

CABINET MEETING – 12 FEBRUARY 2014

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I

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Title of Report: Procurement of Independent Adults Advocacy Services									
Author(s): Executive Director of People Services									
Purpose of Report: Approve the procurement of the provision of Independent Adult Advocacy Services. The value of the contract will be over £250,000 and as such Cabinet approval is being sought for the procurement to proceed									
Description of Decision: Approve the procurement of Independent Adults Advocacy Services for the period of 2014 – 2016. This will cover the specific needs relating to Independent Advocacy support for Adults. A current review of Independent Advocacy Services is being undertaken which will identify the specific services and outcomes to be achieved.									
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 current extended contractual arrangements for the Adult Independent Advocacy Services will end on 31 st May 2014. Local Authorities have a statutory responsibility to provide, Independent Mental Capacity Advocate, Relevant Person Representative, Independent Mental Health Advocate, and Deprivation of Liberties Independent Advocacy. By undertaking the procurement, the Council can provide a service that meets statutory and non-statutory obligations in regard to the provision of Independent Advocacy and allow options for improving the service be explored during the service review.									
Alternative options to be considered and recommended to be rejected: No Change – this is not possible as there are no further extension options available in the current contracts.									
Impacts analysed: <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="border: none;">Equality</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; text-align: center; width: 40px;">x</td> <td style="border: none;">Privacy</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; text-align: center; width: 40px;">n/a</td> <td style="border: none;">Sustainability</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; text-align: center; width: 40px;">n/a</td> <td style="border: none;">Crime and Disorder</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; text-align: center; width: 40px;">n/a</td> </tr> </table>		Equality	x	Privacy	n/a	Sustainability	n/a	Crime and Disorder	n/a
Equality	x	Privacy	n/a	Sustainability	n/a	Crime and Disorder	n/a		
Is this a “Key Decision” as defined in the Constitution? Yes	Scrutiny Committee:								
Is it included in the 28 Day Notice of Decisions? Yes									

REPORT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PEOPLE SERVICES**1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek approval for the procurement of Adult Independent Advocacy Service Services for 2014 – 2016.

2. Description of Decision (Recommendations)

- 2.1 To approve the procurement of Adult Independent Advocacy Services. The value of the contract will be over £250,000 and as such Cabinet approval is being sought for the procurement to proceed.

3. Background

- 3.1 People Service Directorate, commission's charitable and voluntary sector providers to deliver a range of Adult Independent Advocacy Services with the aim of promoting independence and improving health and well-being. This includes working together to safeguard people and protect their rights.

4. Current Position

- 4.1 People Service Directorate currently commissions the following Adult Independent Advocacy:
- Independent Advocacy Service (Vulnerable Adults)
 - Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy (IMCA)
 - Deprivation of Liberty (DoLS),
 - Relevant Persons Representative (RPR)
 - General advocacy for vulnerable adults.
 - Independent Mental Health Advocacy (IMHA) Service
- 4.2 There is an ongoing review of advocacy services commissioned by People's Services Directorate, and options for future commissioning of advocacy services to be identified, considered and agreed.
- 4.3 Corporate Procurement will undertake a commercial options appraisal to ensure that the most advantageous procurement route is taken forward to ensure value for money is achieved.
- 4.4 Current contracts have been extended for a further 6 months to allow the review to inform the procurement process and decisions.
- 5. Reasons for the Decision**
- 5.1 The current extended contractual arrangements for the Adult Independent Advocacy Services will end on 31 May 2014.
- 5.2 Local Authorities have a statutory responsibility to provide, IMCA, RPR, IMHA & DOL Independent Advocacy

- 5.2 By undertaking the procurement, the Council can provide a service that meets statutory and non-statutory obligations in regard to the provision of Independent Advocacy and allow options for improving the service be explored during the service review.

6. Alternative Options

- 6.1 No Change – this is not possible as there are no further extension options available in the current contracts

7. Impact Analysis

- 7(a) Equalities** –As part of the procurement exercise, an Equality Impact Assessment will be completed, which will identify the impacts to individuals using the current services and any potential impacts for future users of the services

8. Other Relevant Considerations / Consultations

- 8.1 As part of the review of Advocacy services the following Consultations have been undertaken.
- 8.2 Consultations via NEPO have been undertaken with Advocacy providers. This consultation was to understand the market position and receive feedback for potential Advocacy Models
- 8.3 Consultation has also been undertaken with Both Children's' and Adults Social Care Staff. To understand social care requirements of a Advocacy service
- 8.4 It has been identified that Children's Advocacy will be part of a regional tender process and will not be included in this procurement process. As the future Advocacy model is still being developed Children's Advocacy could be included within this process if required.
- 8.5 A consultation with Advocacy Service User's via a questionnaire was undertaken in April 2013. To inform of the service user experience of using advocacy services and to identify any recommendations.
- 8.6 The information received through these consultations have identified a number of options available to deliver Advocacy and will be taken forward and inform the development of the future Advocacy model and service specification.