Havering
LONDON BOROUGH

Notice of Non-key Executive Decision

Subject Heading:	Approval to vary existing Home, Settle and Support contract with British Red Cross in order to deliver the Trusted Assessor Service for six month period
Decision Maker:	Barbara Nicholls, Strategic Director of People
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Ford, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Care Services
SLT Lead:	Barbara Nicholls, Strategic Director of People
Report Author and contact details:	Sandy Foskett, Senior Commissioner and Project Manager
Policy context:	Supports priorities in the Joint Health and Wellbeing strategy: • Better integrated support for people most at risk; • Quality of services and patient experience Supports statutory requirement to reduce care needs (Care Act 2014)
Financial summary:	There are no financial implications for the Council from this decision. The value of this contract variation is £82,220, this funding comes from

	from the ICB for the Demand and Capacity fund. The total cost of the original contract for the 3 years + 1 + 1 is £2,078,603 and the total cost of the contract including the variation amounts to £2,160,823. London Borough of Havering contribution over the life of the contract is a total of £776,534.
Relevant OSC:	People OSSC
Is this decision exempt from being called-in?	Yes

Non-key Executive Decision

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

People - Things that matter for residents	[X]
	[]
	[]
	[]

Non-key Executive Decision

Part A – Report seeking decision

DETAIL OF THE DECISION REQUESTED AND RECOMMENDED ACTION

This report seeks approval from the Strategic Director of People to vary an existing contract with The British Red Cross in order to deliver an additional service to support vulnerable residents at risk of hospital admission referred from the Community Treatment team. It was agreed that British Red Cross have the necessary skills and expertise to deliver the outcomes required. This service is fully funded by NHS Integrated Care Board and the Council.

The variation will increase the value of the existing contract by £82,220 to cover the period from 1st October 2023 to 31st March 2024.

AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH DECISION IS MADE

Part 3.3 [Responsibility for Functions] of the Council's Constitution:

Para 3.3 Powers of Members of the Senior Leadership Team

General powers

(a) To take any steps necessary for proper management and administration of allocated portfolios.

STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Background

The Council commissions The British Red Cross to provide the Home, Settle and Support Service. The service supports vulnerable residents from Barking and Dagenham, Havering and Redbridge to remain living independently in their own home, this could either be following an admission to hospital, an ED attendance or if they have been identified as being at risk of being admitted into hospital. The service provides a smooth transition from hospital to home supporting people to feel safe, they work with the person centred service focused on achieving a range of goals agreed with the service user.

This contract commenced on 1st April 2020 and ends on 31st March 2024, there is an option to extend for a one year period up to 31 March 2025. The contract is a tri party agreement with NHS Integrated Care Board, London Boroughs of Barking and

Dagenham and Redbridge. The total original contract value is £2,078,603, London Borough of Havering contribute an amount of £776,534 towards this contract.

Additional Support to Provide Trusted Assessor Service

A one off sum of £82,220 from the NHS ICB for the Demand and Capacity fund has been allocated for investment to support hospital discharge demand for a six month period from 1st October 2023 to 31st March 2024.

The hospital is experiencing significant pressures with capacity to support vulnerable patients and out patients at risk of hospital admission who need adjustments within their homes to enable Independent Living. A service need has been identified for qualified and trusted assessors to work closely with the Community Treatment team to provide low level adjustments and feedback where more specialist interventions are required.

The objective of the service is to support the needs of BHR residents who are at risk of hospital admission referred from the Community Treatment Team (CTT), freeing capacity for more complex needs assessments in the community.

The aims of the service include:

- preventing falls
- reducing/avoiding unnecessary hospital admissions
- reducing reliance on care or a move into residential care
- improving quality of life and wellbeing for individuals
- reassuring families and carers

The provider will carry assessments for low level need equipment and adaptations, and implement the solutions in lieu of an occupational therapist assessment.

The range of equipment will include chair raisers, bath boards, seats, raised toilet seats and frames, perching stools and small household items. This will be achieved via rapid feedback and ongoing communication with CTT for all assessments and the ordering of equipment as necessary. After assessment and adjustments are completed, the service will provide person centre support to service users and signpost into relevant community and voluntary services.

The Proposal

The Council commissions The British Red Cross to provide the Home, Settle and Support Service across Barking and Dagenham, Havering and Redbridge. The service supports individuals at risk of hospital admission setting person centred goals to reduce those at risk of hospital admissions.

The British Red Cross have provided a successful business case to deliver the outcomes required. The existing BHR contract held with The British Red Cross aligns with the Trusted Assessor model to provide preventative services to vulnerable BHR

patients to help them to remain living independently. The provider already works closely with the Community Treatment team and other hospital departments to effectively deliver these outcomes.

Reasoning for variation of contract and direct award

The service aims to support vulnerable residents a risk of hospital admission to live independently. Without the additional service there is a risk of an increased number of residents being admitted to hospital and/or requiring long term care over the winter period.

The British Red Cross (BRC) is a key part of the Intermediate Care offer across BHR and works closely with other Intermediate Care services, providing short term support for patients to ensure that they are settled after their discharge.

The British Red Cross is the best placed provider to deliver the Trusted Assessor Service, they already provide discharge support across BHR and work closely with the community treatment team. The nature of the requested additional service provision does not alter the scope of the original existing contract significantly, therefore the Council is seeking approval to modify the existing contract with the British Red Cross.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Option 1 - Carry out a procurement for a new provider.

The above option was rejected. There would be no financial benefit to carrying out a procurement process. The process would result in significant delay in implementation and likely result in an increase in hospital admission/attendances. The British Red Cross were identified as having the skills and expertise to deliver the required outcome for BHR residents through their existing contract.

Option 2 - Do Nothing.

This option was rejected. The additional service aims to support hospital discharge and those at risk of hospital admission. Not implementing the service would likely increase the number of vulnerable people accessing health and social care services.

PRE-DECISION CONSULTATION

NHS Integrated Care Board

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

Non-key Executive Decision

Name: Sandy Foskett	
Designation: Senior Commissioner and Project Manager	
Signature: *S Foskett*	Date: 27 September 2023

Part B - Assessment of implications and risks

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

This report seeks authority to vary an existing contract with the British Red Cross to add an additional service for 6 months at an additional cost of £82,220.

The original value of the contract is £2.1 million, which is above the threshold for light touch services under schedule 3 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (PCR). Therefore, in order for a contract to be varied lawfully it must fall within one of the safe harbours set out in Regulation 72 PCR.

The proposed variation falls within regulation 72(1)(f) and 72(5), as the value of the variation is below the threshold for light touch services and is less than 10% of the original contract value. Officers therefore can agree to a contract variation with the British Red Cross.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

This report is seeking approval to vary the existing home, settle and support service contract with The British Red Cross to deliver an additional service to support vulnerable residents at risk of hospital admission referred from the Community Treatment Team. This contract variation will cover the period from 1st October 2023 to 31st March 2024 at an additional cost of £82,220.

The current contract is a tri party agreement with the NHS Integrated Care Board, London Borough of Barking and Dagenham and London Borough of Redbridge. The total cost of the current contract for the 3+1+1 is £2,078,603 which the London Borough of Havering contribute £776,534 towards, the remainder is funded from the other parties in the agreement.

The cost of the contract variation is less than 10% of the original contract value and therefore a contract variation can be applied.

The total cost of the contract after the variation will be £2,160,823.

The total increase of £82,220 will be fully funded from the ICB, the London Borough of Havering will need to invoice the ICB for the amount. There are no financial implications to the London Borough of Havering as a result of this contract variation.

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.

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, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnerships, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex/gender, and sexual orientation.

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.

The additional service will deliver positive outcomes for older people in Havering.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

There are no environmental and climate change implications of, and risks relating to, the proposed decision.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

APPENDICIES

None

Non-key Executive Decision

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

Proposal agreed

Delete as applicable

~~Proposal NOT agreed because~~

Details of decision maker

Signed

Name: Barbara Nicholls

Cabinet Portfolio held:
CMT Member title: Strategic Director of People
Head of Service title
Other manager title:

Date: 26/10/2023

Lodging this notice

The signed decision notice must be delivered to Democratic Services, in the Town Hall.

For use by Committee Administration
This notice was lodged with me on _____
Signed _____

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