

# EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET – 4 MARCH 2009

## COMMUNITY CARE CONTRACTING 2009-2010

### Report by Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

#### 1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To outline Community Care commissioning and Contracting priorities and proposals for 2009/10 and to seek Cabinet approval for these proposals.

#### 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Council standing orders stipulate at section 20 (2) that where a Head of service wishes to extend a contract with an existing provider or wishes to negotiate a contract with one specific existing provider (section 20 (1)) permission must be sought from Cabinet for the authority to do this.
- 2.2 The Scottish procurement Policy Note 10 dated August 2008 states that there are a number of circumstances whereby Part B social care services may not require to be subject to open competition and it states that contracting authorities do not have to open up all services to competitive tender at the same time. The purpose of the proposals contained within is to safeguard the interests of service users, the Council and Providers whilst working towards opening up many of the services to competitive tender in the future.
- 2.3 The Social Work Service is aware that there is national debate going on surrounding procurement practice and its compatibility with the commissioning of Social Care Services. A number of interest groups and campaigning groups have formed around this issue due to the impact which re-tendering can mean in people's lives.
- 2.4 The approach that Social Work is proposing within this report is one that takes account of the needs of the Council to secure best value and to have robust contracts in place while also achieving consistency of care/support for vulnerable service users.

### 3. CURRENT POSITION

3.1 A number of Community Care Contracts are scheduled for renewal throughout 2009. The contracts with proposed actions are as follows:

Table 1

SERVICE	ANNUAL COST	CONTRACT END DATE	PROPOSED ACTION
East Ayrshire Advocacy Service	£211,000	March 2009	Negotiate a new 3 year contract
Alzheimer's Scotland	£161,000	March 2009	Negotiate a new 1 year contract
William P Whiland Ramp Contract	£78,000	July 2009	Competitive tender
Stannah List Installation & Maintenance	£240,000	July 2009	Competitive tender
Apetito Community Meals	£80,000	August 2008	Contract has been extended for 12 months as per extension clause in contract
HRM Care at Home	£1,100,000	March 2009	Contract has been extended for 12 months as per extension clause in contract
Constance Care Care at Home	£1,100,000	March 2009	Contract has been extended for 12 months as per extension clause in contract
ILS Care at Home	£600,000	March 2009	Contract has been extended for 12 months as per extension clause in contract

- 3.2 There are a number of services that are currently being delivered that have no current contracts in place and it is proposed to correct this by negotiating contracts as outlined below. These services are as follows:

**Table 2**

<b>SERVICE</b>	<b>CURRENT AMOUNT</b>	<b>PROPOSED ACTION</b>	<b>PROPOSED CONTRACT LENGTH</b>
Thorntoun Thomson Court Witch Road	£250,000	Negotiate a 1 year contract	April 2009 – March 2010
Hansel Alliance Variety of Day Care Support Services	£350,000	Negotiate a 2 year contract	April 2009 – March 2011
Morven Day Care Centre	£250,000	Negotiate a 3 year contract	April 2009 – March 2012
Carers Centre	£110,000 and £106,000 Fairer Scotland funding	Negotiate a 3 year contract	April 2009 – March 2012
Lisalanna Action for Children	£501,000	Negotiate a 1 year contract	April 2009 – March 2010
Helping Hands	£65,000	Negotiate a 1 year contract	April 2009 – March 2010

- 3.3 There are specific service areas that require to be reviewed as part of Social Work sustainability and these areas will form part of the commissioning plan for the year. They are as follows:

**Table 3**

<b>SERVICE</b>	<b>DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>PROPOSED ACTION</b>
CAST Team commissioning	A needs assessment of current Children and Adult support Team commissioning requirements.	Work is underway with Senior Manager Community Care and Service Manager Adults to scope out level of need
Adult Care Packages	Review of these packages as part of Social Work sustainability	Included in programme of Social Work Sustainability Board
Bield Dementia Sheltered Housing Service	The service requires to be reviewed in light of the findings of the Supporting people review of the service.	The review is linked to continuing implementation of Older People's Accommodation Strategy

#### **4. PROPOSALS**

- 4.1 With respect to Alzheimer's Scotland permission is being sought to extend those contracts by 12 months from April 2009 – 2010 to allow the Social Work Day Care review to be completed and considered in respect of the shape and future of day care services for older people which includes people with dementia.
- 4.2 With respect to East Ayrshire Advocacy Service permission is sought to enter into a 3 year agreement from April 2009-April 2012 to maintain continuity of service and to allow time for a full review of advocacy needs to be undertaken jointly with NHS Ayrshire and Arran and the other 2 Local Authorities in Ayrshire to determine advocacy need across Ayrshire.
- 4.3 With respect to Ramp and Stairlift contracts the preferred option is to go to tender on these services at the end of current period. A consideration with respect to the Ramp contract is to determine if Asset Improvement have the capacity to deliver a revised service specification in the required timescales. Our contingency position will be to take up an extension clause in the contract.
- 4.4 With regards to Homecare contracts for HRM, ILS and Constance Care these contracts have been extended as extension clause in the current contract. This is the same for Apetito meals service.
- 4.5 In terms of the services that have no contracts in place permission is sought to rectify this whilst working towards a programme of competitive tender as per Scottish Procurement Policy Note 10, August 2008 which is referred to above.
- 4.6 It would be the intention to contract with Thorntoun at Thomson Court/Witch Road for one year to allow time to consult with service users and their families on the requirement to put this service out to tender.
- 4.7 It would be the intention to contract with Hansel Alliance for 2 years on the basis that the service that they provide requires to be subject to a needs analysis and review, as it is linked to needs analysis being undertaken in respect of the Children and Adult Support Team.
- 4.8 With respect to the services provided by Action for Children at Lisalanna and Morven Day Centre (Crossreach) permission is sought to enter into a contract on the basis that services are linked to the building that they are delivered in and both of these are owned by the respective providers, Crossreach and Action for Children. The contract length for Action for Children is shorter due to respite needs assessment being undertaken by the East Ayrshire Partnership led by NHS Ayrshire and Arran.

- 4.9 In respect of the Carers Centre it is the intention to enter into a 3 year contract with East Ayrshire Carers Centre on basis that they have been delivering the service for 12 years and are integral to Community Planning Partnership support to Carers. They are allocated £106,000 per annum of Fairer Scotland money to deliver key aspects of the single outcome agreement in terms of eliminating poverty and improving health for local carers. To put the Social Work and NHS Ayrshire and Arran funded aspect of the service out to competitive tender would create difficulties in terms of delivering on this aspect of the Single Outcome Agreement.
- 4.10 With respect to Helping Hands, which is a maintenance service for older people, permission is sought to agree a contract for one year from April 2009- March 2010 so that the service can be reviewed as part of the Sustainability review of Homecare.
- 4.11 With respect to Children and Adults Support team commissioning an audit of need is underway to determine what support services are required to support children in transition. A report will be brought to Cabinet outlining more detailed plans for this in due course.
- 4.12 With respect to Adult care packages a review of these packages is to be undertaken as part of the Social Work budget sustainability. A further report is scheduled to go to Cabinet in May 2009.
- 4.13 In terms of community based addiction services, officers from East Ayrshire Council are working with South Ayrshire Council to progress contracts with Turning Point, Addaction and Ayrshire Council for Alcohol. It was agreed between the Strategic Alliance partners that South Ayrshire Council would be the lead contracting agency.

## **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 That through robust contracting Social Work Service will be achieving best value in contracting while working towards subjecting services that require it to competitive tender. The proposed programme will be integral to the work being undertaken to deliver a sustainable Social Work service in East Ayrshire.

## **6. POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 This report has implications for the Council in terms of procurement procedures as permission is being sought not to subject all services at this time to competitive tender. Our principal basis for negotiating a number of contracts at this time is that most of them are primarily property-based services where there is no or little opportunity for competition.

6.2 The paper also sets out a work programme for colleagues in Legal Services and Social Work Services to progress the contracts described in the report.

## **7. COMMUNITY PLANNING IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 These proposed Commissioning arrangements will help deliver efficient and effective Social Work services and in so doing promote the Health and Wellbeing and Community Safety elements of the Community Plan.

## **8. RISK IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 The proposals within this report address risk for Service Users, the Council and Commissioned providers by setting out through robust contractual arrangements the requirements of East Ayrshire Council in terms of values, quality and cost of services.

## **9. RECOMMENDATIONS**

9.1 Members of Cabinet are asked to:

- (i) approve the proposals contained in section 3 and 4 of this report; and
- (ii) otherwise note the content of the report

Graham Short  
Executive Director of Educational and Social Services  
17 February 2009

## **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Anyone wishing further information should contact: Eddie Fraser, Head of Service: Community Care, telephone number 01563 576920.

**IMPLEMENTATION OFFICER: EDDIE FRASER**