

02 February 2015**Agenda Item: 6****REPORT OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR, ADULT SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH AND
PUBLIC PROTECTION****APPROVAL TO TENDER FOR EARLY INTERVENTION SUPPORT SERVICES****Purpose of the Report**

1. This report now sets out the case for and seeks approval to go to tender for early intervention and prevention support services.

Information and Advice

2. The Adult Social Care Strategy sets out that there will be investment in early intervention and prevention support where this will bring about a reduction in demand for more intense, higher costs services. The Care Act also sets out a requirement for the Authority to 'provide or arrange for services, facilities or resources which would prevent, delay or reduce individuals' needs for care and support, or the needs for support of carers'.
3. Early intervention and prevention support services funded from the former Supporting People budget have been reviewed to consider who is using services, what outcomes are being achieved. Support from the Institute for Public Care (IPC) has been received in respect of evidencing interventions that are effective in delivering prevention outcomes and also identifying risk factors in older people that are most likely to result in escalating need, demand for social care and admission to residential care. Discussions are also on-going with colleagues in Public Health and partners in Clinical Commissioning Groups and District Councils to identify services that both meet the right gap in service and deliver this right approach to achieve preventative outcomes.
4. Three core service demands have been identified as:
 - a. **Short term support to self-care** for people at risk of deteriorating health and independence as a result of age, mobility, disability, long term health condition or bereavement. The service will be targeted at people who have lived independently but are now at risk of escalating need and require information, advice, signposting or short term help to work out how they can adapt to their circumstances in order to continue to self-manage. The service, designed to address the identified, need will provide support for up to six weeks and will focus on ensuring that people can manage their health effectively, are living in appropriate homes, have networks of social contact and informal support, are managing financially and can acquire the skills or access the technology to enable them to continue to live without formal support.

- b. **Medium term support to promote independence** for people who, as a result of low/moderate learning disability, autistic spectrum disorders, acquired brain injury etc, lack the skills to sustain independence and consequently are identified through safeguarding referrals or become known to local operational teams. These service users can place high demands on staff time and sometimes end up in inappropriate placements that are not likely to result in the best outcomes for them. The service designed to meet this need will provide support over a longer period but still be time limited (up to two years). It will focus on development of skills for independence, access to community based opportunities and resources, and networks of informal support but will also recognise that this target population of service users are likely to return periodically for support or reassurance.

There are currently around 20 service users with moderate learning disabilities, who do not meet the current eligibility criteria for care services, but who receive commissioned packages of support through the Care, Support and Enablement (CSE) contract, funded from the former Supporting People budget. It is proposed that support for these service users would be more appropriately commissioned as an addition to the above service and that budget should be moved accordingly.

There are currently accommodation services in place that provide valuable resources for vulnerable adults in the county. North Road (Rushcliffe) provides assessment and skills development on a short term basis for up to four people at a time before being moved on to a more permanent accommodation and support arrangement. This is well used by the Asperger's Team and Community Learning Disability Teams and helps to avoid risk averse, over-commissioned solutions. Chatsworth House (Ashfield) provides safe, medium term housing for vulnerable adults, with staff on site for core hours in the day and additional support commissioned from the provider on the basis of individual need. Portland Street (Mansfield) provides self-contained housing with low level support for people with moderate learning disabilities. It is proposed that these services are retained as part of the on-going vulnerable adult provision.

- c. **Specialist deaf support.** There is an existing deaf support service that benefits from established links with other deaf specific provision (e.g. with the NHS funded BSL Healthy Minds programme, specialist mental health nurse services for the deaf community and the Deaf Society). The provider utilises specific technology for communication and support planning and monitoring. It is proposed that a specialist service is retained in order that valuable skills and connections are not diluted within a generic service and that staff can be appropriately supported. The service commissioned will be based on a clearer definition of role, a more enabling approach and more effective use of technology to deliver efficiency.
5. In respect of short term support to self-care (identified need 4a.), discussions with the CCG Transformation Programmes are at different stages. In order to recognise and reflect the context of local health and health partnership work, it is proposed that this element of service is tendered in three lots, defined by the transformation area boundaries. Medium term support and specialist deaf service would be tendered as countywide services in two separate lots, therefore creating five lots in total.

6. The budget allocated to the commissioning of the proposed services is set out in Appendix 1.
7. Against the combined services, the targeted service review identified a saving of £200,000 and a target implementation date of September 2015. The savings proposal has been carried forward as a consultation category B proposal. No specific feedback has identified through the NCC Budget Consultation. Previous consultation that has been carried out revealed that whilst a substantial number of people were concerned about the loss of funding of traditional long term support for older people and for community alarms, service users and statutory partners agree with the focus of proposed short term service given the resources that are available. Discussions have also taken place with the current providers of vulnerable adults and deaf support services to help shape these service elements.
8. It is now therefore proposed that the County Council goes to tender to seek providers for five lots of service as outlined.

Other Options Considered

9. The option of rolling the medium term promoting independence support and deaf services up with the support to self-care was considered as there is a shared goal to support people to independence. However the service demands are based on a very different service user history and starting point: the short term support self-care assumes that the service user has lived independently but faces risks to on-going self-management as a result of ill health, reduced mobility, bereavement etc whereas the medium term support service will support people who may never have had the skills to manage independently. It is for this reason that Mid Nottinghamshire CCG does not see a connection between their self-care programme and this need.
10. The option of integrating the deaf service with either of the other two service types was also considered. Whilst there are good links with the short term support to self-care, there is clear rationale not to separate this specialist provision into three lots.

Reasons for Recommendations

11. It is now recommended that the County Council proceeds to tender for the outlined services in order that:
 - Appropriate early intervention support is put in place for older people and people with long term conditions. There is currently a gap in provision in this area and the proposed service would support the Council to discharge its duties under the Care Act 2014;
 - Existing support provided through a vulnerable adults floating support service and a deaf floating support service are focussed in accordance with the revised Adult Social Care Strategy;

Statutory and Policy Implications

12. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are

material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

13. The budget for this tender is established core budget linked to historic services which will be replaced through this process. The majority of this budget is already available and uncommitted since the cessation of contracts for older people's service in November 2014. The commissioning of these services is not a requirement for the delivery of further savings.

Human Resources Implications

14. Current and future service are commissioned from external providers. Existing service contracts for support to older people ended on 30th November 2014 but many providers have continued to deliver a reduced service on a self-funded basis. The commissioning of the short term element of the proposed service will create new jobs where the previous few years have seen significant reductions.

Public Sector Equality Duty implications

15. Commissioning these services should have a positive impact in terms of addressing the needs of older and vulnerable adults at greatest risk of developing the need for more formal social care interventions.

Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults Implications

16. All services tendered will seek to address safeguarding risks to service users. The medium term support service will take safeguarding risks into account in prioritisation and service allocation.

Implications for Service Users

17. The short term support to self-care represents a new service development and therefore has no existing service users. Service users of the existing Vulnerable Adults service and Deaf Support service may see changes to both their service provider and the service delivered. In particular, deaf service users are likely to experience increased expectations around self-management and a reduction in one-to-one support, home visits and accompanied appointments.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That:

- 1) the following early intervention and prevention services are approved to proceed to tender at an annual cost of £1.713M:
 - Short term support to self-care
 - Medium term support to promote independence
 - Specialist deaf support

- 2) this budget is supplemented by an additional budget of approximately £85k that is linked to specific individuals currently supported through the Care, Support & Enablement contract

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Constitutional Comments (LM 20/01/15)

18. The Adult Social Care and Health Committee has delegated authority within the Constitution to approve the recommendations in the report.

Financial Comments (to follow)

- 19.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All