

Report to: STRATEGIC COMMISSIONING BOARD

Date: 25 October 2019

Reporting Member / Officer of Strategic Commissioning Board Councillor Eleanor Wills – Executive Member (Adult Social Care and Health)
Dr Jamie Douglas – Clinical Lead
Jessica Williams - Director of Commissioning

Subject: WHEELCHAIRS SERVICE – CONTRACT EXTENSION

Report Summary: The report is seeking authorisation for approval to be given to extend the above contract by two years, from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2022 where this is provided for within the terms of the contract.

The report outlines the service being provided and indicates outcomes being achieved for provision of wheelchairs thereby making the case to extend the current contract as allowed in the existing agreement.

Recommendations: The Board are recommended to approve a contract extension from 1 April 2020.

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

Budget Allocation (if Investment Decision)				
ICFT Budget	S 75	Aligned £'000	In Collab £'000	Total £'000
CCG	515	-	-	515
Total	515	-	-	515
Decision body		Strategic Commissioning Board.		
Value For Money Implications – e.g. Savings Deliverable, Expenditure Avoidance, Benchmark Comparison				
The finance team are supportive of extending this contract for two years in line with the terms of the existing contract. This contract has demonstrated positive outcomes and value for money since its award to Ross Auto Engineering Ltd (Rosscare) following a competitive tender process in 2016-17.				
The contract was awarded at £515,000 per annum.				
The nature of this service includes a significant costly infrastructure and it is strongly advised that commissioners allow sufficient time to prepare for a robust procurement well in advance of the contract end date in 2021-22.				
CCG or TMBC Budget Allocation				
Integrated Commissioning Fund Section – s75, Aligned, In-Collaboration				
Decision Body – SCB Executive Cabinet, CCG Governing Body				
Value For money Implications – e.g. Savings Deliverable, Expenditure Avoidance, Benchmark				

Legal Implications: (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)	<p>A framework exists for the procurement of wheelchair services. The Wheelchair service has been commissioned via the NHS Shared Business Services Community Equipment, Products and Services Framework (Ref: SBS/15/RC/GWB/8730)</p> <p>The extension of the contract must be subject to all relevant legislation, safeguarding standard policies and that the provider continues to understand their responsibilities in delivering a comprehensive Wheelchair Service. In the circumstances it would not be cost effective to re-tender the contract at this time, due to insufficient time to go out to tender, so the only choice is to extend the contract or cease it.</p>
How do proposals align with Health & Wellbeing Strategy?	The service aligns with the Starting Well, Living Well and Ageing Well life courses.
How do proposals align with Locality Plan?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The service is consistent with the following transformation programmes: • Enabling self-care • Locality-based services
How do proposals align with the Commissioning Strategy?	<p>The service contribute to the Commissioning Strategy by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empowering citizens and communities • Commission for the 'whole person' <p>Create a proactive and holistic population health system.</p>
Recommendations / views of the Health and Care Advisory Group:	Reported directly to the Strategic Commissioning Board.
Public and Patient Implications:	None
Quality Implications:	The quality of the service is subject to regular review in partnership with the provider to ensure continuous improvement, in line with the contractual requirements.
How do the proposals help to reduce health inequalities?	<p>In line with the NHS Outcomes Framework, the service supports:</p> <p>Domain 1: Prevent people from dying prematurely</p> <p>Domain 2: Enhancing quality of life for people with long term conditions.</p> <p>Domain 3: Helping people recover from episodes of ill health or injury.</p>
What are the Equality and Diversity implications?	The proposal will not affect protected characteristic groups within the Equality Act. The service will be available to adults and children regardless of ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religious belief, gender re-assignment, pregnancy/ maternity, marriage/ civil partnership.
What are the safeguarding implications?	None

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 the commissioner and the provider.

Risk Management:

There are no anticipated financial risks with the extension of this contract.

Access to Information:

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Janna Rigby:



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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Following a competitive tender process in 2016/17, Ross Auto Engineering Ltd (Rosscare) was awarded the contract to deliver a comprehensive wheelchair service.
- 1.2 The contract commenced on the 1 April 2017 for a period of three years. There is an option to extend this contract for a further two years, subject to approval and negotiation between the parties, to 31 March 2022.
- 1.3 The service delivers assessment and wheelchair provision for adults and children across Tameside and Glossop.
- 1.4 The wheelchair service provides wheelchairs on permanent loan basis to those whose indoor and outdoor mobility is permanently restricted and will remain so for at least six months.
- 1.5 The prescribed wheelchair is equipped with special seating and pressure cushions as defined in the clinical assessment, for the service users that cannot be seated with standard wheelchairs so as to:
- Provide postural support
 - Minimise risk of pressure areas
 - Maintain existing function
 - Maintain/ improve ability to interact with their environment
 - Minimise risk of worsening postural deformities
- 1.6 The future commissioning of this service is being reviewed alongside the Integrated Community Equipment Store (ICES) contract with a view to exploring a single service and contract, commissioned by the Strategic Commission across the CCG and Council.

2. QUALITY REVIEW

- 2.1 Performance management of the contract has focused on the delivery of outcomes and best practice in demonstrating that individuals are receiving a high quality service through the timely provision of the appropriate wheelchair equipment.
- 2.2 The performance of the Rosscare contract is in line with in some areas exceeds expectations which are summarised in the table below:

Indicator	Metric	Target	Actual
Waiting times	9 weeks	95%	100%
Urgent prescription issue	5 days from referral	95%	100%
Handover of equipment/ Locally-held or recycled stock	1 week	95%	100%
Service user engagement	Service rated good or excellent	85%	97%

- 2.3 Personal Wheelchair Budgets are managed by this service, projecting to over perform on the 2019/20 targets of 100 PWBs.

3. PROCUREMENT STANDING ORDER SEEKING TO WAIVE / AUTHORISATION TO PROCEED

- 3.1 Authorisation is required to extend the contract for two years, where there is provision to do so.

4. VALUE OF CONTRACT

- 4.1 As part of the procurement exercise for the award of this contract, service redesign was considered to ensure quality provision whilst also realising a significant saving; the previous provision costing in excess of £1million.
- 4.2 The current contract value is £515,000 per annum.
- 4.3 Rosscare has delivered at this cost during the financial years 2017/18 and 2018/19 and with no inflationary increase in 2019/20.
- 4.4 There may be a requirement to negotiate with Rosscare, in conjunction with Finance, an inflationary uplift in 2020/21.

5. GROUNDS UPON WHICH WAIVER/ AUTHORISATION TO PROCEED SOUGHT

- 5.1 Following competitive tender process in 2016/17, Ross Auto Engineering Ltd (Rosscare) was awarded the contract.
- 5.2 The contract was for a period of three years with an option to extend for a further two years.
- 5.3 Performance monitoring of the service has been positive and Rosscare are working well with the commissioners.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 As set out at the front of the report.