



Although a formal committee of Brighton & Hove City Council, the Health & Wellbeing Board has a remit which includes matters relating to the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), the Local Safeguarding Board for Children and Adults and Healthwatch.

<i>Title:</i>	<b>Commissioning of Supported Living Service for People with Cognitive Impairment (Acquired Brain Injury)</b>	
<i>Date of Meeting:</i>	<b>6 February 2020</b>	
<i>Report of:</i>	<b>Rob Persey, Executive Director of Health &amp; Social Care</b>	
<i>Contact:</i>	<b>Anne Richardson-Locke</b>	<b>Tel: 01273 290379</b>
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<i>Wards Affected:</i>	<b>ALL</b>	

**FOR GENERAL RELEASE**

### ***Executive Summary***

The report provides an update on the procurement of a supported living service for adults with cognitive impairments in Brighton & Hove and makes a recommendation that an external provider is procured due to the specialist nature of the requirement.

There is a Part Two confidential report that has more detailed information of the preferred bid and the directly provided service which has been circulated to members of the Board.

## **Glossary of Terms**

*FCL* - *Families Children and Learning*

*HASC* - *Health & Adult Social Care*

*MEAT* - *Most economically advantageous tender is the tender which is best overall taking into consideration both price and quality over the lifetime of the contract.*

*PCR* - *Public Contracts Regulations*

*PIN* - *Prior Information Notice*

## **1. Decisions, recommendations and any options**

It is recommended that the Board agree:

- 1.1 To award a three-year contract to the Service Provider that has been evaluated as providing the most economically advantageous tender.
- 1.2 To grant delegated authority to the Executive Director of Health & Adult Social Care (HASC) to extend the contract at the end of the three-year term for a further period or periods of up to two years in total subject to satisfactory performance and available budget.

## **2. Relevant information**

### **Background**

- 2.1. The 12th November Health & Wellbeing Board gave permission to Health & Adult Social Care to procure a support service for 4 people with cognitive impairments placed by the Council in 4 flats in Poets Corner.
- 2.2. The Board agreed that:
  - 2.2.1. Commissioners would seek expressions of interest from external providers and if there was interest from more than one, a competitive tender process would take place, and;
  - 2.2.2. Commissioners would quantify the cost of the Council directly providing the required services.
- 2.3. The Board requested on the conclusion of these processes that a further report be prepared setting out the alternative options.
- 2.4. The current provider of the service, Southdown Housing Association, gave notice to the Council in July 2019 terminating their contract to provide a Supported Living Service. Colleagues in Families, Children & Learning (FCL)

have made alternative arrangements for 3 of the tenants and no longer have a need for the accommodation. FCL offered the opportunity to make use of the accommodation to Health & Adult Social Care (HASC). HASC have a significant shortage of supported living options for adults with cognitive impairments and these flats will help to prevent people from moving into residential care or provide a step down from higher support services for those who would benefit.

- 2.5. FCL Assessment Services have not been able to find alternative accommodation for one resident who continues to live there successfully, and Southdown Housing Association have agreed to continue to support that individual until an alternative support provider has been procured. FCL have confirmed they will continue to fund the support costs for the current resident.
- 2.6. The Health & Wellbeing Board agreed to accept this paper as a late report as the period between the end of the procurement exercise and the date of the nearest Board meeting did not allow for the usual pre-Board timescales. This was agreed in order to ensure delays in starting the service are kept to a minimum as the service is urgently needed and there is a financial cost to any delays as the Council are paying for voids in the flats according to the Nominations Agreement with the accommodation provider.

### **Proposed Service and Tender**

- 2.7. The Supported Living service will provide 24-hour support to 4 people with cognitive impairments that include learning disabilities, autism and cognitive impairments due to brain injury or other neurological conditions. It is intended that support services will be shared across all four flats. The procurement exercise was designed to enable officers to select from the providers submitting tender proposals the tender which provides the best service option overall in terms of both quality and price (MEAT).
- 2.8. As there were 8 expressions of interest to the Prior Information Notice (PIN) Call for Competition that was issued in the Official Journal of the European Union, all 8 were invited to tender.
- 2.9. Bids were evaluated by an evaluation panel made up of the Commissioning & Contracts Manager for Physical Disabilities & ABI, the Commissioning & Contracts Manager for Learning Disabilities, the Commissioning Support Officer and an experienced Social Worker.
- 2.10. Bids were evaluated with a weighting of 80% Quality and 20% Price, with Social Value making up 15% of the Quality mark. In view of the nature of the service commissioners considered it important to prioritise quality.
- 2.11. The preferred bidder's offer is still subject to award and the required standstill period of 10 working days in which the unsuccessful bidders have an opportunity to challenge the Authority's decision making.

- 2.12. The tendering process is confidential until completed and the Award letters dispatched to the bidders therefore Members are referred to the confidential part two report for further information relating to the outcome of the evaluation process

### **3. Reason for the recommendation**

- 3.1. The provision of the support directly by the Council at this time would strain available resources as additional staff, training, managerial expertise and specialist behaviour support would be necessary.
- 3.2. Whilst the Council directly provides high quality support to people with learning disabilities, the provision of additional management and specialist support for people with other cognitive impairments would be required and could delay the start of the provision of the service. This in turn would incur additional costs as the potential tenants would remain in higher cost services and would put considerable pressure on the current provider who has specified they can no longer provide the service to the existing tenant beyond April 2020.
- 3.3. The significant forecast savings presented within the preferred bid would not be achieved if the directly provided option is pursued.
- 3.4. It is therefore recommended that authority be given to let a service contract to the provider judged to provide the most economically advantageous tender following the detailed evaluation of the submissions received.
- 3.5. During the mobilisation period the new provider, Housing Association, the Commissioner and the Lead Member for Health & Adult Social Care would meet with the immediate neighbours to inform them of the changes.

### **4. Important considerations and implications**

#### **Legal implications:**

- 4.1. The Council's Contract Standing Orders require that authority to enter into a contract valued at £500,000 or more be obtained from the relevant committee which in this case is the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 4.2. A tender process has been conducted in compliance with the provisions of the Public Contract Regulations 2015 as authorised by the Board on 12 November 2019. The most economically advantageous tender has been identified. Authority to let a contract following that tender process was not given by the Board on 12 November and is now required if the contract is to be let to the Provider submitting that tender. There is no obligation on the Council to award a Contract to the successful Provider and the service could be provided in-house if the Board considered this appropriate.

Lawyer consulted: Judith Fisher

Date: 20.01.2020

**Financial implications:**

- 4.3. There is significant increasing demand within this client cohort and securing this provision will result in financial savings when compared to the costs of residential care.
- 4.4. If the service is directly provided by the Council, it is estimated that no savings will be achieved for Adult Social Care, but savings would be realised through the preferred bidder's offer.
- 4.5. There is potential financial risk if there are any voids within the service due to the high rental costs.

Finance Officer consulted: Sophie Warburton Date: 23/01/2020

**Equalities implications:**

- 4.6. An EIA is underway to support the commissioning intentions for people under 65 requiring physical and social support. This has identified equalities issues that include younger people being placed in older people's care homes, people being placed out of city away from their families and networks and a need for specialist supported living for people with autism, cognitive impairments, physical disabilities and complex needs locally.
- 4.7. This service will have a significant impact on the above equalities issues by offering supported living locally to people who may otherwise have been placed in residential care with older people or placed out of city. The preferred Service Provider gave evidence that they provide inclusive services to people with cognitive impairments that include volunteering opportunities, routes to employment and involvement in the recruitment of staff.

**Sustainability implications:**

- 4.8. Procurement processes take into account the sustainability of potential providers in the City and the principles of social value in order to achieve best value for money and sustainability of services. The preferred Service Provider gave evidence of their aims to reduce wastage, limit energy consumption and procure materials from sustainable sources.

**Supporting documents and information**

None



