



LEAD MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH

DECISIONS to be made by the Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Health,
Councillor Carl Maynard

THURSDAY, 24 JUNE 2021 AT 10.00 AM

COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, LEWES

++Please note that this meeting will be taking place remotely++

AGENDA

- 1 Decisions made by the Lead Member on 11 June 2021 (*Pages 3 - 4*)
- 2 Disclosure of interests
Disclosure by all Members present of personal interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the Members regard the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct.
- 3 Urgent items
Notification of any items which the Lead Member considers urgent and proposes to take at the appropriate part of the agenda.
- 4 Extra Care Housing - Contract Awards (*Pages 5 - 6*)
- 5 Any urgent items previously notified under agenda item 3

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16 June 2021

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NOTE: *As part of the County Council's drive to increase accessibility to its public meetings, this meeting will be broadcast live on its website and the record archived. The live broadcast is accessible at: www.eastsussex.gov.uk/yourcouncil/webcasts/default.htm*

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LEAD MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH

DECISIONS made by the Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Health, Councillor Carl Maynard, on 11 June 2021 at CC1, County Hall, Lewes

++Please note that the Lead Member took the decisions remotely++

Councillors Bob Bowdler and Sam Adeniji spoke on item 4 (see minute 4)

1 DECISIONS MADE BY THE LEAD MEMBER ON 26 JANUARY 2021

1.1 The Lead Member approved as a correct record the decisions made on 26 January 2021.

2 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

2.1 There were no disclosures of interest.

3 URGENT ITEMS

3.1 There were no urgent items.

4 COVID OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT FUND (COMF) - SUPPORTED APPRENTICESHIPS PROPOSAL FOR PEOPLE IN SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION

4.1 The Lead Member considered a report by the Director of Public Health seeking approval for accessing Covid Outbreak Management Funding (COMF). This funding is to support people living in Supported Accommodation, Temporary Accommodation and those at risk of homelessness, to undertake a Supported Apprenticeship, enabling them to move into independent living.

4.2 The Lead Member RESOLVED to:

1. Approve drawing down up to £615,000 COMF funding for the delivery of a Partnership Apprenticeship programme to help some of the most marginalised residents in the county with:

- accessing learning, work and independent living through Supported Apprenticeships; and
- improving the availability of Supported and Temporary Accommodation in the county.

2. Should this project be effective in supporting 50 Supported Accommodation residents in the first instance, to approve drawing down additional COMF funding of £70,000 per ten additional Apprentices within the allocated timeframe to expand the project, up to an additional value of £350,000 (which would represent an additional 50 Apprenticeships and an additional 50 places in supported housing made available).

3 Delegate authority to the Director of Public Health to take any actions necessary in relation to the implementation of the proposals set out in the above recommendations.

Reason

The project addresses COVID recovery and the needs of a vulnerable group of local residents who have been adversely impacted by the pandemic. The funding provides an opportunity to deliver a one-off project that offers training, creates new employment, supports local employers in addressing skills gaps and should free up places in Supported Accommodation at the same time.

Report to:	Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Health
Date of meeting:	24 June 2021
By:	Director for Adult Social Care
Title:	Extra Care Housing - Contract Awards
Purpose:	To seek approval from the Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Health to make direct awards for the three contracts relating to the care provision in the County's six Extra Care housing units

Lead Member is recommended to:

1. Agree to the direct award of the three care contracts that relate to the County's Extra Care housing provision, as set out in paragraph 2.6, to the current providers for a 15-month period, to 30 January 2023
 2. delegate authority to the Director of Adult Social Care to take all necessary actions to give effect to the implementation of the above recommendation in consultation with relevant stakeholders.
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1. Background

1.1. The current contracts for care within East Sussex County Council's Extra Care Housing provision are planned to be co-terminus with the forthcoming Home Care Approved List tender, which has been in progress since early 2019. Plans include a joint home care and extra care approved list to be competitively tendered in January 2022 for new contract starts in January 2023, as service provision across both care delivery settings has the same core requirements.

1.2. This strategy has been adopted in order to stimulate market interest and to ensure that there are alternative qualified providers available, should they be needed. Other benefits to a joint tender include aligning opportunities to better enable providers to plan their longer-term business development and to make the most effective use of the Council's resources required to undertake such a significant tender.

1.3. The Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Health has already agreed a waiver to enable the extension of the current Home Care framework contracts, as the 'Test and Learn' workstream, which is fundamental to developing the service specification and market engagement for Home Care, had been delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

1.4. This workstream and the wider project has now resumed after a pause due to the COVID-19 second wave, during which five of the six Extra Care Housing schemes due to be procured had declared COVID-19 outbreaks to Public Health England. These ongoing challenges arising from the Covid pandemic emphasise the need for the current commissioning strategy to promote additional supplier options and improve business resilience during this period.

2. Supporting information

Rationale for direct award

2.1. Whilst a further extension has been agreed for the Home Care contracts, this is not an option as the Extra Care contracts which were commissioned relatively recently in 2018. This means that the proposed extension period would exceed the allowable modification value under Regulation 72 of the Public Contract Regulations 2015 (50% of original estimated contract value).

2.2. The potential for carrying out an interim process under the urgent timescales allowed in the Public Contract Regulations has been considered, however, the rationale which has led to the current commissioning strategy, coupled with the ongoing COVID-19 pressures would mean that Providers are unlikely to be able to engage in tendering at this time.

2.3. A truncated procurement exercise at this time, is unlikely to deliver the most cost-effective model for delivery and the number and quality of responses, if any, is likely to be limited given providers ongoing focus on immediate operational challenges.

2.4. The proposed contract awards would be made on a 15-month interim basis as direct awards under Regulation 32 b (ii) of the Public Contract Regulations 2015, from the end of the current contracts on 27 October 2021 to 30 January 2023 to enable the COVID-19 vaccination programme to take effect, providers to return to a more normal business footing and the new contracts to be aligned with the larger Home Care retendering process.

2.5. Regulation 23 b(ii) states that contracting authorities may award public contracts by a negotiated procedure without prior publication where the works, supplies or services can be supplied only by a particular economic operator for the following reason:

(ii) competition is absent for technical reasons, but only where no reasonable alternative or substitute exists and the absence of competition is not the result of an artificial narrowing down of the parameters of the procurement.

Financial appraisal

2.6. There is ongoing provision within the Adult Social Care & Health revenue budget to fully fund these contracts. The existing providers and 15-month contract award values are included in the table below:

Extra Care Contracts	Provider	Contract value
Cranbrook (Eastbourne) and Bentley Grange (Hailsham)	CSN (Carewatch)	£1,069,470
Margaret House (Uckfield) and Downlands Court (Peacehaven)	Care at Home Services	£1,182,781
Marlborough House (St Leonard's) and The Orangery (Bexhill)	Care at Home Services	£940,704

3. Conclusion and Recommendations

3.1. The direct award of the three care contracts that relate to the County's Extra Care housing provision, to the current providers for a 15-month period, to 30 January 2023 enables the Council to undertake more comprehensive engagement and consultation with providers and clients. This will inform the future service model and align these services to the Home Care contracts for tender via a joint approved list to ensure service resilience and best value.

MARK STANTON

Director of Adult Social Care

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Local Members:

Cranbrook (Eastbourne) – Councillor David Tutt

Bentley Grange (Hailsham) - Councillor Steve Murphy

Margaret House (Uckfield) – Councillor Claire Dowling

Downlands Court (Peacehaven) – Councillor Chris Collier

Marlborough House (St Leonard's) - Councillor Trevor Webb

The Orangery (Bexhill) – Councillor Abul Azad