

**SOFT MARKET TESTING EXERCISE**

**Birmingham’s Young People’s (10 – 25 years) Substance Misuse Service**

**Closing date for submission of response**

**12:00hrs (NOON) Monday 7th August 2024**

**This Soft Market Testing exercise forms part of research around the future commissioning options for the service.**

**It is purely investigatory in nature, although it may be used to assist the Council in defining both how viable it is as a proposition and a potential preferred procurement route to advance this programme (which may include the Most Suitable Provider Process).**

**Providing a response will not preclude your participation in any future procurement exercise.**

# Introduction

Birmingham City Council is seeking expressions of interest to inform commissioners of the provider landscape to aid understanding of the market and to help identify suitable providers to deliver Birmingham’s Children and Young Peoples’ (10 – 25 years old) Substance Misuse Service.

## Children and Young People’s (10 – 25 years) Substance Misuse Service

The Children and Young People’s (CYP) Substance Misuse Service is delivered by a single provider from a central location and co-located venues. It is a Single Point of Access (SPOA) for Young People up to the age of 25. Upwards of 700 young people access the service yearly with the following key commissioning intentions:

* Reducing risky behaviours associated with substance misuse
* Work with CYP and their families to build protective factor for those with vulnerabilities in a holistic approach.
* A primary prevention offer to 10-15 year olds of the harm of drugs and alcohol.

**The Young people’s service delivers:**

* Outreach and engagement team that works across different organisations such as the Youth service, universities and the nighttime economy.
* Family support offer that works with those who are affected by others substance misuse.
* Evolve café for young people based on youth hub model.
* The service offers support to service users up to the age of 25. This approach aligns with internal and external partners such as social care, housing and mental health teams. The transition cohort offers flexibility and continuity for those young people already engaged with the CYP service and therefore offering choice for those CYP who may not be ready to transition into the adult service and/or have additional needs i.e., mental health, housing, disability and vulnerabilities.
* Co-location with 4 Youth Offending Team (YOT) bases across the city with a strong emphasis on a partnership approach across; accommodation/homelessness, exploitation, substance use, mental health, crime, education and networks.

# Key Details of Young People Substance Misuse service

**Financial Envelope**

The estimated core contract value for the proposed Young People’s service is £1.2 million per year.

**Contract Duration**

Subject to confirmation, the contract is expected to be for a minimum period of 5 years with a potential option to extend for a yet to be determined period.

**Premises**

The Young Peoples’ Substance Misuse will operate from a location easily accessible to Birmingham city centre. Workers maintain the current co-location commitments and fluid approach to working with key partner organisations.

# Requirements for Young People Substance Misuse service

**Provider Turnover**

The prospective Young People’s Service Provider will be expected to have a turnover of a least £2,400,000 per year.

**Experience**

Evidence of five to ten years of delivering Young Peoples’ Substance Misuse Service as a single provider will be required.

**Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations (TUPE)**

There is an expectation that TUPE may apply to this contract. Prospective providers will be expected to have experience of TUPE transfer and mobilisation of a complex service.

# Expressions of Interest Questionnaire

Birmingham City Council is looking for informal expressions of interest on the above mentioned service. At this stage to establish the level of market interest. Please click on the link below to complete the expression of interest form on MS Forms

# <https://forms.office.com/e/9mii3dnK2x>

# e-Tendering System

The Soft Market Test (SMT) exercise is being issued via the Council’s e-tendering system, In-tend, with a link to an MS Form questionnaire. Interested organisations are requested to complete and submit the questionnaire using the link provided.

Responses from the questionnaire will only be made available to the relevant Public Health officers and/or their advisers in respect of this SMT exercise.

The ‘In-tend’ system is secure and free to use for organisations. If you have any questions on how to use this web site please contact the CPS Help Desk email [cps@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:cps@birmingham.gov.uk).

# Communications

All formal communications (including, but not limited to clarifications) to the Council are to be made in writing using the Council’s e-tendering system In-tend. Under no circumstances should Council Officers be contacted directly.

# Confidentiality

All information supplied by the Council in connection with this SMT exercise shall be regarded as confidential by the organisation (except that such information may as is necessary be disclosed for the purpose of obtaining information necessary for the preparation of the response).

All responses will be kept in confidence but may be taken into consideration by the Council.