



Proposed re-tender of Child Sexual Exploitation Support and Return Home Interview Services

The Council is proposing to tender a new service for Child Sexual Exploitation Support and Return Home Interview Services to start on 1st November 2018. The contract will be for an initial period of three years with the option for two extensions of one year each.

As part of the development of the procurement approach for this tender, we wish to gather the views of providers on the proposed model. At the end of this document, you will therefore find a series of questions that we would welcome responses to.

The local picture in Camden

Camden is highly committed to tackling child sexual exploitation and providing support to victims and those at risk.

There has been significant interest paid nationally to child sexual exploitation recently, due to media coverage of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) in Rotherham and the Office of the Children's Commissioner Report on CSE and Gangs. Media reporting, nationwide, of an increasing threat to children and young people from CSE has raised concerns among politicians and professionals about the effectiveness of the current services to keep children and young people safe.

Camden offers individual support for young people who are at risk of child sexual exploitation. The support involves working very closely with individual young people, social workers and key professionals.

In Camden, there is currently one contract commissioned for CSE support and one for Return Home Interviews. The same provider delivers both elements. In addition, another provider is funded by MOPAC to work specifically around CSE and Gangs referrals.

Camden has a Missing and CSE Coordinator who uses information from commissioned services, social workers and partners to present key demographics in the CSE and Missing cohort, gather intelligence and provide a clear local picture of needs and support offered.

Key Demographics

In 2016/17, 78 risk assessments were undertaken in Camden. 86% of these were for females and 14 % males.

Fifty-one (51) young people were aged 10-15 and 27 were 16+.

The ethnicities of those young people receiving a CSE risk assessment in 15/16 and 16/17 were as follows:

Ethnic Group	% of Young People 2015/16	% of Young People 2016/17
White Ethnic Group	48%	42%
Black or Black British Ethnic Group	23%	31%
Mixed Ethnic Group	17%	15%
Asian or Asian British Ethnic Group	9%	9%

The most prevalent risk factors for young people receiving a RA are below.

Presenting Factor	2015/16		2016/17	
	No. of CSE RAs	% CSE Cohort	No. of CSE RAs	% CSE Cohort
Low self esteem	80	49%	66	58%
Substance misuse	75	46%	57	50%
Sexual risk taking behaviour	75	46%	50	44%
Sudden change in behaviour or appearance	56	34%	40	35%
Sudden change in pattern of school attendance	39	24%	37	32%
Self-harming	35	21%	35	31%
Presence of STI's or pregnancy	14	9%	7	6%

The models of CSE identified in the past 2 years are below.

CSE Model	2015/16		2016/17	
	No. of CSE RAs	% of CSE Cohort	No. of CSE RAs	% of CSE Cohort
Peer Exploitation	63	45%	31	43%
Inappropriate Relationship	36	25%	23	31%
Online Exploitation	35	24%	11	15%
Organised Exploitation	9	6%	8	11%

2016/17 has reflected the same trend in prevalence of each model, with a decrease in the proportion of online exploitation. The higher figures in 2015/16 were impacted by there being a larger number of assessments where multiple types of CSE models per individual child were selected, 34 compared to 9 in 2016/17.

Partnership working is key to delivering the best outcomes for children who go missing or are at risk of CSE.

The following agencies all made referrals to MASH relating to CSE in 2016/17:

- Police
- School
- Voluntary Sector
- GP
- Family
- National Crime Agency
- Other local authority
- Camden Social Services
- Health (e.g. Hospitals)

The Proposed New Commissioned Service:

It is proposed that the new service is commissioned as a single contract delivering both CSE Support and Return Home Interviews as follows:

Title	Service details
CSE Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1-1 Support for young people identified as being at risk of CSE • Engagement in strategy and MASE (Multi-agency Sexual Exploitation Meetings) to care plan for children. • Delivery of workforce development sessions to the Camden Workforce
Return Home Interviews	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1:1 interviews for young people who have been reported missing • Assertive outreach for engagement in community venues including home and school • Intelligence gathering to support the safety of children and young people • Ensuring information and interviews are recorded and shared

The proposed budget for this CSE / Missing service is £110,000 per annum.

Organisations will be required to bid for both elements of the service. The Council will welcome partnership bids, particularly those involving VCS and specialist providers.

Current capacity and delivery

CSE:

The current provider has achieved the following outputs for CSE delivery in 2016/17:

- One to one CSE support for 16 young people
- 7 training sessions for the Camden workforce
- Attendance at MASE and CSCB subgroup regularly and strategy meetings when required

Missing / Return Home Interviews

In 2014/15 and 2015/16, the following RHI's were undertaken by the commissioned service.

YEAR	QUARTER 1	QUARTER 2	QUARTER 3	QUARTER 4	TOTAL
2014-15	25	26	40	52	143
2015-16	79	60	48	51	238

In 2016/17, the provider undertook Return Home interviews for 62% of all the children reported missing over the year.

Statutory Information and Guidance

The service will help the Council meet its statutory duties under the Children Act.

Section 13 of the Children Act 2004 requires local authorities and other named statutory partners to make arrangements to ensure that their functions are discharged with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. This includes planning to prevent children from going missing and to protect them when they do.

Home Office guidance, in line with recommendations from the Home Office Select Committee states that:

All missing children will have an independent return home interview within 72 hours of their return.

Other local developments

The Child House pilot for victims of Child Sexual Abuse and CSE will be established in North Central London and based in Camden.

There will clearly be strong links and pathways that will need to be established between the Child House and the CSE and Missing service. These links will need to be considered as part of any bid to deliver services and further information on the Child House will be made provided to interested organisations when available.

We would like to receive feedback on the following areas and any other comments that you may have. Organisations will have the opportunity to ask questions on the specifications once the procurement process is underway.

QUESTIONS

1. What is your level of interest in bidding for this service?
2. Do you have experience of delivering CSE support or return home interview services? If so, please give further details
3. What would you see as the key delivery challenges for this service?
4. What do you see as the key opportunities for service development and partnerships?
5. Will you be considering working in a partnership model to deliver these services with other providers?
6. Can you comment on the feasibility of delivering the service within the maximum budget set out above?
7. In what ways do you think this service could deliver additional social value to Camden? E.g. addition benefits to the Camden economy, environment or community.

8. Do you have any other comments?
9. Would you be willing to meet with us to discuss your views about this proposed procurement further? (If so, please provide contact details).

We would be grateful if responses to these questions could be submitted to Jennie Mackeith, Strategic Commissioning Manager, by 1st February 2018. **(Due to IT problems on 1st February, the deadline for responses to this questionnaire has changed to 12 noon on Thursday 8th February 2018.**

Responses should be sent by email to Jennie.mackeith@camden.gov.uk

Face-to-Face meetings will be available during February if you wish to discuss further.

Following this market testing exercise, the Council expects to run a procurement exercise with the following indicative timescale, which we reserve the right to amend:

Tender advert placed on EU Supply	Early April 2018
Deadline for submissions of tenders	Mid-June 2018
Tender presentations and evaluation	Mid-June 2018
Award of contract	Early July 2018
Contract start	November 1 st 2018

If you are interested in this or any of our advertised contract notices, please register on the Councils e-tendering system, EU Supply (<https://www.eu-supply.com>) -register online. See the link below for more information:

www.camden.gov.uk/ccm/navigation/business/tenders-and-contracts/

Tenders will also be advertised in on the following websites, please see links below:

www.competefor.com

<https://www.gov.uk/contracts-finder>

Note

Interested parties will not be prejudiced by any response or failure to respond to this soft market testing/sounding exercise. A response to this notice does not guarantee any invitation to participate in any future public procurement process that the Council may conduct.

This notice does not constitute a call for competition to procure any services for the Council and the Council is not bound to accept any proposals offered. The Council is not liable for any costs, fees or expenses incurred by any party participating in the soft market testing/sounding exercise. Any procurement of any services by the Council in due course will be carried out strictly in accordance with the provisions of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

Any responses provided will not be treated as commercially confidential and may be used by the Council in the final service specifications used for the contracts but no organisation will be individually identified.