

PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL

Subject:	Dynamic Purchasing System - Adaptations
Committee:	Cabinet
Date:	13 th March 2018
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Ricketts, Cabinet Member for Transport & Housing Delivery.
CMT Member:	Carole Burgoyne, Director for People
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Ref:	DPS - Adaptations
Key Decision:	Yes
Part:	I

Purpose of the report:

This report seeks the support of cabinet to utilise a new method for procuring adaptations for elderly and disabled people in their own homes, via Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG).

The DFG allocation is specified via the Better Care Fund (BCF) and is for the provision of adaptations to disabled people's homes. For 2017/18, Plymouth's allocation was £2.126m in total, an increase from £1.954m in 2016/17. It is forecast that over £600k will be spend on Bathroom adaptations alone, at an average cost of £4400. Bathroom adaptations allow elderly and disabled people to access showering facilities that meet their everyday need and reduce risk to health and of injury. We would therefore anticipate to spend approximately £3m adapting bathrooms across the city over the next 5 years.

On 1st May 2014 Plymouth City Council launched the Devon and Cornwall Bathroom Adaptation Framework agreement, a standardised schedule of rates offering a reduction in average cost, due to framework including Devon & Cornwall, and a simplified method for procuring bathroom adaptations. The framework reduced timescales and offered quality control of all work produced. This framework was for 2 years with an option to extend for a further 2 years. This brings this framework to an end on 31st April 2018, and as such we have been working to find future solutions to procuring bathroom adaptations, and bring more innovation to this area of work.

The existing framework brought benefits to all who used it, however, it did not offer a sound operating model to each authority using it, bringing inconsistencies, and it did not allow new products to be introduced and had no mechanism for replacing or introducing suppliers or contractors. This meant that the framework was limiting when additional need or opportunity presented.

It is proposed that Plymouth City Council introduce a Dynamic Purchasing System for the procurement of adaptations and we have therefore been working with Independence Community Interest Company (In.CIC) for over a year to develop the Dynamic Purchasing System for Adaptations. We will be focusing on bathroom adaptations in the first instance, and will develop the system further to include all type of adaptations.

The Corporate Plan 2016 - 19:

The Dynamic Purchasing System, focuses on the customer need in a specific and bespoke way and offers a more efficient procurement method of the most vulnerable in our city. It offers an opportunity to reduce risk to those most in need and support the care arrangements for elderly and disabled people. This is the first Dynamic Purchasing System for this type of work, and offers full flexibility for both local authorities and those funding adaptations privately. Plymouth is therefore leading the way in procurement of adaptations, and has the opportunity to work with Local Authorities across the country, thus having the potential to take advantages of economies of scale.

The DPS is fully electronic and as such supported The Way We Work programme.

Provision of home adaptations supports prevention and early intervention by reducing the risk of injury and health complications to elderly and disabled citizens. The provision of DFG's contributes to 'Caring Plymouth' by promoting independence and reducing health and social inequality, helping people to take control of their lives and to be treated with dignity and respect. DFG funded major adaptations enable people to remain in their own homes, thereby helping to contain the potential for increases in costs to health and care services and minimising risks to disabled people, their family and carers. Wellbeing is a guiding principle throughout the Care Act 2014 which sets out the framework for the future provision of adult social care. Suitability of living accommodation is one of the matters local authorities must take into account as part of its duty to promote wellbeing. The provision of major adaptations is a preventative measure which can promote someone's wellbeing allowing them to live as independently as possible and for as long as possible.

The wider context of adaptations promotes independence and supporting elderly and disabled people to access the community and therefore education, employment and support the local economy.

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

In.CIC have been instructed to undertake the procurement of the DPS on behalf of Plymouth City Council. There is no cost implication for PCC at this stage. Once the DPS is operational a 1% management fee will be charged via each approved grant to use the DPS to procure each adaptation. It is hoped that with more authorities using the system this fee will reduce over the 5 year period.

If an efficient method of procurement is not found for adaptations 3 quotations will be required for each piece of work. This would be exceptionally resource intensive, and does not provide opportunity to reduce average cost of works.

In.CIC will be providing a web-based system to support the use of the DPS by officers, at no additional cost.

Disabled Facilities Grants are funded in the following way (17/18):

Capital:

Better Care Funding 2017/18:	£2,126,104
2016/17 Resources Carry Forward (previously approved)	£15,501
Total Project Funding	£2,141,605

All BCF Grant must be spent in accordance with the BCF spending plan, jointly agreed between the local authority and the relevant CCG's. Should this condition not be adhered to Plymouth City Council is liable to repay the funds received.

Revenue Implications:

The cost of appropriate staff time associated with the delivery of DFG works is currently partly funded within the above Capital allocation, and partly within Revenue allocation. The use of capital for staff time associated with the work directly impacts the overall capital budget for physical works, but is recognition of the true cost of delivering these improvements. In addition, this reduces pressure within the Council's revenue budget.

There is evidence to suggest that the provision of DFG's reduces revenue pressures within other services, including

- Adult Social Care Packages (where facilities reduce the support time required)
- Residential Care (where beneficiaries are able to remain independent or be supported by carers for longer)
- Children's Social Care (where Children are able to remain at home, avoiding the need for specialist placements)
- Reduced risk of Health Service use, through slips and falls etc.
- Reduced Hospital admissions / recovery times, where DFG provision enables patients to return home earlier.

Due to the ongoing pressures associated with the above services, it is likely that investment in DFG's will assist in containing costs within the existing budgets. It is also possible that it will generate some new "cashable" budgetary savings although these are not identified at this stage.

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

Public Health

- Many of DFG applicants suffer from the 4 chronic diseases, and as such are offered a method by which they can reduce the risk to their health in regard to their home environment.
- Adaptations to provide access to the community promotes activity in the context of the DFG applicant. All adaptations completed clearly promotes wellbeing, which may assist in addressing the 4 lifestyle behaviours, and combat the symptoms of depression which often lead to negative lifestyle behaviours.

Plymouth Plan

Strategic Objective SO4 Delivering a Healthy City.

- Helping ensure that children, young people and adults feel safe and confident in their communities, with all people treated with dignity and respect.
- Ensuring people get the right care from the right people at the right time to improve their health, wellbeing and social outcomes.

Policy 10 – Supporting Adults with Health and Social Care needs.

- Supporting people to manage their condition(s) to reduce their dependence on professional help.
- Supporting carers to carry out their caring role and have a full life outside of caring.
- Delivering high quality services that meet individual outcomes.

- Implementing a system of whole person care which delivers care and support in a way that makes sense to the person in the context of their whole life.

Equality and Diversity

Has an Equality Impact Assessment been undertaken? Yes

Recommendations and Reasons for recommended action:

To approve the use of the Dynamic Purchasing System from 1st May 2018 for the procurement of adaptations for disabled and elderly people via Disabled Facilities Grant.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

- Obtain 3 quotations for each piece of work
- Procure another framework agreement

Published work / information:

None

Background papers:

DPS Briefing v1 15.02.2018
DPS Business Case 21.08.2017

Title	Part I	Part II	Exemption Paragraph Number							
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

Sign off: comment must be sought from those whose area of responsibility may be affected by the decision, as follows (insert references of Finance, Legal and Monitoring Officer reps, and of HR, Corporate Property, IT and Strat. Proc. as appropriate):

Fin		Leg	2998 7/NJ	Mon Off		HR		Assets		IT		Strat Proc	
Originating SMT Member Matt Garret, Head of Community Connections													
Has the Cabinet Member(s) agreed the contents of the report? Yes													