

Report to: STRATEGIC COMMISSIONING BOARD

Date: 17 April 2018

Officer of Single Commissioning Board Stephanie Butterworth Director Adult Services

Subject: TENDER FOR THE PROVISION OF A LEARNING DISABILITY RESPITE SERVICE

Report Summary: The report is seeking authorisation to re-tender the service for a contract commencement date of 1 October 2018.

Recommendations: That approval is given to tender for the Learning Disability Respite Service for a five year period.

Financial Implications:
(Authorised by the statutory Section 151 Officer & Chief Finance Officer)

ICF Budget	£'000
Tameside Council – Adult Services Section 75 Strategic Commissioning Board	250.32

Additional Comments.

The service provided via this contract supports the Care Together vision of enabling residents to live independently within their own homes in the community whilst also ensuring their carers receive appropriate breaks to enable them to continue with their caring duties.

The existing contract is currently affordable within the revenue budget allocation of the Adult Services directorate for the period to 30 September 2018 and on a recurrent basis thereafter.

It is essential that the re-tender of the service remains affordable within the budget allocation. Clearly a reduced annual cost will be desirable to ensure recurrent savings are subsequently realised which will contribute towards the care together locality funding gap.

Legal Implications:
(Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)

Retendering in accordance with the Council's procurement and contract standing orders, and taking into account the Care Quality Commission's requirements will ensure lawfulness and value for money, thus reducing the risk of successful judicial challenge, and should be commenced without delay if the deadline for contract award is to be achieved.

How do proposals align with Health & Wellbeing Strategy?

The proposals align with the Developing Well, Living Well and Working Well programmes for action

How do proposals align with Locality Plan?

The service is consistent with the following priority transformation programmes:

- Enabling self-care
- Locality-based services

- Planned care services

How do proposals align with the Commissioning Strategy?

The service contributes to the Commissioning Strategy by:

- Empowering citizens and communities
- Commission for the 'whole person'
- Create a proactive and holistic population health system

Recommendations / views of the Health and Care Advisory Group

Not Applicable.

Public and Patient Implications:

None.

Quality Implications:

Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council is subject to the duty of Best Value under the Local Government Act 1999, which requires it to achieve continuous improvement in the delivery of its functions, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

How do the proposals help to reduce health inequalities?

Via Healthy Tameside, Supportive Tameside and Safe Tameside.

What are the Equality and Diversity implications?

The proposal will not affect protected characteristic group(s) within the Equality Act.

The service will be available to Adults with a learning disability regardless of ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religious belief, gender re assignment, pregnancy/maternity, marriage/ civil and partnership.

What are the safeguarding implications?

There are no anticipated safeguarding issues. Where safeguarding concerns arise as a result of the actions or inactions of the provider and their staff, or concerns are raised by staff members or other professionals or members of the public, the Safeguarding Policy will be followed.

What are the Information Governance implications? Has a privacy impact assessment been conducted?

The necessary protocols for the safe transfer and keeping of confidential information are maintained at all times by both purchaser and provider.

A privacy impact assessment has not been carried out

Risk Management:

Risk of Carer fatigue and break-down leading to costly permanent care should a respite service not be re tendered.

That the Council does not fulfill its statutory duty to meet eligible needs.

Access to Information :

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Denise Buckley



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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The report is seeking authorisation to retender the provision of a learning disability respite service for a contract commencing 1 October 2018.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Adult Services has provided a specialist respite/short stay service for people with a learning disability for more than three decades. The overall aim of the service has been to enable people to live as independent and fulfilling a life as possible in the community whilst ensuring their carers receive breaks to enable them to continue with their caring duties.
- 2.2 Following extensive consultation, a Key Decision in March 2013 approved a redesigned respite / short stay service comprising five beds (four respite beds and one emergency bed), at one building base: Cumberland Street, Stalybridge. This decision saw provision reduce from nine beds to five and a maximum allocation of twenty one nights per year per family. As a result, costs for the service were reduced by £74K per annum.
- 2.3 A procurement exercise was undertaken for the service at Cumberland St and awarded to Community Integrated Care (CIC). The contract commenced on 1 December 2013 and will expire on 30 September 2018 following a two year extension (there was a 2 month delay in the commencement date due health and safety adaptations to the building).
- 2.4 The current contract was tendered on the basis of the delivery of a respite service using a domiciliary model of provision.

3. CONTRACTING PROPOSAL

- 3.1. Consideration is given to tender the service at Cumberland St as the building facility with the continued delivery of a domiciliary care model for a period of 5 years commencing 1 October 2018.
- 3.2 The tendered service at Cumberland St will deliver 4 beds with access to a 5th emergency bed and will be available 365 days per year.

4. VALUE FOR MONEY

- 4.1 The current annual value for this service, 2017/18 is £220,320 for care and support. In addition, the Council incurs annual costs for rent, utilities and equipment at approx. £30k per annum.
- 4.2 To ensure a competitive tender in terms of delivering best value, evaluation criteria against the most economically advantageous tender will be implemented as part of the procurement re tender exercise. This will include a quality and cost weighting with the latter evaluated against an indicative budget guide with the lowest price receiving the highest weighting.

5. OTHER ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

- 5.1 This is an established service which meets the needs of those who receive support therefore it is felt appropriate to re-tender this service. Consideration has been given to ending the service, however the decision to move forward with a tender exercise has been driven by the vulnerable group supported through this contract and implications for more expensive packages of care should this service not continue. This service offers respite to families and

carers and a ceasing of the service could result in families not being able to sustain their full time caring roles as they do not have the opportunity for a break.

- 5.2 Evidence from assessment information shows that there is a high demand for this service, there are currently 56 people accessing respite. Detailed consultation was carried out in 2012 with service users and carers and further consultation carried out in 2015; both indicated that people felt there was a great deal of importance in the need for the continuation of a building based respite services with the main concerns raised including the risk of Carer fatigue and break-down leading to costly permanent care.

6. IMPLICATION IF THE SERVICE IS NOT RE-COMMISSIONED

- 6.1 All service users have been assessed as having eligible needs as defined in the Care Act 2014. Failure to provide the service would therefore put service users at risk and may increase the numbers who enter more costly services due to family breakdown.
- 6.2 The current cost of the service is £847 per person per week. This compares to supported accommodation contracts in the borough at an average of £1044 per week and approx £2200 for residential placements for younger adults with a learning disability in the Greater Manchester region.

7. EQUALITIES

- 7.1 It is not anticipated that there are any equality and diversity issues with this proposal.
- 7.2 There are fundamental principles inherent in all proposals for delivering health and social care support to vulnerable adults:
- The receipt of health and social care services is based on eligibility. All adults over the age of 18 have the right to request an assessment of their need either as a potential service user or as a carer of someone who needs care and support. Once an assessment has been completed a decision will be made as to which needs someone has that are eligible to be met according to the national eligibility criteria laid out in the Care Act.
 - That wherever possible identified eligible need is met by family, friends, neighbours and the wider community.
 - That whatever eligible needs are left unmet by other parties must be met by either providing services directly to meet the need or by commissioning services from elsewhere. In doing so every effort should be made to use the most cost efficient service available to meet the eligible needs identified including the use of assistive technology and appropriate equipment.
 - That people are expected to pay what they can afford to pay for the services that they are in receipt of taking full account of any income, savings and assets that they have.
- 7.3 Applying the national eligibility criteria robustly will ensure that only those people who have identifiable needs will receive help and support. This will ensure that all people will be treated fairly and equitably according to the needs that they have. People who have needs that are not deemed eligible will be offered other advice and signposted to other organisations who may be able to help

8. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 8.1 Any risks of poor service delivery will be mitigated by close monitoring of the service to ensure that needs are being met of both service users and their carers. This will include existing oversight from care management alongside quarterly contract monitoring.
- 8.2 The risk of not recommissioning the service would lead to carer fatigue and potential breakdown - this would in most cases mean a move to costly permanent care for individuals. Continuing the provision of this service will minimise/delay the need for costly permanent care and maintain service users safely in their family home.
- 8.3 There is a significant risk that ceasing the provision of this service will mean that the Council does not fulfill its statutory duty to meet eligible needs. Continuing this popular service will mean that the Council continues to fulfil its statutory duties at a very economic cost.

9. CONCLUSION

- 9.1 The Care Act requires the Council to provide services that meet assessed eligible needs. Respite care is a service that allows users and their families to have a break from each other in order to allow users to remain at home being cared for by their families for as long as possible.
- 9.2 The current model of respite care provision has been in place for many years and is a valued service currently accessed by 55 families.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 As stated on the front of the report.