

## Notice of Non-Key Executive Decision

<b>Subject Heading:</b>	Approval to Direct Award a 10 month Havering Safe at Home contract
<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Barbara Nicholls, Strategic Director of People
<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Cllr Gillian Ford, Cabinet Member for Adults and Health
<b>ELT Lead:</b>	Barbara Nicholls, Strategic Director of People
<b>Report Author and contact details:</b>	Laura Wheatley, Portfolio Manager Live Well & Age Well E: <a href="mailto:laura.wheatley@havering.gov.uk">laura.wheatley@havering.gov.uk</a>
<b>Policy context:</b>	The Adult Social Care and Support Planning Policy states that Havering's vision is: 'Supporting excellent outcomes for the people of Havering by helping communities to help themselves and targeting resources and interventions to encourage independence'
<b>Financial summary:</b>	The direct award for 10-month contract will cost £40,675.00
<b>Relevant Overview &amp; Scrutiny Sub Committee:</b>	People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub Committee
<b>Is this decision exempt from being called-in?</b>	The decision will be exempt from call in as it is a Non key Decision

**Non-key Executive Decision**

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

People - Supporting our residents to stay safe and well X

Place - A great place to live, work and enjoy

Resources - Enabling a resident-focused and resilient Council

## Part A – Report seeking decision

### DETAIL OF THE DECISION REQUESTED AND RECOMMENDED ACTION

This report is seeking approval from the Strategic Director of People to agree to direct award the Havering Safe at Home contract to Age UK East London for a period of 10 months from 1st April 2025 to 31st January 2026 at a total value of £40,675.00.

### AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH DECISION IS MADE

The Havering Constitution:

Part 3 of the Council's Constitution

Scheme 3.3.3 Powers common to all Strategic Directors

2. Contracts

4. 2 To award all contracts with a total contract value of below £1,000,000 other than contracts covered by Contract Procedure Rule 16.3.

### STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The Havering Safe at Home contract is currently provided by Age UK and ends on the 31st March 2025. The service originally started as a one-year pilot between 2013 and 2014. Historically, the service agreement has been renewed each year for a further year.

This paper is seeking approval to directly award a 10-month contract in compliance with the Council's statutory duties already set out in the body of this report.

A waiver to the Council's Contracts Procedure Rules (CPR) 9.8 has been approved by the Cabinet member for Adults and Health.

The provision of the services during the 10-month term of the contract will allow sufficient time to review the impact of the Adult Social care restructure into portfolio areas and recommission the service fully in conjunction with the other ASC preventative services, to ensure the best value for money and outcomes for residents.

#### **Background**

Age UK East London help to improve security in Havering, increase safety and independence at home and prepare the home for hospital discharge.

Referrals for this service are through professional routes which include health and social care, voluntary sector, lunch clubs, Police and London Ambulance Service (LAS).

Under this agreement Age UK East London provide the following services:

#### **Minor Adaptions Without Delay**

Minor Adaptations Without Delay identifies a range of minor adaptations, for example the fitting of stair or grab rails, for which there is a clear consensus that initial assessment by occupational therapists is not required unless during the information gathering process, it appears that the potential user may have more complex or additional needs that require assessment. Such

## Non-key Executive Decision

adaptations are often needed by older people to safeguard their safety or to facilitate discharge from hospital. Works are completed within 2 working days of receiving the referral.

Works include:

Category	Works	Hrs
1. Rails	External Grab rail to front Door (12" / 18")	½
	Internal Grab rail for access to room with step (12" / 18")	½
	Grab rail to enable transfer (12" / 18") - Chair/ Bed/ Toilet	½
	<b>Bath Rails</b> (referral/approval required from OT prior to install) <sup>1</sup>	½
	Stair Hand Rails	1
2. Access	Internal door threshold Ramps - for wheelchair users only	1½
3. Bathroom	Grab Rails	½
	Raised Toilet Seats	¼
	Toilet Frames	¼
4. General Needs	Extender plugs - 2 per property	¼
	White paint on edge of access steps	½
	Chair raisers	¼

Referrals are mainly from the Havering Adult Social Care Team.

Approximately 250 people will receive this service in the 10-month period, with 300 pieces of equipment installed.

This element of the service prevents referral to Occupational Therapists via the ASC front door.

### **Recommendation**

The Council are seeking a direct award for this service with the current provider to allow sufficient time to review the impact of the Adult Social care (ASC) restructure into portfolio areas and recommission the service fully in conjunction with the other ASC preventative services, to ensure the best value for money and outcomes for residents.

## **OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

### **Option 1 - Do nothing**

There is the option to do nothing and stop providing Havering Safe at Home when the contract ends on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025. This option is not advised due to some of the services being provided by this contract not being provided anywhere else at present and it could leave service users at risk.

### **Option 2 – Recommission**

The contract ends at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025, so there will not be sufficient time to complete a full recommissioning. This option has been rejected as there is not sufficient time to complete the recommissioning exercise to a good standard and this service needs to be recommissioned in conjunction with the other ASC preventative services, to ensure the best value for money and outcomes for residents.

## **PRE-DECISION CONSULTATION**

None

**Non-key Executive Decision**

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

Name: Laura Wheatley

Designation: Portfolio Manager Live Well & Age Well

Signature:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "L. Wheatley".

Date: 20/01/2025

## Part B - Assessment of implications and risks

### LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

The Council must provide or arrange for the provision of services, facilities or resources, or take other steps, which it considers will contribute towards preventing or delaying the development by adults in its area of needs for care and support; contribute towards preventing or delaying the development by carers in its area of needs for support; reduce the needs for care and support of adults in its area and reduce the needs for support of carers in its area in accordance with Section 2 of the Care Act 2014. The Council is making a decision to make the Havering Safe at Home contract for that purpose.

The Council has the power to award a contract for these services under Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972, which allows the Council to do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of any of its functions or through its general power of competence under section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 to do anything that individuals generally may do. There are limitations on the general power of competence, but the limitations do not apply to this decision.

The value of the contract of £40,675 is below the applicable public procurement threshold for the light touch regime in the Procurement Act 2023 (PA) of £663 540 and therefore it is not subject to the full PA regime.

For the reasons set out above, the Council may direct award the contract to Age UK East London.

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

This decision paper is seeking approval to direct award a 10-month extension to the Havering Safe at Home contract.

The current contract is due to end on 31st March 2025 and costs £89,860 per annum and is currently funded from the Better Care Fund.

The total cost of the new 10-month contract is estimated to be £40,675 and will be funded by the Better Care Fund.

The annual costs of the new contract are at this lower level due to a reduction in the scope of services that will be provided through the new contract compared with the existing contract. At the current contract value, the 10-month extension would cost £74,833, the proposed cost of £40,675 generates a saving of £34,208 for the 10-month period. As this contract is fully funded from the Better Care Fund, this saving is not a general fund saving. A review of the Better Care Fund and a reallocation of expenditure will be undertaken following approval at Health and Wellbeing Board level which may result in the £34,208 saving attributed to the general fund.

There has not been any inflationary uplift to the contract since it commenced and it would be unlikely that an alternative provider would be able to offer similar rate due to market conditions, therefore this direct award is likely to be the most advantageous option.

The current provider has been providing services since 2013 and the new contract is required due to limited time available to undertake a full procurement process and having a gap in the service provision would leave vulnerable residents at risk or accessing council services that are a more expensive option.

## **Non-key Executive Decision**

A full service redesign and re-procurement will be undertaken during the 10-month period and in conjunction with the other ASC preventative services, to ensure the best value for money and outcomes for residents.

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

The recommendations made in this report do not give rise to any identifiable Human Resources implications or risks.

### **EQUALITIES AND SOCIAL INCLUSION IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

Havering has a diverse community made up of many different groups and individuals. The council values diversity and believes it essential to understand and include the different contributions, perspectives and experience that people from different backgrounds bring.

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

The Council demonstrates its commitment to the Equality Act in its decision-making processes, the provision, procurement and commissioning of its services, and employment practices concerning its workforce. In addition, the Council is also committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing of all Havering residents in respect of socio-economics and health determinants.

An EqHIA (Equality and Health Impact Assessment) is usually carried out and on this occasion this is not required.

The Council seeks to ensure equality, inclusion, and dignity for all in all situations.

There are not equalities and social inclusion implications and risks associated with this decision.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

The recommendations made in this report do not give rise to any identifiable environmental implications or risks.

**Non-key Executive Decision**

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

**APPENDICES**

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

**Details of decision maker**

Signed



Name: Barbara Nicholls

CMT Member title: Strategic Director of People

Date: 13/03/2025

**Lodging this notice**

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

**For use by Committee Administration**

This notice was lodged with me on \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_