

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 19 September 2019

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, People

PORTFOLIO: Children, Education and Social Care

SUBJECT: Post Diagnosis Community Dementia Support

WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To seek approval of a waiver of Parts 2 and 3 of Procurement Standing Orders, as appropriate, in compliance with Procurement Standing Order 1.14.4 (iv), for continued provision of post diagnosis community dementia support.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That Members approve a waiver of Parts 2 and 3 of Procurement Standing Orders, as appropriate, in compliance with Procurement Standing Order 1.14.4 (iv).

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The Alzheimer's Society are currently commissioned until 30th September 2019 to deliver post diagnosis community support in Halton. They are the largest specialist dementia charity in the UK, with an infrastructure of specialist advisors, information resources and services and currently deliver the Halton Dementia Advisor Support Service and dementia café peer support in Halton.

3.2 NHS Halton Operational Operating Committee (OCC) have indicated that they wish to continue to invest in the post diagnosis community support service, with some minor modifications to the service specification. The modifications to the specification result in a saving and provide a refocusing of activity to concentrate on the specialist 1:1 Dementia Advisor Support Service that they already deliver, and where demand for the service currently lies.

3.3 A waiver of Parts 2 and 3 of Procurement Standing Orders, as appropriate, in compliance with Procurement Standing Order 1.14.4 (iv) is sought to award the contract from 1st Oct 2019 +1 year extension option.

3.4 As the proposal for the dementia housing and community hub scheme is progressed, a review of what the needs and demands on dementia community provision are at that time will be undertaken,

taking into account any potential within a dementia community hub model to meet needs.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The specification for the post diagnosis community dementia support provision is reflective of recommendations made by the NHS North West Coast Strategic Clinical Network for Dementia, of which Halton CCG and Halton Borough Council are members.

4.2 The service specification takes into account NICE guideline [NG97] 'Dementia: assessment, management and support for people living with dementia and their carers' published in June 2019:

- Dementia carers should have access to advice on how to look after their own physical and mental health, and their emotional and spiritual wellbeing.
- Dementia carers should have access to advice on planning enjoyable and meaningful activities to do with the person they care for.
- Dementia carers should have access to information about relevant services (including support services and psychological therapies for carers) and how to access them.
- Dementia carers should have access to advice on planning for the future.
- Carer interventions are likely to be most effective when provided as group sessions.
- Offer a range of activities to people living with dementia to promote wellbeing that are tailored to the person's preference.

5.0 OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 A waiver of Parts 2 and 3 of Procurement Standing Orders, as appropriate, in compliance with Procurement Standing Order 1.14.4 (iv): Non-Emergency Procedures - (exceeding a value threshold of £100,000) on the basis that a full tender process would result in the Council having to forego a clear financial or commercial benefit. (1.14.4 iv).

5.2 The provider is a specialist provider and awarding a contract to the existing provider could support continuity of care for a vulnerable client cohort (people living with dementia and carers).

5.3 The waiver would be effective for the period 1st October 2019 – 30th September 2020, with a 1 year contract extension option from 1st October 2020 – 30th September 2021.

5.4 The total value of the contract (1 year + 1 year) would be £147,000 (£73,500 per annum) – representing a 6% saving per annum on the current annual contract value. The contract will be funded via the Better Care Fund (BCF) and will remain a local authority contract.

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

6.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**

None identified at this time

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

None identified at this time

6.3 **A Healthy Halton**

The provision of post diagnosis dementia community support has a direct impact on the health and wellbeing outcomes of people with a dementia diagnosis, their families and carers through providing information, advice and practical support and connecting them to appropriate voluntary, community, health and social care services at the right time. Independence and social inclusion is actively promoted.

6.4 **A Safer Halton**

Post diagnosis dementia community support can help people to live well, and safely, with dementia within their homes and community through the provision of information, advice and connecting to community, voluntary and statutory services where appropriate.

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

None identified at this time

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 A waiver to continue to contract with the existing provider during the period will ensure continuity of service from a trusted provider until we can review our options when the community dementia hub is developed. If we did tender the service there is a risk that a different provider may be appointed for just a 12 month period, which may not be in the best interests of the existing service users

8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 No issues identified at this time.

9.0 **REASON(S) FOR DECISION**

9.1 Executive Board Approval is required for a waiver of standing orders for continued provision of post diagnosis community dementia support.

10.0 **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

10.1 Retendering this contract may result in the council awarding the contract to another provider which would result in a risk to continuity

of care and support to a vulnerable client group. It is preferred to remain with the existing provider to continue to achieve positive outcomes for the existing client base, and new clients, through well established relationships that they have with health, social care and the local voluntary and community sector. The service staff have a sound local knowledge of the population, geography and voluntary and community sectors in Halton and have used this to help people achieve personalised outcomes. The service has worked with North West Boroughs to ensure continued referrals into the service and increase referrals through an 'opt out' approach. This has so far proven to be working well.

11.0 **IMPLEMENTATION DATE**

11.1 1st October 2019

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

12.1 None.