

PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL

Subject: Contract Award: Framework Agreement for Support, Enablement and Care Services to help Adults with Learning Disabilities to live independently (people who are at risk of offending or perpetrating harmful behaviour)

Committee: Cabinet

Date: 17 January 2012

Cabinet Member: Councillor Monahan

CMT Member: Director of People

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Ref:

Key Decision: Yes

Part: I

Executive Summary:

Supported living services are commissioned to provide support, enablement and care for adults with learning disabilities to help them to live independent lives, safely within their own homes in the community.

Within this provision, specialist services exist to provide support to people who have a learning disability and who are at risk of offending or perpetrating harmful behaviour.

In total, currently 21 service users are supported through this specialist provision funded via both Plymouth City Council Adult Social Care and NHS Plymouth. The projected 2011/12 spend for supported living services resourced via both funding streams is £1,700,561 of which Adult Social Care spends £1,307,951 per annum.

The national agenda for people with learning disabilities outlined in "Valuing People Now" promotes support in the community including people who are at risk of perpetrating harmful behaviour.

This is underpinned by the national agenda for adult health and social care which promotes personalisation, choice and control.

In order to meet this agenda, and improve the market alongside ensuring value for money, Plymouth City Council and NHS Plymouth have jointly agreed the need to establish a framework of providers via a competitive procurement exercise.

The tenders were evaluated by a team of staff from across both Plymouth City Council and NHS Plymouth and also included service users.

Corporate Plan 2011-2014:

The award and execution of these contracts specifically relates to the following Corporate Priorities:

Raise aspiration: raise the skills and expectations of Plymouth residents.

Reduce inequalities: reduce the large economic and health gaps between different areas of the city by tackling the causes.

Provide value for communities: become more efficient and join up with partners and local residents to deliver services in new and better ways.

Deliver Growth: Tackling worklessness by increasing access to training and employment for homeless vulnerable people and increase the number returning to paid employment.

Implications for Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications: Including finance, human, IT and land

The award of this 'framework' is estimated to realise a 0.64% financial efficiency saving per annum for Plymouth City Council (equating to £8,329.82), compared to the previous year's expenditure on this service, assuming the level of demand remains the same.

Other Implications: e.g. Community Safety, Health and Safety, Risk Management and Equality, Diversity and Community Cohesion:

- The framework agreement will reduce risk to Plymouth City Council and NHS Plymouth, in addition to promoting the provision of quality services to service users, through a robust contract and contract management process which is not currently applied to all provision.
- By increasing the range of specialist providers that Plymouth City Council and NHS Plymouth contract with, the client group will have access to a wider range of support which will be more able to respond to meet need and as such reduce associated risks.
- The services will enable people with a learning disability to access community services, increase their independence and enjoy being part of their community.

An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed which has highlighted that the procurement of a framework of services to deliver support would generally have a positive impact by ensuring the delivery of personalised services and increased choice. It was considered that there may be an initial adverse impact for any service users whose current support provider either decides not to participate in the tender or loses their contract as a result of the tender process. The resulting action identified the need for communication, support and advocacy for service users who may be affected alongside a variety of options for their ongoing support. Service users will not lose services as a result of this tender.

Recommendations & Reasons for recommended action:

The recommendation is that a three year contract, with an option for one year extension, be awarded to the successful suppliers for the following:

‘Framework of services to support people with a learning disability who have complex needs’

The evaluation process determined their offers to be the most economically advantageous tenders based on price and quality. The award of these contracts is forecasted to achieve efficiencies.

Alternative options considered and reasons for recommended action:

Extend Existing Contracts:

Existing spot contracts in place are reviewed in line with the individual service user’s support plan review. Block contracts funded via Supporting People revenue (part of ASC) expire 29th April 2012. If these were extended the opportunity to ensure price management, achieve value for money and deliver choice within the umbrella of personalisation would be lost.

In addition, the procurement of these services is subject to Plymouth Council’s Contract Standing Orders which state that any procurement over the threshold value of £75,000 is to be competitively tendered.

Background papers:

Equality Impact Assessment

Sign off:

Fin	CoSF A1112 002-SRA- 25/11/20 11	Leg	13299	HR		Corp Prop		IT		Strat Proc	JK/SPU/CP/2 60/1111
Originating SMT Member: Pam Marsden											