

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member for Adult Services and Public Health
<b>Date:</b>	12 July 2021
<b>Title:</b>	Extension to the current Social Inclusion service contracts
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Adults' Health and Care

**Contact name:** Stephen White

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### Purpose of this Report

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval to extend the existing Social Inclusion services by up to 12 months, until 31 March 2023. This is to allow sufficient time for these services to return from the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic and allow sufficient time for engagement on the future provision of these services.

### Recommendation(s)

2. That the Executive Member for Adult Services and Public Health give approval to extend the Social Inclusion contracts, through modification, as outlined in this report, for up to a period of 12 months until March 2023, and give approval for the associated spend of £2,254,872.
3. That the Executive Member for Adult Services and Public Health approve a grant of £428,509 to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council for the delivery of Social Inclusion services in that area, for up to a period of 12 months until March 2023.

### Executive Summary

4. Social Inclusion Services are housing related support services for people over the age of 18 who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. Due to the pressures placed upon the department as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic, plans to work with the services and partner organisations to review and tender services for new contracts to commence in April 2022 had to be reconsidered. An extension of 12 months to March 2023 would allow sufficient time for a revised review and procurement of any new services from April 2023.
5. The department are seeking the modifications under Regulation 72(1)(e) of the Public Contract Regulations 2015. Regulation 72(1)(e) sets out that

modifications can be made where such modifications, irrespective of their value, are not substantial within the meaning of paragraph (8).

### **Contextual information**

6. Homelessness Support Services (the collective name for Social Inclusion Services and the Winchester Night Shelter) are housing related support services for people over the age of 18 who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. Housing related support is defined as help that develops or sustains an individual's capacity to live independently in accommodation. This includes support to understand and manage the rights and responsibilities of their tenancy, manage debt and budget effectively, better manage physical health, mental health and substance misuse, and access healthcare.
7. The County Council funds support for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness within three main types of service:
  - Intensive 24/7 supported housing and night shelter services providing 24/7 short-term housing and support for people who are sleeping rough or at risk of sleeping rough
  - 'Lower' level and/or 'move on' supported housing providing 24/7 accommodation and support for individuals who are homeless and have less critical needs or are ready to move on.
  - Community support (including homelessness outreach for people sleeping rough)
8. Housing related support services for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness have always been commissioned in partnership with the District and Borough Councils and support these authorities to meet their statutory responsibilities to prevent and relieve homelessness. These duties were extended in April 2018, under the commencement of the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017.
9. The contracts provide community and accommodation-based housing related support to improve outcomes for vulnerable people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. These services are delivered through a grant arrangement in the Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council area.
10. Due to the pressures placed upon the department as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic, previous plans to review and retender services for new contracts to commence in April 2022 had to be reconsidered. As these services cut across the agenda of a number of statutory authorities, including district and borough councils, CCGs and Hampshire County Council, sufficient time is required to ensure that any review includes extensive engagement and collaboration.
11. An extension of 12 months to March 2023 for the County Council procured services, and an additional grant under the same terms and conditions for the Basingstoke and Deane services, would allow sufficient time for this complex review and the procurement of any new services from April 2023. An alternative option of tendering services for one year would be disruptive and unattractive to the market.

## Finance

12. Permission is being sought to extend all 6 contracts by 12 months at the current annual value from April 2022 – March 2023.

<b>Service name</b>	<b>Annual value 2022/23 (modification term)</b>
Lot 1 Social Inclusion	£355,285
Lot 2 Social Inclusion	£421,458
Lot 3 Social Inclusion	£645,786
Lot 4 Social Inclusion	£384,620
Lot 5 Social Inclusion	£385,180
Winchester Night Shelter	£62,544
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£2,254,872</b>
Basingstoke and Deane Grant	£428,509

13. The proposed extension does not represent an additional cost compared to existing spend. The cost associated with the proposed extension will be met within the planned available budget provision in 2022/23.

## Consultation and Equalities

14. Following a review of the Equalities Impact Assessment, the impact of the proposed decision is considered to be neutral. As no changes will be made to the way the services are currently operating, no positive or negative impacts have been identified.
15. An initial climate change assessment has taken place, and it is considered that the tools were not applicable because this is a financial report amending or proposing budgets for programmes and individual schemes and therefore does not require a climate change assessment. The decisions in this report are financial, and relate to contractual extensions to existing services and therefore have a neutral impact on climate change.

## Climate Impact Assessment

16. Hampshire County Council utilises two decision-making tools to assess the carbon emissions and resilience of its projects and decisions. These tools provide a clear, robust, and transparent way of assessing how projects, policies and initiatives contribute towards the County Council's climate change targets of being carbon neutral and resilient to the impacts of a 2°C temperature rise by 2050. This process ensures that climate change considerations are built into everything the Authority does.

## **Legal**

17. Legal advice is set out in exempt appendix 1.

## **Conclusions**

18. That the Executive Member for Adult Services and Public Health give approval to extend the Social Inclusion contracts, through modification, as outlined in this report, for up to a period of 12 months until March 2023, and give approval associated spend of £2,254,872.
19. That the Executive Member for Adult Services and Public Health approve a grant of £428,509 to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council for the delivery of Social Inclusion services in that area, for up to a period of 12 months until March 2023.

## REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:

### Links to the Strategic Plan

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	yes
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:	yes
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	no
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	no

### Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:	
<u>Title</u> Homelessness Support Services: Outcome of the Social Inclusion Transformation to 2019 Review	<u>Date</u> 5 December 2018
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>

### Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

Document

Location

None

## **EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:**

### **1. Equality Duty**

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

### **2. Equalities Impact Assessment:**

Equalities Impact Assessment Reference Number - EIA338957654.

**Name of project or proposal:** Extension to the current Social Inclusion service contracts

**Name of accountable officer:** Stephen White

**Email:** stephen.white@hants.gov.uk

**Department:** Adults' Health and Care

**Date of assessment:** 01/06/2021

**Describe the current service or policy:** Homelessness Support Services are housing related support services for people over the age of 18 who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. Housing related support is defined as help that develops or sustains an individual's capacity to live independently in accommodation. This includes support to better manage physical health, mental health and substance misuse, and access healthcare, specialist services and Education, Training and Employment (ETE) opportunities.

**Geographical impact:** All Hampshire

**Describe the proposed change:** It is proposed that these services are extended by 12 months to March 2023 in their current form, utilising the existing service specification and monitoring arrangements.

**Who does this impact assessment cover?:** Service users

**Has engagement or consultation been carried out?:** No

**Describe the consultation or engagement you have performed or are intending to perform:** As no changes are being made to this service, beyond a 12 month extension, no consultation has been carried out.

**Age:** Neutral

**Disability:** Neutral

**Sexual orientation:** Neutral

**Race:** Neutral

**Religion or belief:** Neutral

**Gender reassignment:** Neutral

**Gender:** Neutral

**Marriage or civil partnership:** Neutral

**Pregnancy and maternity:** Neutral

**Poverty:** Neutral

**Rurality:** Neutral

No changes will be made to the way the services are currently operating, therefore no positive or negative impacts have been identified.