

REPORT TO: Executive Board
DATE: 22 February 2018
REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, People
PORTFOLIO: Health and Wellbeing
SUBJECT: Halton Speak Out Contract
WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To seek approval from Executive Board to extend the current service for a one year period from 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019.

2.0 **RECOMMENDATION: That in compliance with Standing Order 1.14.3 and 1.14.4, Executive Board approve a waiver to Procurement Standing Orders 3.0, to award a contract to Halton Speak Out for Person Centred Planning Coordination/Facilitation, Self-Advocacy and Halton People's Cabinet for the period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019.**

3.0 **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 Halton Speak Out was commissioned in 2015 to provide support services to adults with learning disabilities. A further one year's extension was granted by Executive Board in January 2017.

3.2 There are two elements to the contract, the coordination/facilitation of Person Centred Planning and a self-advocacy service and facilitation of Halton People's Cabinet.

These services are not statutory services, but contribute to the Council's prevention agenda and ensure the delivery of outcomes linked to the Care Act.

3.3 The services delivered by Halton Speak Out link closely into the Learning Disability governance structure. The People's Cabinet links into the ALD Partnership Board and Halton Speak Out are a key member of that group, which both informs and takes actions from the Strategic Action and Commissioning Group.

Halton Speak Out are also involved with the Transforming Care Agenda, and support self-advocates to participate in local and regional transforming care events.

3.4 The service is considered to be a good service. In 2017/18 the

service has delivered the following to date:

- Facilitated person centred reviews for 81 individuals
- Supported 34 young people in transition
- 7 ministers attend the People's Cabinet
- Facilitated the People's Cabinet regular monthly meetings
- Supported People's Cabinet members to attend other meetings (168 attended during the year)
- Regular attendance at the following meetings:
 - Partnership Board
 - Transport
 - Provider
 - Transforming Care
- Supported 236 self-advocates
- Provided feedback to inform a procurement exercise

3.5 There is currently a review of learning disability services being undertaken, which includes the services being delivered by Halton Speak Out. The outcome of the review, together with consideration of other options for continuation of the service will inform future service delivery. An extension to this contract is requested to allow completion of the review.

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 Self-advocates are a key partner in the Transforming Care agenda which requires local authorities and CCG's to work together to reshape services for people with learning disabilities and autism.

5.0 **OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The annual contract value is £73,439. Although this may be met within current budget allocation, negotiations will take place with Halton Speak Out to identify any efficiencies which may be achieved.

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

6.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**

None

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

People accessing Halton Speak Out services develop skills and confidence which can be used in all areas of their life, including accessing other training, learning and employment opportunities.

6.3 **A Healthy Halton**

Halton Speak Out provides information, advice and advocacy on a range of subjects, including supporting people to maintain or improve their health and wellbeing,

6.4 **A Safer Halton**

The service also provides information, advice and advocacy about safety, including being a key partner in Halton's Safe in Town initiative.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 This service is considered to be low risk, and will continue to be monitored by Halton's Commissioners and Quality Assurance Team.

The procurement risk is low as the contract value is below the EU threshold.

Financial risk is minimised as the service will be delivered within exiting budgets.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 This service supports some of Halton's most vulnerable members of the community, and will support the Council in meeting its duties to promote inclusion and fair access to services for all local residents.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D PF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

None under the meaning of the Act.