

Decision Pathway – Report



PURPOSE: Key decision

MEETING: Cabinet

DATE: 05 October 2020

TITLE	Enacting the extension of the Home Improvement Agency contract		
Ward(s)	City wide		
Author: Helen Pitches	Job title: Strategic Commissioning Manager		
Cabinet lead: Councillor Helen Holland, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care	Executive Director lead: Hugh Evans, Executive Director: People		
Proposal origin: BCC Staff			
Decision maker: Mayor			
Decision forum: Cabinet			
Purpose of Report:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve and authorise the extension of the Home Improvement Agency contract in line with the extensions available in the contract. 			
Evidence Base:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Home Improvement Agency service is delivered by WE Care, an industrial and provident society based in Bristol and working across the West of England. It provides critical services across Bristol and B&NES involving a total of over 16,000 interventions per year including handyperson services, technical housing projects, support home from hospital discharge services, home independence and advice and guidance. 2. The Home Improvement Agency has been commissioned deliver the following outcomes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to help residents of Bristol to remain in their own homes either existing or alternative that better meets their needs, • to help residents to maximise their independence and improve their wellbeing • that Bristol residents using the service feel safer, warmer and healthier • to meet the anticipated need for home improvement and adaptation services • to avoid medical and/or social care which is the result of unsuitable or unsafe housing • to increase the number and success of hospital discharge and to prevent readmission 3. WE care was awarded the Home Improvement Agency contract in 2018 with the contract commencing on 01/10/2018 and which is due to end on 31/03/2022 at an annual cost to the Local Authority of 887,419. Within the contract there is provision for the Authority to extend the contract up to 2 years in total. The original decision to recommission the Home Improvement Agency service was taken by the Health and Wellbeing Board in 2016 - that decision was to procure the service and award the contract but did not refer to the enactment of contract extensions. This report seeks permission to enact the extensions within the contract. 4. The service was commissioned in 2017 and has been performing in line with and in some areas exceeding the Key Performance Indicators as set out in the contract. WE Care have provided to date a service that is well 			

regarded. As an organisation they have been prepared to adapt to changing needs and are supportive and integral to the hospital discharge process. They have a good reputation with the public and with professionals (such as equipment prescribers). WE Care have engaged successfully with stakeholders in engagement with the local voluntary sector such as AgeUK.

5. We Care have taken on additional projects through the delivery of the contract. They have continued to deliver the Making Space project that enables people to declutter, clean and repair their homes - there is considerable demand for this support service in the City.
6. WE Care have adapted to the Coronavirus pandemic and managed their finances effectively. They continued to support the wider health and social care system and out of hospital discharge through the pandemic and have now seen demand for the service return to pre-pandemic levels.

Cabinet Member / Officer Recommendations:

That Cabinet:

1. Authorise the Executive Director of Adult Social Care in consultation with the Cabinet Member Adult Social Care to invoke the extension of the Home Improvement Agency contract for 2 years until 31/03/2024 at a cost of up to £887,419 per year.

Corporate Strategy alignment:

This proposal aligns with the 'Empowering and Caring' strategic aims in the corporate strategy. Working with partners to empower communities and individuals, increase independence and support those who need it.

City Benefits:

1. To help residents of Bristol to remain in their own homes either existing or alternative that better meets their needs.
2. To help Bristol residents to maximise their independence and improve their wellbeing.
3. Bristol residents feel safer, warmer and healthier.

Consultation Details:

None

Background Documents:

[Bristol City Council Strategic Plan](#)

Revenue Cost	£1,774,838	Source of Revenue Funding	General Fund - 12330
Capital Cost	£0	Source of Capital Funding	
One off cost <input type="checkbox"/>	Ongoing cost <input checked="" 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 extension of this contract will cost c£1.77m and will be met from within existing resources.

Finance Business Partner: Denise Hunt 13/08/21

2. Legal Advice: The extension within the terms of the contract does not raise any specific legal implications. Legal Services will advise and assist in relation to the contractual arrangements for the extension.

Legal Team Leader: Husinara Jones – 23/09/21

3. Implications on IT: No anticipated impact to IT/Digital Services		
IT Team Leader: Simon Oliver – 29/07/21		
4. HR Advice: The report is seeking approval to authorise the extension of the Home Improvement Agency contract, there are no significant HR implications arising from this request.		
HR Partner: Lorna Laing – 30/07/21		
EDM Sign-off	Stephen Beet	18/08/21
Cabinet Member sign-off	Councillor Helen Holland	19/08/21
For Key Decisions - Mayor's Office sign-off	Mayor's Office	23/08/21

Appendix A – Further essential background / detail on the proposal	NO
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	YES
Appendix G – Financial Advice	NO
Appendix H – Legal Advice	NO
Appendix I – Exempt Information	No
Appendix J – HR advice	NO
Appendix K – ICT	NO
Appendix L – Procurement	NO