

CABINET MEETING – 15 APRIL 2015

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I

Title of Report:

PROCUREMENT OF CARE AND SUPPORT AT HOME

Author(s):

Executive Director of People Services

Purpose of Report:

The purpose of the report is to seek Cabinet approval to procure care and support at home services from 2016 onwards.

Description of Decision:

To approve the decision to procure care and support at home services from 2016 onwards

Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework? **Yes**

If not, Council approval is required to change the Budget/Policy Framework

Suggested reason(s) for Decision:

The decision to procure care and support at home services will:

- Ensure that there are services in place to meet the care and support needs of people either now or in the future
- Support the Council to meet its obligations under the Care Act, specifically with regard to promoting well-being and market shaping and commissioning
- Allow fair and equal access to all interested providers to tender for care and support at home services
- Ensure value for money is achieved

Alternative options to be considered and recommended to be rejected:

Do not procure care and support at home services – this option has been rejected as without a framework agreement with providers in the care and support sector, the Council will have no control over either the price of services or the quality of service provision. This may have a negative impact on: the Council's financial resources should providers choose to increase their prices; those needing care and support services; the care and support market which may become destabilised.

Impacts analysed:

Equality **Privacy** **Sustainability** **Crime and Disorder**

Is this a “Key Decision” as defined in the Constitution?
Yes

Is it included in the 28 Notice of Decisions?
Yes

Scrutiny Committee

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PEOPLE SERVICES

PROCUREMENT OF CARE AND SUPPORT AT HOME

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek Cabinet approval to procure care and support at home services from 2016 onwards.

2. DESCRIPTION OF DECISION (RECOMMENDATIONS)

- 2.1 Cabinet are recommended to approve the decision to procure care and support at home services from 2016 onwards.

3. CURRENT POSITION AND WAY FORWARD

- 3.1 The Council has commissioned care and support at home under a framework agreement with eight providers since 2012 at a fixed hourly rate of £11.40. The framework terminates on 2 January 2016.
- 3.2 The services commissioned enable people who have care and support needs, including older people, people with learning disabilities, physical disabilities and mental health needs to live as independently as possible within their own homes and communities. Providers are subject to contract monitoring which ensures that they are accountable to the Council and that quality of service is maintained.
- 3.3 In order to continue to secure best value and ensure quality of the services provided, the Council intends to continue to commission care and support at home services through a framework arrangement, following a tender process.
- 3.4 The value of the procurement will be in excess of £250,000 and the contract will be for up to five years.
- 3.5 To be informed by market scoping carried out Procurement, the detailed service model and commissioning arrangements are still being determined, but will take into account various factors including:
- The price of the contract: the hourly rate of the current contract is £11.40, this will be reviewed taking into consideration the following:
 - the Council's forecast financial position to ensure that we achieve value for money and can meet the cost of the demand on the contract within the budget available
 - The Council's duty as set out in the Care Act with regard to local sustainability – we will need to ensure that the rate is sustainable for the home care market, taking into account the National Minimum Wage and the Council's duty to ensure a high quality market through workforce development and remuneration

- the rates paid by other local authorities to ensure that we are comparative
- The current position of the care and support market, this will include not only seeking feedback from providers about potential service models i.e. zoned working arrangements which reduce travelling time for staff, but also having discussions with the market around potential rates and what these will cover
- Developments within the local health and social care system e.g. Recovery at Home Services
- The social value of the service and the requirements of the Care Act.

4. REASONS FOR THE DECISION

4.1 The decision to procure care and support at home services will:

4.1.1 Ensure that there are services in place to meet the care and support needs of people either now or in the future and it will support the Council to meet its obligations under the Care Act, specifically:

- Well-being: Local Authorities must promote well-being when carrying out any of its care and support functions in respect of a person, this includes the concept of independent living. Well-being must also include a focus on delaying and preventing care and support needs and supporting people to live as independently as possible for as long as possible.
- Market shaping and commissioning: Local Authorities must facilitate and shape their market for adult care and support; influence and change the market to ensure there is a diverse range of care and support providers, ensure continuous improvement of quality and choice and better, innovative cost effective outcomes that promote the well-being of people who need care and support.

4.1.2 Allow fair access to all interested providers to tender for care and support at home services

4.1.3 Ensure value for money is achieved

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

5.1 The following options have been considered and rejected:

5.1.1 Do not procure care and support at home services – this option has been rejected as without a framework agreement with providers in the care and support sector, the Council will have no control over either the price of services or the quality of service provision. This may have a negative impact on: the Council's financial resources should providers choose to increase their prices; those needing care and support services; the care and support market which may become destabilised.

6. OTHER RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS / CONSULTATIONS

6.1 Financial Implications

We will consult fully with the Director of Finance to consider the financial implications and, where relevant, to demonstrate any required efficiencies

6.2 Procurement

Procurement have been consulted on the decision to procure care and support services at home from 2016 onwards.

7. Background Papers

None

