

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

28 July 2015

Report of the Strategic Director for Adult Care

HOME CARE PROVISION AT WALTHAM HOUSE EXTRA CARE SCHEME

ADULT SOCIAL CARE

1. Purpose of Report

To seek Cabinet approval:

To undertake a procurement exercise for the provision of home care services at Waltham House Extra Care Scheme in Wirksworth for an initial period of one year with annual options for the Council to extend the contract for up to three further periods of twelve months.

2. Information and Analysis

Waltham House is an Extra Care Housing scheme in Wirksworth offering 39 apartments for sale, rent and shared ownership for vulnerable older adults requiring supported accommodation, plus access to an on-site home care service. Two of these apartments are used for the provision of short term care. Referrals to the short term care units are determined by the Council and any home care service required by these Service Users will be provided ordinarily from the total care hours allocation provided for within the current contracted home care service. The scheme also provides a location for a Derbyshire County Council day care facility plus a range of communal facilities offering services to both the scheme residents and the local community. The scheme is managed by Housing and Care 21 a Registered Social Landlord who have extensive experience in providing this type of housing.

Housing and Care 21 were awarded a contract in September 2008 to provide home care service to residents of Waltham House with eligible care needs following a procurement exercise.

Cabinet agreed on 15 February 2015 to extend the contract for one year from 1 April 2015 with Housing and Care 21 to allow further work to be undertaken to consider the best procurement method for the future provision of this service. This extension is due to end on 31 March 2016 and permission is now sought to procure a new service to commence on 1 April 2016.

2.1 Current Service

This service provides 291 block contracted hours per week, which provides for two care staff during the day and one during the night with a small number of additional 'floating hours' enabling the provider to offer a flexible service that can respond quickly to any temporary fluctuations in need and to provide support to clients using the short-term care flats. When, and if, the level of need exceeds this level of block contracted hours, then additional hours are purchased on a spot contract basis.

3. Proposal

It is proposed to undertake a procurement exercise at the current service value of £0.183m. The expectation is that the successful provider will be required to maximise the number of available support hours within this budget. The provider will need to evidence value for money, whilst improving service outcomes. The successful provider will also need to demonstrate a commitment to build on the service at Waltham House by offering a home care service on a spot contract basis in and around Wirksworth.

It is proposed that the contract agreement term is initially for a period of one year with annual options for the Council to extend for up to three further periods of twelve months. This proposal to introduce an option to extend the contract on a yearly basis will offer flexibility to be better able to respond to changing conditions in the home care market. This will also allow for a renegotiation of the service offer if the average utilisation of the service falls below the agreed service availability.

4. Human Resources Considerations

The Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 (TUPE) may apply to staff who are currently employed to work at this scheme if there is a transfer of service provision as a result of a procurement exercise.

For services to children or vulnerable adults, approval of any contract is conditional on the existence within these organisations of appropriate statutory procedures assessing suitability to work with children or vulnerable adults.

5. Legal Considerations

The procurement will be subject to the light touch regime rules set out in Regulations 74 to 77 of the Public Contract Regulations 2015.

6. Financial Considerations

The costs of this contract are £0.183m for a 12 month period. This can be met from the Adult Care budget.

7. Property Considerations

These are dealt with in the contract and nominations agreements for the Extra Care Scheme as previously drawn up to offer tenancies and right to buy opportunities compatible with the purpose of the accommodation.

8. Key Decision

No.

9. Call-in

Is it necessary for the call-in period to be waived?

No

10. Other Considerations

In preparing this report, the relevance of the following factors has been considered: Prevention of crime and disorder; equality of opportunity; environmental; health, and transport considerations.

11. Officer Recommendation

That approval be given:

To undertake a procurement exercise for the provision of home care services at Waltham House Extra Care Scheme in Wirksworth for an initial period of one year with annual options for the Council to extend the contract for up to three further periods of twelve months.

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