

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Executive Decision Record

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
<b>Date:</b>	23 March 2012
<b>Title:</b>	Supported Lodgings tendering approval
<b>Reference:</b>	3466
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Children's Services

**Contact name:** Sue Roch, Head of Strategy & Commissioning

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#### 1. The decision:

1.1. That the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services approves the joint tendering exercise with Adult Services for Supported Lodgings with an estimated contract value of £3.4m (Children's Services £2.3m, Adult Services £1.14m) to commence 1 April 2013 for 3 years.

#### 2. Reason(s) for the decision:

2.1. To provide young people, looked after children and care leavers aged 16+ in Hampshire with safe and secure accommodation in conjunction with an element of support as an alternative to Bed and Breakfast accommodation, Foster Care, Residential Children's Homes or as a result of homelessness. A recommendation from the recent OFSTED inspection in June 2011 was to reduce the usage of Bed and Breakfast accommodation for looked after children, this decision will support Children's Services in achieving targets set.

2.2. There are several benefits of tendering for Supported Lodgings jointly between Adult Services and Children's Services these include:

- an opportunity to improve services and outcomes for young people
- working together will enable the two departments to exploit scale economies in contract rates and reduce the cost of commissioning
- ensure greater equity and consistency of services for Supported Lodgings users across Hampshire

2.3. This decision supports the statutory duties Hampshire County Council owe to young people who face homelessness under Section 20 of the Children Act 1989. Supported Lodgings can provide suitable and low cost accommodation to young people pending assessment of their needs and to further accommodate a young person if required.

2.4. This decision supports the priorities and outcomes of the Hampshire Children and Young People Plan, including:

- ensuring that children and young people are safe and feel safe
- enabling them to build resilience and personal confidence
- to reduce the incidence and impact of poverty on the achievement and life chances of children and young people.

2.5. This decision supports the priorities and outcomes of the Hampshire 'Open for Business' Plan, in particular:

- improving quality of life for all, particularly those who are vulnerable or disadvantaged
- enhancing community engagement and partnership working
- developing service provision through the award of contracts to voluntary organisations who provide services covering those priorities.

**3. Other options considered and rejected:**

**3.1** Other options to be considered were for Children's Services and Adult Services to tender for Supported Lodgings separately. This decision was rejected as the benefits of jointly tendering the contracts were seen to be more beneficial than tendering separately as identified in point 2.2.

**3.2 Conflicts of interest:**

3.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: none.

3.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: none.

**4. Dispensation granted by the Standards Committee:** none.

**5. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent:** not applicable.

**6. Statement from the Decision Maker:**

**Approved by:**

**Date:**

**23 March 2012**

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**Executive Lead Member for Children's Services  
Councillor Roy Perry**