

Decision Pathway – Report Template



PURPOSE: Key decision

MEETING: Cabinet

DATE: 10 June 2018

TITLE	Adult Carers Support Service contracts		
Ward(s)	All		
Author: Carol Watson	Job title: Head of Adult Care Commissioning		
Cabinet lead: Cllr Helen Holland	Executive Director lead: Jacqui Jensen		
Proposal origin: <i>BCC Staff</i>			
Decision maker: Cabinet Member Decision forum: <i>Cabinet</i>			
Purpose of Report: To approve the extensions of existing Adult Carers contracts and authorise the re-commissioning of carers support services based on a refreshed Carers Strategy.			
Evidence Base:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Adult carers are the largest social care workforce in the city, and prevent significant additional costs being added to the Adult Social Care budget. They provide essential support, practical help and physical care to family and friends. This is reflected in the Bristol Carers' Strategy. The role of carer can take a toll on people's emotional and physical wellbeing, and carers can become isolated or may not know how best to assist their loved one. Carers' support is therefore an essential element of avoiding carer breakdown with associated human and financial consequences. Carer breakdown can lead to an increase in services required from BCC for a vulnerable adult or disabled child, including residential care. Bristol City Council and Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group (BNSSG CCG) jointly share a pooled budget (£1.8m per year) under a Section 75 agreement to support carers in the city. Under the Care Act 2014 Bristol City Council has a statutory duty to support carers in the city. The provision of citywide support services to carers is a key part of this, and is also a key strategic element of delivering the Better Lives programme. There is a well-established set of carers' organisations in the City. Bristol has had a Carers' Strategy for some time, and recognition of carers needs are a focus in Adult Care, including a Bristol City Council Integrated Carers' Team. The Council entered into agreements for Bristol Black Carers' Support Services, Carers' Support Centre, Chinese Women's Group from 2007/2008, and parent carers' support services from 2008. These agreements have been viewed historically as grant agreements, and have been extended a number of times. This report proposes the ratification of recent extensions of the Current Carers' Support Services Contracts funded partially through the Pooled Carers' Budgets, for the periods and values set out below 			
	Contract	Duration of extension	Value of extension
	Parent Carers' Support Service	1 April 2019 to 30 June 2020	£25,723
	Chinese Women's Group	1 April 2019 to 30 June 2020	£45,641
	Carers' Support Service	1 April 2019 to 30 June 2020	£470,711

(partially funded by BNSSG CCG)		
Carers' Services (Black Carers Support)	1 April 2019 to 30 June 2020	£75,731

6. The Council commenced the re-commissioning of adult carers' services in October 2018. There have been unavoidable delays in undertaking the recommissioning process for a number of reasons including the aspiration to consider a whole city approach to supporting carers, bringing together a set of separate contracts and the appointment of a new strategic lead for Carers who will now take forward refreshing the Carers Strategy and strategically re-commissioning in line with this Strategy.
7. There has also been a delay in establishing the exact level of contribution from the CCG to the process. The delay in finalising these CCG contributions has impacted on neighbouring authorities, South Gloucestershire and North Somerset - who have also delayed their commissioning intentions. Some of these services work across more than one authority. It is now confirmed that the BNSSG CCG contribution for next year will be £216,514.
8. Extending the existing contracts to 30 June 2020 will allow time to agree a new strategy for carers and to ensure services are recommissioned in line with the revised proposals. This will also allow time for both carers themselves and key carers' organisations to be involved in producing a revised Carers Strategy, following which BCC and CCG will commence an appropriate re-commissioning process.
9. The consequence of this recommendation not being agreed would be that existing contracts will cease, meaning a range of services for carers would be lost with implications for meeting our statutory duties (and loss of the BNSSG CCG funding contribution). A shorter extension has been considered, however this would mean two sets of simultaneous activity; consultation on a Draft commissioning plan & consultation on a Draft Carers' strategy.
10. The commissioning cycle has started. A whole city approach will be taken, produced with carers themselves, to ensure that resources, including BCC funding, are used in the most effective way to deliver services for carers in Bristol. The engagement activity will synchronise with engagement and consultation on the Draft Carers' Strategy due to take place during summer 2019. This will avoid duplication of activity, and the placing of additional demands on carers and the organisations that support them. This strategic re-commissioning of Carers services is being recommended through this report.

Cabinet Member / Officer Recommendations:

That Cabinet: -

1. Approve the recent extensions of the contracts for:
 - a) Bristol Black Carers' Support Services from 1 April 2019 to 30 June 2020 to the value of £75,731
 - b) Carers' Support Centre from 1 April 2019 to 30 June 2020 to the value of £470,711
 - c) Chinese Women's Group from 1 April 2019 to 30 June 2020 to the value of £45,641
 - d) Parent Carers' Support Services from 1 April 2019 to 30 June 2020 to the value of £25,723
2. Authorise the Executive Director: People in consultation with the Cabinet Member for People to re-commission carers services in Bristol within a total budget envelope of £3,089,030 m from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2025 (subject to joint CCG budget approvals).

Corporate Strategy alignment:

There are clear local strategic drivers and values that underpin the recommissioning of carers services. They are:

1. The BCC Market Position Statement for Adult Social Care: The MPS outlines key objectives for meeting the needs of carers in Bristol which are to
 - a. Ensure best value for money from public funds, to support carers in their caring role, both from a social care and health perspective.
 - b. Support delivery of the Carers Strategy, particularly focused on areas where there are currently no

services to support key outcomes.

- c. Ensure future flexibility of services to meet changing demands in the city.
 - d. Ensure a partnership approach with carers and organisations in the City to design and deliver new services.
 - e. Work to embed the Better Lives programme in the way that services and communities are enabled to support carers in Bristol.
2. BCC Corporate Strategy 2018-23
 - a. Empowering and Caring: Work with partners to empower communities and individuals, increase Independence and support those who need it.
 - b. Fair and Inclusive: Improve economic and social equity, pursuing economic growth which includes everyone.
 - c. Well Connected: Take bold and innovative steps to make Bristol a joined up city, linking up people with jobs and with each other.
 - d. Wellbeing: Create healthier and more resilient communities where life expectancy is not determined by wealth or background
 3. Mayor’s Vision: To ensure life chances and health are not determined by wealth and background.
 4. Adults Social Care Strategic Plan 2016-2020: People can get the right help at the right time to promote independence and to prevent, reduce or delay the need for long-term support.

City Benefits:

This proposal ensures the continued provision of high quality Carers services for which the Council has a statutory responsibility to provide, with a commissioning approach which will provide best value for the tax-payer and the best service for carers needing support.

Consultation Details:

Early engagement has taken place with current providers and service users to review current services and develop a service user engagement process throughout the commissioning cycle.
The consultation on the Draft Commissioning plan for Carers services will take place, to be scheduled after the Carers Strategy has been refreshed.

Background Documents:

The Care Act 2014 placed a legal duty on councils to assess a carer’s need for support (20 - Duty and power to meet a carer’s needs for support). <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/23/section/20/enacted>
BCC Market Position Statement June 2018 A full recommissioning of all contracts to support carers in their role will be carried out during 2018-19. This will be based on the requirements set out in the Carers Strategy 2015-2020. <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/documents/20182/2678414/Market+Position+Statement/bdd21e05-0a76-94ae-4094-246ad9eb5739>
The current Carers strategy is hosted on the BCC website <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/policies-plans-and-strategies/carer-strategy>
Draft Full Carers Needs Analysis (external version) and Summary documents – See Appendix A

Revenue Cost	Recommendation 1- extension of existing contracts until June 2020 Total £617,806 (£401,292 - BCC £216,514 – CCG)	Source of Revenue Funding	General Fund: Cost centre 12096/12061 CCG: Section 75 agreement
	Recommendation 2 – Strategic recommissioning of Carers services		

	£3,089,030 Total: £3,706,836		
Capital Cost	£ zero	Source of Capital Funding	n/a
One off cost <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ongoing cost <input type="checkbox"/>	Saving Proposal <input type="checkbox"/>	Income generation proposal <input type="checkbox"/>

Required information to be completed by Financial/Legal/ICT/ HR partners:		
1. Finance Advice: The proposed costs of the contract extensions contained within this report are fully covered by BCC's current revenue budget for 2019/20 and 2020/21 together with agreed funding from the CCG.		
Finance Business Partner: Neil Sinclair, 30 th April 2019		
2. Legal Advice: The existing contracts have now expired and are continuing by way of extension in order to maintain services. It is recognised that the need to extend these contracts places the Council in a situation where it may breach the procurement regulations, and so expose the Council to a risk of challenge. The regulations do however allow for awarding contracts without running the usual competition process in certain circumstances, and furthermore provide a procedure whereby the Council might protect its position in the event of challenge. Officers will explore these options, together with any other operational arrangements which will avoid or minimise the risk on non-compliance. The fact that the extensions are required to allow time for the Council to review and potentially restructure the services for the benefit of service users, and then running a fully compliant tendering process, will also help mitigate the risk of challenge. Legal services will advise and assist officers with regard to the conduct of the proposed procurement process and the resulting contractual arrangements.		
Legal Team Leader: Sinead Willis, Team Leader, Corporate and Governance Team, 25 April 2019		
3. Implications on IT: "There are no identifiable direct IT implications in extend existing services. There may, however, be some implications regarding data sharing arrangements and technology should there be a change of supplier."		
IT Team Leader: Ian Gale, Head of IT, 24 April 2019		
4. HR Advice: The report is seeking agreement to waive Bristol City Council's procurement rules and to allow a direct award to three key carers organisations in the City, across 5 contracts to ensure the continued provision of high quality Carers services for which the Council has a statutory responsibility to provide. This proposal does not have any HR or employee implications.		
HR Partner: Lorna Laing, People & Culture HR Business Partner, Adults, Children & Education 25 April 2019		
EDM Sign-off	Jacqui Jensen	1 st May 2019
Cabinet Member sign-off	Councillor Helen Holland	29 th April 2019
For Key Decisions - Mayor's Office sign-off	Mayor's Office	03 rd May 2019

Appendix A – Further essential background / detail on the proposal Carers Needs Analysis : Summary	YES
Appendix B – Details of consultation carried out - internal and external	NO
Appendix C – Summary of any engagement with scrutiny	NO
Appendix D – Risk assessment	NO
Appendix E – Equalities screening / impact assessment of proposal	YES
Appendix F – Eco-impact screening/ impact assessment of proposal	NO
Appendix G – Financial Advice	NO
Appendix H – Legal Advice	NO

Appendix I – Exempt Information	NO
Appendix J – HR advice	NO
Appendix K – ICT	NO