

Cabinet Member delegated decision report

Date of Cabinet/Committee:

Medium-level supported housing for people with mental health needs

Wards: Ferndale, Vassall, Brixton Hill, Streatham Wells

Report Authorised by: Strategic Director, Commissioning – Helen Charlesworth- May

Portfolio: Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing - Councillor Jim Dickson

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Report summary

This report requests approval to extend the medium-level supported housing contract currently held by Certitude (Southside Partnership). This is a Social Inclusion (SP) contract which offers support to 52 people with severe and enduring mental health needs.

Certitude (Southside Partnership) is a trusted support provider who manages several other mental health services in Lambeth, and is a member of the Lambeth Living Well Collaborative. Services work successfully with people who have complex needs including substance misuse issues, and these supported housing schemes are a key part of the mental health accommodation pathway.

The medium-level contract offers short-term (up to two years) support which supports move-on by enabling people to gain the skills required to live more independently in the community.

Finance summary

The current annual value of this contract is £443,214.18, and the cost of the 24-month contract extension will be £886,428.36.

This report has no capital implications for the authority and there will be no inflationary uplift as this is a fixed rate 24-month contract extension. This contract extension will continue to be funded from existing budgets, Business Unit B218 (Supporting People) within the Integrated Commissioning Directorate.

Recommendations

- That a 24-month contract extension is awarded to Certitude (Southside Partnership) for the provision of mental health accommodation-based services offering support to 52 people. The cost of the contract extension will total £886,428.36 and run from 1 October 2014 to 30 September 2016.

1. Context

- 1.1 The medium-level supported housing contract offers accommodation and support to 52 people who require accommodation and support, some of whom have complex needs, homelessness and substance misuse issues. People referred into the housing require support around their mental health and tenancy-related advice to maintain their accommodation. Many people would otherwise have been placed in higher support placements such as residential care.
- 1.2 The service is a short-term Social Inclusion (SP) service which aims to support people to gain the skills they need to live more independently when they leave supported housing. Certitude (Southside Partnership) has been successfully providing these services since 1 October 2011, after successfully winning a mini-tender exercise linked to the Supporting People Four Borough Framework preferred providers' list.
- 1.3 The services will support delivery of Lambeth Council's Community Plan (2013-2016), including the following outcomes:
 - people are healthier, for longer
 - vulnerable children and adults get support and protection
 - older, disabled and vulnerable people can live independently with control
 - Lambeth residents have more opportunities for better quality homes
 - all Lambeth communities feel they are valued and are part of their neighbourhoods
 - people achieve financial security
 - people have the skills to find work.

The service will also deliver on the Lambeth Living Well Collaborative's 'Big 3 Outcomes':

- improving recovery and staying well including:
 - quality of life
 - physical and mental health

- making own choices and achieving personal goals, including:
 - self-determination and autonomy
- participating on an equal footing in daily life including:
 - connecting with family, friends and neighbours
 - giving in the community such as community activities, volunteering, peer support;
 - inclusion, especially in relation to education, employment, receiving an adequate income, and securing stable housing;
 - participating on an equal footing with others, with reduced stigma and discrimination

1.4 This is a Gateway 3 Cabinet Member Delegated Decision report.

2. Proposal and Reasons

2.1 A three-year contract was awarded to Certitude (Southside Partnership) on 1 October 2011 which included a two-year extension option. As the contract will now end on 30 September 2014, the contract will be extended for a further two years. The service is strategically important as it offers good quality support to people with severe and ensuring mental health needs, preparing them for move-on into more independent accommodation options in the community.

2.2 This contract is being extended for the following reasons:

- the provider offers good value for money and offers added value through their involvement in the Lambeth Living Well Collaborative and Provider Alliance Group, and they have seconded a worker into the Community Options Team.
- the provider has been supporting people with a range of needs and has been successfully managing safeguarding and other issues within the supported housing schemes.
- there are high levels of need and demand for mental health supported housing in Lambeth and these services are an important part of the mental health accommodation pathway

2.3 By utilising the available contract extension option commissioners can consider future options for the services. Lambeth health and social care, lead by NHS Lambeth CCG, are about to develop a new contract arrangement as a 'proof of concept'. This prototype will test whether there is a better way to contract with providers, enabling improved and more personalised services to be offered at a cheaper cost. Should this approach be

successful a wider tender exercise may then be completed, which could include services such as the Social Inclusion (SP) schemes. It would therefore be preferable to delay considerations about the future procurement of this and other mental health services for the time being.

3 Finance

- 3.1 An 18-month revenue-only contract extension will start on 1 October 2014 and run until 30 September 2016. The contract will be held within Business Unit B218 (Supporting People) within the Integrated Commissioning Directorate.
- 3.2 The annual cost of this contract is £443,214.18 and the total charge for this extension is £886,428.36.
- 3.3 There will be no inflationary uplift over the length of the contract extension period and no additional funding, or capital, is required.

4. Legal and Democracy

- 4.1 The authority to enact this report's recommendation is delegated to the Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing. Before exercising that authority, the approval of the Procurement Board should be obtained.
- 4.2 The Contract Standing Orders allow officers to waive the requirement to competitively tender contracts valued at £100,000 or more where it is demonstrably in the Council's best interests to do so.
- 4.3 Health and social services are categorised in Part B of Schedule 3 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2006 meaning the full rigour of the EU procurement regime does not apply. The Council's duty therefore is to ensure that it acts fairly and transparently and that it applies reasonableness to all of its decision-making in respect of its commercial activities.
- 4.4 This proposed key decision was entered in the Forward Plan on 18 July 2014 and the necessary 28 clear days notice will be given before the decision is taken. In addition, the Council's Constitution requires the report to be published on the website for five clear days before the proposed decision is approved by the Cabinet Member. Any representations received during this period must be considered by the decision-maker before the decision is taken. A further period of five clear days - the call-in period - must then elapse before the decision is enacted. If the decision is called-in during this period, it cannot be enacted until the call-in has been considered and resolved.

5. Consultation and co-production

Previous consultations with residents took place during service reviews and they expressed satisfaction with the service.

Commissioners also attend the weekly mental health placement panel where care coordinators request referral to services. This is a good way to gauge their views about services and pick-up on any concerning issues.

6. Risk management

- 6.1 There are no risks associated with extending this contract. Certitude (Southside Partnership) has a proven track record in service delivery and good relationships have been developed with commissioners and other stakeholders.

Previous monitoring visits by Procurement Officers have confirmed that Certitude (Southside Partnership) provide a good and supportive environment for service residents. Contract Performance Reviews took place in March 2012 (scored 34) and Feb 2013 (scored 38). Any required follow-up actions have now been completed by the provider.

7. Equalities impact assessment

- 7.1 An EIA was previously developed for all Social Inclusion (SP) mental health services, including this service. There are no equalities implications to be considered during the period of this contract extension.

8. Community safety

- 8.1 Mental health service users may sometimes be linked with anti-social behaviour and substance misuse but are mainly vulnerable to being exploited or taken advantage of.. Through services such as those provided by Certitude (Southside Partnership) the likelihood of such exploitation will be significantly reduced.

The provider is expected to assist in monitoring and engaging service users to link in with mental health and universal support services including peer support. The provider is also expected to encourage medication compliance and develop coping strategies to reduce the potential for breakdown or relapse.

The provider will deal with anti-social behaviour or nuisance occurring in or around service users' homes, and will liaise with Safer Neighbourhood and Community Safety teams to deal with such issues. It is a contractual requirement that all current providers' staff should possess an enhanced CRB and POVA clearance, that all staff receive training on the safeguarding of vulnerable adults and that they meet the National Minimum Standards in this respect, as well as measures to safeguard children.

9. Organisational implications

- 9.1 The services comply with responsible procurement in the following ways:

Social responsibility: Organisations such as Certitude (Southside Partnership) have strong records in employing a representative mix of the community and are undertaking work to train and support service users within their organisations. This includes encouraging access to work opportunities and developing peer support services.

Economic responsibility: This contract was previously competitively tendered through the Four-Borough Framework. This Framework shortlisted a range of providers specialising in the delivery of Social Inclusion (SP) services, and ranked them according to quality and price. All providers on the preferred provider list for accommodation-based mental health services were invited to submit further information and re-ranked according to their revised score. This process ensured that the most competitive price was achieved alongside best quality and expertise.

Environmental responsibility: Each provider has an environmental policy, describing how they will meet their obligations in this field.

9.2 There are no staffing or accommodation issues.

10. Timetable for implementation

- Officers will issue the relevant contract extension documentation to the provider during October 2014.
- The contract will be monitored by the Procurement Officer responsible for reviewing mental health Social Inclusion (SP) services.

Audit trail				
Consultation				
Name/Position	Lambeth cluster/division or partner	Date Sent	Date Received	Comments in para:
Denis O'Rourke – Assistant Director, NHS Lambeth CCG	Integrated Commissioning	17/7/14	18/7/14	
Michael O'Hora	Governance and Democracy	17/7/14	21/7/14	4
Katy Shaw	Governance and Democracy	17/7/14	18/7/14	4
Wayne Cooper	Finance	15/7/14	16/7/14	3
Finance Clearance	Finance	29/7/14	27/8/14	3
Cllr Jim Dickson	Cabinet Member: Health and Wellbeing	27/8/14	01/09/14	
Internal officer board	Date of meeting			
Procurement Board	4 September 2014	01/09/14	01/09/14	

Report history	
Original discussion with Cabinet Member	N/A
Report deadline	15 July 2014
Date final report sent	01/09/14
Report no.	N/A
Part II Exempt from Disclosure/confidential accompanying report?	No
Key decision report	Yes
Date first appeared on forward plan	July 2014
Key decision reasons	Expenditure over £500,000 3. Meets the community impact test
Background information	Award of contract for supported housing for people with mental health problems requiring 24-hour support Gateway Three: 2011 Gateway Four: 2012 and 2013
Appendices	None

APPROVAL BY CABINET MEMBER OR OFFICER IN ACCORDANCE WITH SCHEME OF DELEGATION

I confirm I have been consulted on this report:

Signature _____ **Date** _____

Denis O'Rourke

Assistant Director, Integrated Mental Health Commissioning, NHS Lambeth CCG

I confirm I have consulted the relevant Cabinet Members, including the Leader of the Council (if required), and approve the above recommendations:

Signature _____ **Date** _____

Councillor Jim Dickson

Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing

Any declarations of interest (or exemptions granted): None

Issue

Interest declared