

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Cabinet

Date of Meeting: 6th December 2016

Report: Mark Palethorpe, Strategic Director of Adult Social Care and Health, People Directorate

Subject/Title: Procurement of Care & Support at Heath View Extra Care Housing Scheme, Congleton

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Janet Clowes, Adult Social Care and Integration

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 Heath View is owned and managed by Plus Dane Housing Group. It opened in 2010 and care and support was commissioned by the Council at this time. In January 2015, the original five year care contract, with Mears was extended to January 2017. There is no further scope for extending this contract.
- 1.2 Adults Commissioning is re-tendering this contract for a period of 3 years with the option to extend to 31 July 2020. This will allow the contract to be brought into line with the four other commissioned Extra Care Housing care and support contracts. In August 2013 these contracts were retendered and the five year care contract was awarded to SOS Homecare with the option to extend to 31 July 2020.
- 1.3 A procurement exercise, compliant with the Regulations and the Council's Contract Procedure Rules is underway. The tender submission date has now passed and no new bids can be submitted. An initial review of the bids indicates that the contract value may exceed £1 million. A Key Decision is from Cabinet is therefore now required. Permission is being sought from Cabinet to authorise the Strategic Director of Adult Social Care and Health to award the contract to the successful provider at a value of over £1 million if required.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That Cabinet note that a procurement exercise, compliant with the Regulations and the Council's Contract Procedure Rules is underway.
- 2.2 That Cabinet note that as the contract value may now exceed £1 million a Key Decision is from Cabinet is now required.

- 2.3 That Cabinet authorise the Strategic Director of Adult Social Care and Health to award the contract to the successful provider at a value of over £1 million if required.

3.0 Other Options Considered

- 3.1 The Council could allow the current contract to cease and not commission replacement care and support provision but this will not meet the Council's obligations to provide care and support.

4.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 4.1 The Cheshire East Council constitution requires Cabinet to authorise any expenditure over £1 million.

5.0 Background

- 5.1 Heath View opened in 2010 and has 45 apartments for older people. At 31 March 2016, 47 people lived at Heath View. The scheme is owned and managed by Plus Dane and the Council commissions the on-site care team. The care team is on site 24 hours per day and provides care and support to residents to meet their individual assessed care needs together with an emergency response and emergency care when necessary.
- 5.2 The contract for the on-site care and support with Mears is due to expire on 16 January 2017. It is proposed that the new contract commences early morning on 17 January 2017 (this will need to be the subject of agreement between the outgoing and incoming care providers) and expires on 16 January 2020.
- 5.3 The residents living in Heath View require care and support to allow them maintain their dignity and wellbeing. If the contract was not tendered, personal budgets could be introduced for all residents, but this would involve extensive resources in reviewing and assisting residents with the change in the provision of care and support. A contract for overnight monitoring and emergency care would need to be put in place but without the additional day time hours would lead to increased costs.
- 5.4 Extra Care Housing allows older people to live in their own apartments and have care and support provided in their apartments by an on-site care team. This care team also provides speedy emergency support when required. This allows people who might not otherwise be safe to live on their own to maintain their independence for longer and gives them and their relatives' peace of mind.
- 5.5 Heath View currently provides for a mix of care needs – the care provided is in four care bands: Wellbeing (emergency monitoring and support), Low (up to 2.5 hours care and support per week), Medium (2.75 to 10.00 hours care and support per week) and High (10.25-18.00

hours care and support per week). Plus Dane have assigned 15 apartments as Wellbeing/Low, 15 as Medium and 15 as High apartments – they keep as close to this ideal balance as possible.

- 5.6 Having an on-site care team 24/7 means that residents are well supported within the scheme and can remain there longer than they might if traditional domiciliary care support is provided.

6.0 Wards Affected and Local Ward Members

- 6.1 Congleton West

- 6.2 Councillor Paul Bates
Councillor Gordon Baxendale
Councillor George Hayes

7.0 Implications of Recommendation

7.1 Policy Implications

The proposal meets Outcome 5 of the Cheshire East Corporate Plan 2016 -2020 by enabling residents to live well for longer.

7.2 Implications for Rural Communities

The Heath View Extra Care scheme can be accessed by residents from rural communities within Cheshire East.

7.3 Financial Implications

- 7.3.1 This is a continuation of the current service provided. The contract would be based on a "by person, by care band" and would be costed to the Congleton SMART care costs budget.

- 7.3.2 The cost of the contract equates to an average of just over under £7,000 per resident per annum. This compares favourably with the current cost of residential placement which is almost £23,000 per annum.

- 7.3.3 These costs are the total costs which are payable directly to the provider. It does not take into account any assessed charges made by the residents to the Council.

7.4 Equality Implications

The Heath View Extra Care scheme will be inclusive and reflect the diversity of the community it serves.

7.5 Legal Implications

- 7.5.1 This contract comes within the Light Touch Regime of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (the Regs) and is above the threshold of £589,148. A procurement exercise, compliant with the Regs and the Council's Contract Procedure Rules is underway. It was halted when it became clear that Cabinet authority is required as a Key Decision is needed.
- 7.5.2 As the contract value may exceed £1m Cabinet authority is required to complete the procurement process and award the contract in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

7.6 Human Resources Implications

- 7.6.1 None for local authority employees.
- 7.6.2 The TUPE rules ("Transfer of Undertakings Protection of Employment Regulations 2006") will apply to the successful bidder and will protect employees' rights when the organisation or service they work for transfers to a new employer.

7.7 Public Health Implications

The Heath View Extra Care scheme will help people to stay healthy and protect them from threats to their health. Residents and visitors to the scheme will be encouraged to make healthier choices, regardless of their circumstances, and to minimise the risk and impact of illness.

10.0 Risk Management

- 10.1 The award of a contract to a provider for the provision of care and support to the residents at Heath View through a compliant competitive process will meet the Council's obligations to provide care and support.
- 10.2 The Council will meet with the successful provider to agree the mobilisation plan for implementation following the award of the contract.

12.0 Access to Information

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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