

# Cabinet



Date of meeting: 10 July 2023

Title of Report: **Options for the Future Delivery of Extra Care Housing and Social Inclusion**

Lead Member: Councillor Mary Aspinall (Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care)

Lead Strategic Director: Anna Coles (Interim Strategic Director for People)

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Your Reference:

Key Decision: Yes

Confidentiality: Part I - Official

## Purpose of Report

This business case proposes options for the future delivery of Extra Care Housing for older people and social inclusion services.

## Recommendations and Reasons

It is recommended that the Cabinet:

- Approves the Business Case;
- Approves the direct award of a new contract to the current Extra Care provider, Gemcare Southwest T/A Cera Care, for a period of 8 months to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 in order to bridge the gap in provision of services whilst a procurement exercise is undertaken (with a contract value for 8 months of circa £2.3m);
- Approves the decision to commence a procurement process for the commencement of new contracts in April 2024 for extra care housing service for older people (care element) and social inclusion (total potential contract value for full contract term and potential additional ECH stock to address future demand – circa £50m);
- Delegates authority to the Strategic Director for People to make the contract award decision, and other relevant decisions in relation to this contract where authority to do so is not already delegated to officers.

## Alternative options considered and rejected

	Option	Comments
I.	Extend the current contracts	The current contract has been in place for a number of years for both extra care and social inclusion, with no further extension options and therefore a redesign is needed to ensure the services are fit for purpose and equitable across all of the schemes.

		There has been interest from other providers in relation to the contracts, and therefore an extension of the current contracts would not be equitable across the market and could be open to challenge.
2.	Do nothing – let the contracts expire.	<p>This provision supports citizens to be able to live independently and engage in social activities. Without sufficient provision in place there is a risk that needs will be unmet and demand will rise for more intensive forms of housing, support and care.</p> <p>The Local Authority has a statutory duty to provide care and support for people, and therefore it is not an option to not have these services in place.</p>
3.	Direct Award (of a longer term contract then 8 months)	Consideration has been given to making direct award of a contract to the Local Authority Trading Company. However, as this service was set up with the purpose and aims of addressing market failure, the Extra Care and social inclusion re-procurement does not meet this criteria and therefore to ensure a fair and equitable process is undertaken, an open tender is the recommendation.

### Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

The **Plymouth Plan 2014-2034** details the Local Authority's ambition to meet local housing needs, ensuring that everyone has access to a safe home which is suited to their needs and located in a community where they want to live. One of the key aspects of this is enabling older people to promote, secure and sustain their independence in a home appropriate to their needs, including increased provision for extra care housing.

The ECH model meets Plymouth City Council's **Corporate Plan** priorities to focus on prevention and early intervention, by supporting people to live at home for longer and prevent early reliance on bedded care, and supporting people to be protected and feel safe.

### Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

The procurement aims to reduce contract overheads by simplifying the contract structure for both Extra Care and Social Inclusion. It is anticipated that this is likely to lead to some cost avoidance on both contracts, although this is not yet able to be quantified.

### Financial Risks

There are no financial risks to the service; the provision is built into the annual budget. There is financial benefit where people are enabled to reside within extra care as opposed to move into bedded care.

### Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

The ECH model supports Plymouth's Go Green ambition by having multiple scheme locations across the City, reducing the need for people to travel to their place of work. It also encourages local community access, again reducing the need for travel for residents of the schemes.

### Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:

*\* When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.*

## Appendices

\*Add rows as required to box below

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	Options for the future delivery of extra care housing and social inclusion – Part 1							
B	Options for the future delivery of extra care housing and social inclusion – Part 2			X				
C	Equalities Impact Assessment							

## Background papers:

\*Add rows as required to box below

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Not applicable							

## Sign off:

Fin	DJN. 23.24. 48	Leg	EJ/10 98/20 .6.23( 1)	Mon Off		HR	N/A	Asset s	N/A	Strat Proc	SS/SC/026 /BC/0623
Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Emma Crowther, Interim Head of Commissioning											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes											
Date agreed: 13/06/2023											
Cabinet Member approval: Councillor Mary Aspinall (Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care)											
Date approved: 26/06/2023											