

PUBLIC

Agenda Item No: 7(c)

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

16 June 2015

Report of the Strategic Director for Adult Care

**MULTI-SUPPLIER FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT FOR THE PROVISION OF
SPECIALIST HOME CARE (SUPPORTED LIVING) SERVICES FOR ADULTS
WITH HIGH LEVEL SUPPORT NEEDS**

ADULT SOCIAL CARE

1. Purpose of Report

To seek approval to undertake a procurement exercise to establish a multi-supplier framework agreement for the provision of specialist home care services, including supported living and extra care settings for people with high level support needs.

2. Information and Analysis

The current multi-supplier framework for the provision of home care services in supported living settings is due to finish on the 31 March 2016. Eligible providers on the current framework are either offered work on a spot purchase basis, or invited to apply for available work via a 'mini competition'.

2.1 Supported Living

The aim of supported living is to achieve choice, control and community inclusion to ensure individual needs are met. The main principles of supported living are that people own or rent their home and have control over the support they get, who they live with (if anyone) and how they live their lives through the support from externally commissioned home care services.

Supported living assumes that all people, regardless of the level or type of disability, are able to make choices about how to live their lives even if the person does not make choices in conventional ways. Supporting people to have their own home choice and control and a decent income are enabling factors offering people with a learning disability citizenship and social inclusion.

Supported living models in Derbyshire include:

- living in a rented or owned property and getting an individual support package
- sharing with others in a rented property (mostly owned and managed by a Registered Social Landlord) and each person getting an individual support package
- extra care or sheltered housing

2.2 Proposed Multi Supplier Framework

The multi-supplier framework agreement will establish agreements with providers who are regulated by the Care Quality Commission to provide home care services. The framework agreement will set out terms and conditions under which specific purchases (call –offs) can be made for specialist home care provision for people with high level support needs. There is no obligation on the Council to buy anything through a framework agreement, which means that the Council is not tied to the framework and can use it where it provides value for money and the requisite standard of support, but can use other contract arrangements if required.

It is proposed that the multi-supplier framework identifies a range categories of services to be provided to ensure that prospective providers have the requisite skills and experience to meet the high level support needs of people with autism, people with learning disabilities, people with acute mental health, behaviours that challenge and traumatic brain injury. There will be no restriction on the number of providers who can be on it provided they meet the minimum required standards as set out in the tender documentation. It is considered that this mechanism provides the largest marketplace possible from which clients of adult care can select their activities. Individuals will then be able to purchase services directly via their personal budgets.

It is proposed that the framework agreement term is for a period of two years with annual options for the Council to extend for up to two further periods of twelve months. If this tender exercise does not provide the extensive market coverage required and there are new entrants to the market then there will be further consideration of setting up a new framework agreement. Any such recommendation would be presented to Cabinet for approval.

3. Financial Considerations

The total spend on Supported Living Schemes in 2014-15 was £17.983m. The future spend using the proposed framework will be met by Adult Care budgets.

4. Legal Considerations

The framework agreement will establish contracts with providers which set out terms and conditions under which specific purchases (call-offs) can be made for the services, which can be used when required throughout the term of the agreement.

5. Equality and Diversity Considerations

The use of the framework agreement for the provision of supported living and support services for adults will promote dignity, choice, respect and inclusion. The procurement process and service specifications will be used to assess and monitor the values and practices of providers in relation to equality and diversity.

6. Other Considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: human resources, health, environmental, transport, and crime and disorder considerations.

7. Key Decision

No

8. Is it necessary to waive the call-in period?

No

9. Officer's Recommendation

That Cabinet approves a procurement exercise to establish a multi-supplier framework agreement for the provision of specialist home care services, including supported living and extra care settings for people with high level support needs.

Mary McElvaney
Strategic Director – Adult Care