

Schools Procurement

Context

- ❑ ISS contract awarded in 2012 for five years with the option for extensions until 2021
- ❑ Procurement plan to tender for a new contract to be awarded by July 2019
- ❑ 48 schools confirmed as participants in the new contract - a reduction of 20
- ❑ Problems were identified in the tender documentation
- ❑ Lot of work done to resolve but were left with no option but to abandon the process
- ❑ Team working on options to secure ongoing provision

Proposal

- ❑ To maintain service continuity a one year extension of the ISS contract to July 2020 was proposed
- ❑ The pricing structure proposed by ISS for the extension was unacceptable to schools
- ❑ Negotiations were undertaken to reduce the cost to burden on schools
- ❑ The Council proposed to provide a subsidy to keep prices at the current rates for the one year extension – this was subject to schools making a 5p contribution to the cost of UIFSM/FSM
- ❑ Confirmation of which schools would participate in the extended contract was required – some indicated they would make other arrangements

Risk

- ❑ Council has been supporting schools to identify risks
- ❑ TUPE transfer of staff –
 - Timing for consultation
 - Transfer of liability
- ❑ Legal challenge from entering into non compliant contractual arrangements
- ❑ Service provision failure for some schools
- ❑ Inadequate protection in the contract structures
- ❑ Reputation

Way forward

- ❑ The Council has further considered the situation and has revised the proposal
- ❑ The Council will cover the full cost of the subsidy for the one year extension to July 2020 but will **not** now require the schools to make a 5p contribution
- ❑ This will retain the current pricing across all 48 schools
- ❑ The offer is made on the basis schools now make a firm commitment to the contract for the extension period
- ❑ This is the Councils final position

One Year Extension

- ❑ Extension gives sufficient time to ensure a robust and compliant process delivers a workable solution
- ❑ Lessons learned about current issues to be understood and incorporated into the overall approach
- ❑ Emerging complexities in the market to be accounted for
- ❑ Plan for extensive engagement with schools on the specification etc. to start early in the autumn
- ❑ Agreed communications plan to run in parallel
- ❑ Contracts management for quality issues
- ❑ Review process to be carried out