

AREPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 28th March 2013

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Communities

PORTFOLIO: Health & Adults

SUBJECT: Adult Social Care Contracts

WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To seek approval from Executive Board to extend the current services provided by external providers in the voluntary sector for a one year period to from 1st April 2013 to 31st March 2014, which requires a waiver to Procurement Standing Orders.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That Executive Board:

- 1) **Agree to using Procurement Standing Orders 1.8.3 (d), (e) and (f) to waive Procurement Standing Order 4.1 in respect of voluntary sector contracts with a value not exceeding £173,934, as listed in Appendix 1; and**
- 2) **Agree to an extension of existing voluntary sector contracts for a period of up to 1 year from 1st April 2013 to 31st March 2014.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 In Halton there has always been a vibrant voluntary sector and that has been maintained despite reduced funding over the last two years. It is clear that if the unique and dedicated services were lost there would be a significant gap in service delivery that would not be filled elsewhere.

3.2 The contracts outlined in Appendix 1 represent a number of voluntary organisations who deliver a valuable service across health and social care. These have been reviewed and it is proposed that the Council continues to fund these services.

4.0 BUSINESS CASE FOR EXTENSION OF CONTRACTS

4.1 Value for money

The financial contribution from the council is supported by the

contribution from local volunteers and as such the services listed in Appendix 1 provide good value for money. The Council's contribution to all services will be subject to further review in 2013/14.

4.2 **Transparency**

Contracts will be recorded in the Council's Contract Register accessible via the internet together with the publication of all spend in excess of £500.00.

4.3 **Propriety and Scrutiny**

The extension of the contracts referred to in this report will be compliant with Halton Borough Council's Procurement Standing Orders. Compliance with anti-corruption practices will be adhered to and any of the contracts within the subject of this report will be terminated if there is any occurrence of corruption by any organisations or their staff.

4.4 **Accountability**

The contracts will be performance managed and service standards monitored by commissioners and the contracts team.

5.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 On 17th January 2008, the Department of Health issued a Local Authority Circular entitled 'Transforming Social Care'. The circular set out information to support transformation of social care and at the heart of this change is the personalisation agenda. As we develop community provision within prevention services we will need to consider the implications of personalisation for the whole community.

5.2 Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS, July 2010, also sets out plans to radically transform the NHS. This includes development of Clinical Commissioning Groups that means local clinicians having more of a say in how they commission services. This has had a major impact on the voluntary sector as they have had to adapt to a whole new way of working and prepare for commissioning changes in the sector.

5.3 Locally, to support these National documents, the Older People's Commissioning Strategy and the Early Intervention and Prevention Strategy identify the need to support Older People to maintain their independence and a high quality of life. The Learning Disability Commissioning Strategy Mid-term review, The Carers Commissioning Strategy and the Joint Commissioning Strategy for People with Physical and/or Sensory Disabilities all outline the current position and needs of different service areas in the borough. These documents look at the need for a range of support services to help people achieve the best outcomes for them including information, transport, advocacy and health promotion.

6.0 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 The total financial implication of the contracts listed in Appendix 1 is £472,893.

6.2 The contracts will be reviewed during the course of 2013/14 to ensure that service objectives are in line with the new Health and Wellbeing and Clinical Commissioning Group Priorities and that services continue to provide value for money.

6.3 The cost of the recommended extension to contracts can be met within existing budget allocations.

7.0 **IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

7.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**

None

7.2 **Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton**

Voluntary sector organisations rely significantly on volunteer time to deliver services. The organisations provide training and placement opportunities for volunteers, increasing their skills and employability.

7.3 **A Healthy Halton**

The services provided by Age UK Mid Mersey and Red Cross deliver direct support from people in their own home or as they are being discharged from hospital. Information and Advocacy is a vital mainstay of helping people to remain healthy and independent in their own homes.

7.4 **A Safer Halton**

The prevention agenda is well supported by the voluntary sector and Age UK Mid Mersey offer practical help and information to ensure that older people's homes are safe and secure. In addition Red Cross offer practical support for people when they leave hospital.

7.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

None

8.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

8.1 The Quality Assurance Team will monitor the grants and ensure the Council and Halton residents receive value for money

9.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

9.1 To receive funding a voluntary sector organisation has to ensure that that acceptable equality and diversity policies are in place.

10.0 **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

None under the meaning of the Act.

Appendix 1

Name of provider & details of service	Contract start date	Contract end date	Budget 2013/14	Funding source
Crossroads Support for Carers	01/04/13	31/03/14	£35,000	HBC Base budget
Vision Support	01/04/13	31/03/14	£42,268	HBC (Base budget) £25,200 CCG £17,068
MIND	01/04/13	31/03/14	£37,890	HBC Base budget
Advocacy Works	01/04/13	31/03/14	£46,330	HBC Base Budget – service to be reviewed in 2013/14
Age UK Mid Mersey – Information Service	01/04/13	31/03/14	£78,000	50% HBC Base Budget - £39,000 50% CCG budget - £39,000 service to be reviewed in 2013/14
Age UK Mid Mersey – Practical Tasks	01/04/13	31/03/14	£61,000	50% HBC Base Budget - £30,500 50% CCG budget - £30,500 service to be reviewed in 2013/14
Red Cross – Home from Hospital	01/04/13	31/03/14	£67,152	50% HBC Base Budget - £33,576 50% CCG budget - £33,576 service to be reviewed in 2013/14
Carers Centre	01/04/13	31/03/14	£105,253	Communities - £70,253 Children and Young People - £35,000

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