

London Borough of Enfield

Subject: Prevention and Early Intervention Contract Extension

Cabinet Member: Cllr Alev Cazimoglu

Executive Director: of People Tony Theodoulou

Key Decision: 5492

Purpose of Report

- 1 This report seeks approval to extend the five contracts held by those organisations who were awarded the Prevention and Early Intervention contracts at the Cabinet meeting held on 18th October 2017. The extension period in the Cabinet Report was for a period of 2 +2 years at the expiry of the initial term of three years dependent on performance.
- 2 In November 2020 the Director of Adult Social Care gave approval to the initial 2 years extension and this further 2-year extension will complete the full term of the contracts and services will be re-tendered in 2024.
- 3 The specifications for these contracts focus on supporting vulnerable people in the community, and helping them to help themselves to live safe, healthy and independently within their home. A consortia approach was encouraged with one organisation acting as Management Lead.
- 4 Each contract is based on an outcome to be achieved in accordance to their individual specification

Proposal

- 5 To approval to extend the 5 Early Intervention and Prevention contacts. The final extension period will be from 1st December 2022 to 30th November 2024
 - I. Outcome 1- awarded to Enfield Carers Centre for the delivery of the contract *Helping People Continue Caring Service - £342k per annum value.*
 - II. Outcome 2 - awarded to Age UK Enfield for the delivery of the contract *Supporting vulnerable adults to remain living healthily and*

independently in the community including avoiding crises - £267k per annum value.

III Outcome 4 - awarded to Enfield Disability Action. (EDA) for delivery of the contract *Helping Vulnerable Adults to Have a Voice* - £167k per annum value.

IV Outcome 5 - awarded to Alpha Care Ltd for the delivery of contract *People recover from illness, safe and appropriate discharge from hospital* - £124k per annum value.

V Outcome 6 awarded to Community Barnet for the delivery of the contract *Increased and improved information provision* - £212k per annum value.

Total Cost £1,112k

Because of the value of the contracts associated with Outcome 1 and 2 the extension period will require a seal deed

Reason for Proposal

- 6 Outcome 1 is a legal requirement that local authorities work to support carers in the community under the Care Act 2014 .
- 7 Local Authorities have a duty to prevent, reduce and delay need for support including the needs of carers.
- 8 The contracts in 2017 were awarded on 3-year basis with the of extension by 2 + 2 years dependent on performance. This represents the final 2-year extension
- 9 All the organisations commissioned to undertake the Early Intervention and Prevention contracts have produced monitoring reports and maintained a good level of operational performance
- 10 In March 2021 the activities of Outcome 5 were consolidated with activities of an agreement commissioned by Health to Alpha Care to form a project within the Section 75 portfolio. This arrangement is working well and the numbers of patients/service users who are supported to return home following a hospital stay has increased over the past 12 months

Relevance to the Council Plan

11 Good homes in well-connected neighbourhood.

A collaborative approach to delivering localise preventative support, targeting vulnerable people living within the most deprived wards in the borough

Sustain strong and Healthy Communities

Focus on helping people to look after themselves and/or the people they care for.

Improved well-being of borough communities and provide guidance and support to maintain self-help

To Build our local economy to create a thriving place

The Voluntary Sector is one of Enfield's strengths, providing support to our many specific communities where statutory provision uptake is limited. Such organisations also provide a cost saving to statutory service budgets by supporting people within their community and ensure health and wellbeing are maintained and/or improved. These organisations also help prevent social isolation of some of our most vulnerable residents by providing social activities, information and face to face contact

Background:

- 12 In December 2017 Adult Social Care (ASC) Service Development Team commissioned four contracts based on Prevention and Early Intervention Services aimed at the Voluntary and Community Sector. These contracts replaced ASC Voluntary Sector funding and the length of the contracts for Outcome 1, 2, 4, and 5 are all for 3 years, plus 2 + plus 2 years based on performance which is monitored on a quarterly basis. Outcome 3 was awarded in 2021 on a fixed term basis. The contract was awarded to Enfield Voluntary Action for the delivery of the contract *Supporting People to Improve their Health and Well-being and Improving Self-Management*. *The value of this contract is £141k per annum*
- 13 There had also been a delay in the start of Outcome 6 contract in 2017. The specification was reviewed and the service retendered. Due to the delay in contract award this contract was extended for 20 months from 1st April 2021 to 30th November 2022. This extension brought Outcome 6 contract in line with all of the Prevention and Early Intervention contracts expiry date of 30th November 2024.
- 14 All the organisations commissioned to undertake the Early Intervention
and
Prevention contracts have produced quarterly monitoring reports and maintained a good level of operational performance. Their service users' surveys undertaken quarterly has demonstrated high customer satisfaction and improvements to individual health and well-being.
- 15 End of year evaluations have demonstrated that all organisations have performed to a good standard and have shown their ability to diversify their staffing skills and service model to support vulnerable people throughout the pandemic. See attached appendix

- 16 All specification and KPI have been reviewed as part of the second extension and will be reviewed again early in 2024 to ensure service delivery remains relevant to the priorities of ASC and local needs
- 17 The NHS North Central London CCG, now succeeded by the Integrated Care Board (ICB) also commissioned Alpha Care Ltd to undertake a contract called 'Take Home and Settle'. The focus of this contract is to ensure a safe discharge of patients who are medically optimised to return to their home. The contract outcomes were similar to Outcome 5 and because of this a proposal to merge the activities of the Outcome 5 contract with the Take Home and Settled was put forward and to include the merged activities within the Section 75 portfolio. Consultation was undertaken and in April 2021 Outcome 5 became a project within the Section 75 portfolio. The Section 75 agreement consists of a number of schemes spanning both the NHS and local government which seek to enhance partnership working to join up health and care services. It was created to improve the lives of some of the most vulnerable people in our society and providing them integrated health and social care services.

Main Considerations for the Council

- 18 The services performed by Enfield Carers Centre is a legal requirement under the Care Act 2014.
- 19 These services safeguard vulnerable individuals and ensures they receive fair and equitable treatment.
- 20 The second stage of the current contracts are expiring and extension to the five contracts concern needs to be put into place to ensure continuity of service
- 21 All the organisations who have held these contracts have maintained a good level of operational performance which is demonstrated in the appendix. Service users have stated that that the services provided are good and has helped them to improve their health and wellbeing

Safeguarding Implications

- 22 ASC will continue to engage with the VCS community under the Prevention and Early Intervention functions. We will work together to find local solutions to managing change and migrating services to continue to protect and support vulnerable people in the community.

Public Health Implications

- 23 The continuance and consolidation of *demonstrably effective* early intervention and prevention services are aligned with the broad intended outcomes and philosophies of LBE's current Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. As such there no further Public Health implications noted at this time.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

- 24 An Equalities Impact Assessment was completed at the beginning of the commissioning of the new VCS programme. It highlighted a risk to smaller organisations within the Borough. The Health Housing Adult Social Care (HHASC) Service Development Team made transitional funding available to organisations who were unsuccessful in bidding for the new contracts in order to support organisations to develop and deliver new and more sustainable models of support.
- 25 These services are there to support vulnerable people who are already disadvantaged. These services ensure that those who require care and support continue to be supported within the community they live in safely and supports them to maintain their independence.
- 26 Each organisation collects a range of equality data which is then reported on.
- 27 As the contracts were awarded 5 years ago an updated EQIA has been undertaken.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

- 28 There is no known environmental impact related to this provision

Risks that may arise if the proposed decision and related work is not taken

- 29 The recommendations within this report are based on ensuring services remain fit for purpose for the communities of London Borough of Enfield (LBE). To ensure that LBE continue to support vulnerable people within our communities, especially during these times with the pandemic making them more vulnerable. The recommendations also ensure continuity of service provision that the Council maintain value for service they commission

Risks that may arise if the proposed decision is taken and actions that will be taken to manage these risk

- 30 None identify

Financial Implications

- 31 The cost of this contract extension will be funded through the Adult Social Care Voluntary Bodies and Support Services Budget. Specific budget provision exists for the full cost of these contracts within Cost Centre SS0723

Legal Implications

(Legal Implications added by SM on 12/08/2022 based on a version of the report emailed on Wed 10/08/2022 09:29):

- 32 To extend the five contracts as proposed in this report, the council must have adequate budgetary provision to service all the extensions. The extensions must be exercised in accordance with the terms and conditions and procedures set out in each individual contract and advice sought from legal services where required.
- 33 Section 75 of National Health Services Act 2006 and the regulations made under that section ('the 2006 Act'), allows partnering and funding arrangements to be set up between local authorities and NHS bodies as defined under the 2006 Act. These arrangements allow for a pooled fund to be set up, as well as integrated provision and lead commissioning flexibilities.
- 34 Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 permits local authorities to do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of their functions.
- 35 A general power of competence is contained in section 1(1) of the Localism Act 2011 that local authorities can exercise. This allows local authorities to do anything that individuals may do, provided it is not prohibited by legislation and subject to Public Law principles.
- 36 The Council's Constitution and in particular the Contract Procedure Rules (CPRs) must be followed and where applicable the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (including any amendments, orders, regulations, or re-enactments made thereto). There is currently a Procurement Bill making its way through parliament and it is expected to become law in the early part of next year. This will introduce a whole new UK based procurement regime. Officers must therefore keep procurement and contract matters under review and seek legal advice in a timely manner to ensure that officers can benefit from advice that reflects the latest, most up to date legal position in regard to procurement and contract law.

Workforce Implications

- 37 N/A

Property Implications

- 38 N/A

Procurement Implications

- 39 Contract extensions are only permissible if there are provisions in the contract. Procurement Services have not had sight of this contract so cannot comment.
- 40 Under the contract procedure rules for a contract of this value, it is expected that the responsible officer would have carried regular contract management meetings ensuring that value for money has been maintained. Current performance and monitoring would have also informed the decision to extend these contracts.

- 41 The department, as stated above have acknowledged they will carry out a full procurement process before the current proposed extension ends. This will ensure the service remains compliant from a procurement perspective. Engagement with the Procurement Services needs to be scheduled into the pipeline of anticipated future projects. This needs to be done in good time to allow procurement of this size to take place prior to the ending of this extension.
- 42 It is expected there will be regular documented contract management meetings, closely monitoring the supplier's performance in line with KPIs.
- 43 It is expected that the service would have reviewed the current contract prior to the proposed extension and negotiated with the supplier to take into account the Councils Sustainable and Ethical Procurement Policy.

Options Considered

- 44 The alternative option considered was: -
- 45 To retender the services would require an extension to the existing contracts due to the procurement timeline associated with a tendering exercise.

Conclusions

- 46 This report seeks approval to extend the five contracts held by those organisations who were awarded the Prevention and Early Intervention contracts at the Cabinet meeting held on 18th October 2017. The extension period in the Cabinet Report was for a period of 2 years at the expiry of the initial current extension of 2 years ending 30th November 2022.
- 47 The specifications for these contracts focus on supporting vulnerable people in the community, helping them to help themselves to live safe, healthy and independently within their home. The current annual budget for these contracts is £1.2m per annum

Report Author:

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26th August, 2022

Appendices

Background Papers

