



Notice of KEY Executive Decision

Subject Heading:	Information Advice and Support (IAS) Peabody Trust – Here to Help Service
Cabinet Member:	Cllr Jason Frost, Lead Member for Adult Social Care
SLT Lead:	Barbara Nicholls, Director of Adult Social Care
Report Author and contact details:	Yvonne Powell Commissioning & Project Manager, T: 01708 434 496 E: yvonne.powell@havering.gov.uk
Policy context:	The Care Act 2014, section 4, providing information and advice, this places specific duties on Local Authorities to establish and maintain a service for providing adults and their Carers with information and advice about care and support in their area.
Financial summary:	The value of the one year (1 st August 2019 – 31 st July 2020) extension is £557.339.70.
Reason decision is Key	Expenditure of £500,000 or more
Date notice given of intended decision:	3 rd April 2019
Relevant OSC:	Individuals
Is it an urgent decision?	No
Is this decision exempt from being called-in?	No

The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

Communities making Havering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Places making Havering	<input type="checkbox"/>
Opportunities making Havering	<input type="checkbox"/>
Connections making Havering	<input type="checkbox"/>

Part A – Report seeking decision

DETAIL OF THE DECISION REQUESTED AND RECOMMENDED ACTION

The current three year contract for the Peabody Trust – Here to Help; Information, Advice and Support (IAS) service is due to come to an end on 31st July 2019. The contract's terms and conditions include a clause for the Council to offer a one year extension of the contract to the Provider. The author of this paper therefore recommends that the current contract is extended for the additional one year, from 1st August 2019 to the 31st July 2020.

AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH DECISION IS MADE

Corporate Management Team power under Part 3 paragraph 3.3 Contract Powers (b) To award all contracts with a total contract value of between £500,000 and £5,000,000.

STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE DECISION

London Borough of Havering (LBH) Council previously had two floating support / outreach services commissioned under the former Supporting People programme. Through the process of service redesign these two services were combined and redesigned with a new contract commencing in August 2016. Based in central Romford, the service (known as, 'Here to Help') is available to all residents aged 16 or over and provides responsive and proactive generic advice, information, direct support and assistance. The service is designed to support people who are facing a wide range of issues impacting on their ability to manage a difficulty or problem that they are facing in their lives. The service is designed to provide information, advice and support so that people are encouraged to help themselves as far as possible, with the aim of preventing crisis and the need for statutory care and support services.

Whilst people usually access the service because of a problem or need, the service aims to ensure that as people move on they have knowledge and skills that mean they are more resilient and better able to help themselves in the future should a similar problem arise. The service also provides extended case management and direct support to people with more entrenched or complex needs. This includes people with mental health needs, those with drug and alcohol issues and others who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

With the contract beginning in August 2016, the Council and Provider (Peabody Trust) have held regular quarterly contract monitoring meetings. Currently, the working relationship between Council and the Provider is very positive and overall service performance is now at a satisfactory level. Progress in areas of the service where improvements have been identified are being monitored through the contract meetings

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too. With an extension, the Council will be better placed to conduct a review, take account of the emerging Council's vision and priorities for such preventative services and then consider its options in relation to re-commissioning a floating support – IAS service from 2020 onwards. As a result, the author of the report, recommends extending the contract for one year from 1st August 2019 to 31st July 2020

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

- 1. Do Nothing:** the current contract three year period terminates on the 31st July 2019: the Council recognises the value and importance of the Peabody Trust - Here to Help generic floating IAS service. Choosing this option would require the provider to suspend referrals into the service and work towards a planned timetable for closure, creating significant disruption for people in need of care and support. Another provision for information and advice would need to be in place to meet the Local Authority statutory duties set out in the Care Act 2014.
- 2) Another option would be to go out to tender:** The Council has considered re-procuring however the expectation set out in the original contract is that should the Council be satisfied with the service it would consider the 1 year contract extension. In addition there are wider transformational changes around advice, information and support (IAS) across the Council which may influence the direction of how services are delivered in the future.

Re-procurement option was rejected as extending the contract by one year would offer the opportunity to review the current IAS offer, ensuring that the offer is still fit for purpose and aligns itself with the future corporate vision of offering these services.

PRE-DECISION CONSULTATION

The author has consulted with Key stakeholders who work in partnership with the provider; Salvation Army, LBH Public Advice and Service Centre (PASC) Havering Association for people with disabilities, Citizens Advice Bureau, Havering Access Team (HAT), Department of Work and Pensions, (DWP), Riverside, Healthwatch and Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC)

NAME AND JOB TITLE OF STAFF MEMBER ADVISING THE DECISION-MAKER

Name: Yvonne Powell

Designation: Commissioning and Project Manager, Joint Commissioning Unit

Signature:



Date: 4th April 2019

Part B - Assessment of implications and risks

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

The Care Act 2014, section 4 places a duty on the Council to establish and maintain a service for providing adults and their Carers with information and advice about care and support in their area. In the event that the contract is not extended, other provision would be required to be in place.

Any change in provision would be likely to require consultation prior to any decision being made.

The Council's Contracts Procedure Rules permit extension to a contract by a chief officer under the Scheme of Delegation provided that it was contemplated at the time the contract was awarded. (Rule 19.4)

The proposed extension is permitted under the terms of the contract and so is compliant with Rule 19.4

Approval of a member of SLT is required for an extension with a value between the EU threshold (currently £181,302) and £5 million. (Rule 19.9)

The Director of Adults and Health has delegated authority to award the extension: Part 3 of the Constitution permits a Director to incur expenditure within the revenue and capital budget for their allocated portfolio (financial responsibilities (a); and to award contracts with a value of between £500,000 and £5 million (Contract Powers (b)).

The Decision Maker should be satisfied that the Public Sector Equality Duty continues to be addressed through the extension of the contract

The Local Government Act 1999, section 3(1) places a duty upon the Council as a Best Value Authority to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness. The decision maker should be satisfied that the proposed extension to the contract achieves Best Value.

The decision is a Key Decision and must be published on the Council's Forward Plan for at least 28 days prior to any decision being made.

Signed: One Source Legal Services
Dated: 12.04.19

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

The one year contract extension will span 2 financial years 2019/20 and 2020/21. The budget available for this contract in 2019/20 is £536,330 which is currently on cost centre A34060 – This is made up of £374,100 of core funding and £162,230 of Better Care Funding.

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The total costs that will be incurred in 2019/20 are £557,339.71, this is made up of the final 4 months of year 3 of the contract and the first 9 months of the contract extension both of which are £557,339.71 for the year. This leaves a budget shortfall of £21,010 which will be funded by additional BCF funding.

The assumption is that the core budget will remain in 2020/21 to fund the final 4 months of the contract extension.

Signed: Strategic Finance Business Partner

Dated: 19/4/2019

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS (AND ACCOMMODATION IMPLICATIONS WHERE RELEVANT)

The recommendations made in this report do not give rise to any identifiable HR risks or implications that would affect either the Council or its workforce.

Signed: Strategic HR business partner

Dated: 04/04/2019

EQUALITIES AND SOCIAL INCLUSION IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have due regard to:

- (i) the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- (ii) the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share protected characteristics and those who do not, and;
- (iii) foster good relations between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not.

Note: 'Protected characteristics' are: age, sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnerships, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity and gender reassignment.

The Council is committed to all of the above in the provision, procurement and commissioning of its services, and the employment of its workforce. In addition, the Council is also committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing for all Havering residents in respect of socio-economics and health determinants.

This decision is to provide a floating support service which is available to all Havering residents aged 16 or over. The provision provides direct, responsive and proactive generic advice, information, support and assistance to people who are facing a wide range of issues that impact on their ability to cope with difficulties. It will therefore have a positive impact for all communities that are faced with personal, mental, physical social, legal, housing and economic challenges in their lives.

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An Equality Impact Assessment was undertaken as part of the service redesign in 2015. The contract will continue to incorporate relevant equality and diversity considerations and requirements that will be monitored on a regular basis.

Signed: Corporate Diversity Advisor
Dated: 09/04/2019

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Not applicable

Part C – Record of decision

I have made this executive decision in accordance with authority delegated to me by the Leader of the Council and in compliance with the requirements of the Constitution.

Decision

Details of decision maker

Signed 

Name: Barbara Nicholls

CMT Member title: Director Adult Services

Date: 09.05.2019

Lodging this notice

The signed decision notice must be delivered to the proper officer, Debra Marlow, Principal Committee Officer in Democratic Services, in the Town Hall.

For use by Committee Administration

This notice was lodged with me on 9/5/2019

Signed 

