

Decision Pathway – Report



PURPOSE: Key decision

MEETING: Cabinet

DATE: 18 January 2022

TITLE	Contract Extensions for Care and Support Services in Extra Care Housing		
Ward(s)	City Wide		
Author: Lucia Dorrington Tim Rabone	Job title: Deputy Director – Commissioning, Adult Social Care Commissioning Manager, Adult Social Care		
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">To seek approval for the extension of twelve of the thirteen contracts for Care and Support services in Extra Care Housing (ECH) for seven months, from 1 April 2022 to 31 October 2022, with the option of a further five months.The twelve contracts are due to expire on the 31 March 2022.There is a short delay in the re-commissioning of these contracts linked to Medium Term Financial Planning (MTFP) and the need for approved budget envelopes for ECH as part of MTFP work.Strategic re-commissioning of contracts is planned to commence after MTFP has concluded.			
Evidence Base <ol style="list-style-type: none">This cabinet report focuses on the request for the extension of twelve of the thirteen contracts for Care and Support services in ECH for seven months, with the option for a further five one-month extensions, should extra time be required to complete the tender process. A seven-month extension would run from 1 April 2022 to 31 October 2022, with the extensions running to 31 March 2023 at maximum.The risk of not extending the contract would be the discontinuation of statutory commissioned care and support services in twelve ECH services, leaving people who have support needs without care packages and the need to seek emergency alternative care services. This risk cannot be mitigated without the requested extension.The extension of the contracts will ensure a compliant, transparent, value for money, re-commissioning exercise can be completed in an appropriate timescale. Re-commissioning of care and support contracts in ECH will ensure the maintenance and further development of the care and support contracts that BCC commissions within ECH and that the future demand for commissioned care and support hours in ECH is met.The twelve contracts due to expire on the 31 March 2022 are as follows:<ul style="list-style-type: none">ABC Centre ECH Care and SupportAsh Lea Court ECH Care and SupportBlaise Weston ECH Care and SupportBluebell Gardens ECH Care and SupportColliers Gardens ECH Care and SupportHaberfield House ECH Care and SupportHillside Court ECH Care and SupportLincoln Gardens ECH Care and Support			

- Monica Wills House ECH Care and Support
- Sommerville ECH Care and Support
- The Knowle Complex ECH Care and Support – (Southlands & Anchor House)
- Waverley Gardens ECH Care and Support

The care and support delivered at Stoke Gifford Retirement Village ECH is not part of this recommissioning, as this contract does not expire until 2023.

5. BCC Adult Social Care commissions more bed-based placements for older people than comparative sized Local Authorities. The transformation and commissioning strategy for older people services in Bristol is to reduce the number of these placements, where appropriate, and to grow non-bed-based care and support for older people, such as ECH and Homecare. These forms of care help support older people to remain independent, living at home and in their local communities.
6. There has been Adult Social Care leadership attention on the potential that ECH offers, and progress has been made in the past twelve months to unpack the current contracts, including market development conversations, and to embed ECH growth targets in the Adult Social Care Transformation Plan and Older Persons services business and financial planning. There is evidence to suggest that there has been an extra demand on care providers in ECH, due to a rise in complexity of service user need.

Eco Impact Assessment

7. The significant impacts of this proposal are that services are building-based and will contribute to greenhouse gases (i.e., heating of offices, laundry). Equipment will be used to provide the care provision, some of which may not be from a renewable source. Delivery of care provision will create waste, including clinical waste. The proposals include the following measures to mitigate the impacts: Encourage providers to source sustainable materials, encourage providers to mitigate against the impacts of climate change through business continuity plans, require providers to recycle as much as possible and source materials that are recyclable. The net effects of the proposals are potentially negative but with identified mitigations to reduce impact.

Cabinet Member / Officer Recommendations:

That Cabinet

1. Approves the request for the extension of twelve of the thirteen contracts for Care and Support services in Extra Care Housing for seven months, from 1 April 2022 to 31 October 2022, with the option of a further five one-month extensions, at a cost of £6.0m.
2. Authorises the Executive Director: People to invoke any subsequent extensions/variations specifically defined in the contract(s) being awarded, up to the maximum budget envelope outlined in this report.

Corporate Strategy alignment:

1. BCC Corporate Strategy 2018-23: The aim to create healthier and more resilient communities will be enhanced by the provision of ECH, which supports older people to remain independent in their own homes and communities.
2. A Strategy for an Age Friendly Bristol 2019-2022: Bristol City Council to review and develop their approach to ECH and additional options including intergenerational approaches.
3. Adult Social Care Commissioning Strategy 2021/22 – 2024/25: commissioners develop, shape and buy services and interventions so that people are empowered to live in a place they call home, with the people and things that they love, in communities where we all look out for one another, doing the things that matter most to them.

City Benefits:

1. The provision of good quality, and inclusive care and support services and activities, that meet people's identified needs,

will contribute to equality of opportunity in supporting people to live independently in ECH services, particularly for older people and disabled people.

Consultation Details:

None

Background Documents:

- Care Act (2014):** The Care Act (2014) places a duty on local authorities to facilitate and shape our market for care and support; to ensure sustainability, diversity and continuously improving and innovative services. It includes the promotion of strength Based Approaches and a focus on Prevention and Wellbeing.
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/23/contents/enacted>

Revenue Cost	£6m	Source of Revenue Funding	Insert specific service budget name
Capital Cost	£	Source of Capital Funding	e.g. grant/ prudential borrowing etc.
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: If the contract was extended for a further 7 to 12 months there would be no adverse financial implications and the cost would be met from within exiting ASC resources. The continuation of the present arrangements will secure continuity of care whilst the procurement progresses and will allow time for refreshed commissioning intentions, to be factored into the Medium-Term Financial Plan assumptions on the resources needed to meet future demand for care. As identified in the report, ECH is a cost-effective alternative to other forms of care and avoids the need for placements in more costly residential care.

Finance Business Partner: Denise Hunt, Finance Business Partner, 9 November 2021

2. Legal Advice:

It is recognised that the extension of the contracts places the Council in a situation where it may breach the procurement regulations. The fact that the extensions are required to allow time for the Council to follow a fully compliant procurement process, will 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: Husinara Jones, Team Leader/Solicitor, 4 January 2022

3. Implications on IT:

I can see no IT implications in this proposal.

IT Team Leader: Gavin Arbuckle – Head of Service Operations, Digital Transformation, 3 November 2021

4. HR Advice:

The report is seeking approval for an extension for a number of contracts due to a delay in recommissioning. There are no HR implications arising from this report for Bristol City Council employees.

HR Partner: Lorna Laing - HR Business Partner – People, 2 November 2021

EDM Sign-off	Hugh Evans	17 November 2021
Cabinet Member sign-off	Councillor Helen Holland	1 December 2021

For Key Decisions - Mayor's Office sign-off	Mayor	20 December 2021
--	--------------	------------------

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