market engagement exercise.

Responses should be entered in table below within the text spaces and the columns highlighted.

Pre-Procurement Questionnaire

Interested parties should respond to the questions outlined below.  Please do not exceed the word count limit stated.   All submissions will be treated confidentially. Please note you are **not** required to respond to all questions.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Please feedback your thoughts on the model outlined, specifically the point about practitioners focusing mainly on enabling other professionals to support CLA, rather than supporting them directly. | |
|  | *500 words* |
| 2 | Please feedback your thoughts on the model outlined, specifically working as part of a wider partnership model and the developing approaches as the partnership progresses? |  |
|  |  | *500 words* |
| 3 | Do you envisage any problems relating to questions 1 and 2? If so, what changes would you make? | |
|  | *500 words* |
| 4 | Please give details of any learning from current or previous experience you have of delivering a similar model. | |
|  | *500 words* |
| 5 | What innovation would your company bring to this service? | |
|  | *500 words* |
| 6 | Do you think the pricing is realistic and would deliver suitably qualified and experienced practitioners? | |
|  | *500 words* |
| 7 | How would your service envisage the delivery of clinical supervision for the team of practitioners? | |
|  | *500 words* |
| 8 | In light of COVID-19 can you indicate a realistic timescale your company would be able to mobilise this service and any adaptations you may require in order to mobilise. The earliest start date for this contract would be 01.10.20 | |
|  | *500 words* |

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**Any responses to this market engagement exercise imply no commitment on providers to engage in any subsequent procurement process, nor do they confer any advantaged status or guarantee of inclusion in any subsequent procurement process for those Providers who do respond. The questionnaire and all responses received are in no way legally binding on any party.**

**Wirral reserve the right to withdraw this notice at any time. Wirral Council are not bound to accept any proposals submitted by Providers and will not be liable for any costs incurred as a result of Providers engaging with this process. This Early Market Engagement Exercise does not guarantee that procurement will take place and Wirral Council reserves the right to defer from any procurement entirely.**

**THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS 12pm 15.07.2020**