

SCHEDULE 1

SERVICE SPECIFICATION

PART 1 – THE SPECIFICATION

1. The Service is to provide high quality, solo fostering placements for children and young people with complex needs, including in some cases disabled children.
2. The children and young people will have a variety of needs and could present with any of the following:
 - Conduct disorder
 - Self harm
 - Socially abusive behaviour
 - Soiling
 - Violence towards peers
 - ADHD
 - Substance misuse
 - Offending behaviour
 - Special Educational Needs
 - Severe physical, sensory or learning disability.
3. The Service is aimed primarily at the 11-15 age group but could be required for a small number of children under 11 years.
4. The Council is looking primarily for long-term placements but some placements could be short-term.
5. The focus of the Service is to prevent children and young persons being placed inappropriately in residential provision and, where appropriate, to

provide fostering placements for children and young people who are currently placed in residential accommodation.

6. The Service Provider shall recruit, train and register foster carers to provide up to 30 placements over the period of the contract as follows:
 - Phase 1, 1-10 placements, target timescale for 10 placements 18 months from commencement of contract
 - Phase 2, 11-20 placements, target timescale for 20 placements 30 months from commencement of contract.
 - Phase 3, 21-30 placements, target timescale for 30 placements 42 months from commencement of contract.
7. The Service Provider shall ensure that foster carers providing these placements shall not provide placements for other looked after children at the same time.
8. The Service Provider shall ensure that foster carers providing these placements live in Dorsetshire or within 15 miles of the Dorsetshire County Boundary.
9. The Council and the Service Provider shall work in a spirit of partnership to identify children and young people who could potentially benefit from this service and to develop plans to enable placements to be made. The parties shall meet on a monthly basis to plan for placements and on a six monthly basis to review the Framework Agreement.
10. The Proposal as submitted by the Service Provider as part of its tender bid for this Contract shall form a part of this Service Specification.