

# WIRRAL COUNCIL

## CABINET

14TH APRIL 2011

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b><i>SUPPORTING PEOPLE CONTRACTS</i></b>
<b>WARD/S AFFECTED:</b>	<b><i>ALL</i></b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b><i>KEVIN ADDERLEY, INTERIM DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES</i></b>
<b>RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:</b>	<b><i>CLLR CHRIS BLAKELEY</i></b>
<b>KEY DECISION?</b> <i>(Defined in paragraph 13.3 of Article 13 'Decision Making' in the Council's Constitution.)</i>	<b><i>YES/NO (delete as applicable)</i></b>

### 1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Supporting People (SP) programme, aims to prevent individuals experiencing crises and requiring more costly service intervention; and to enable vulnerable people to live independently through the provision of front-line housing-related support services.
- 1.2 The purpose of the report is to seek members' endorsement of the decision of the Interim Director of Corporate Services to extend a number of Supporting People Contracts, which allows for renegotiation/tendering in 2011/12, and the alignment where appropriate with the Department of Adult Social Services contracted supported-living services.
- 1.3 At its meeting on 10 December 2008, Cabinet approved the Supported and Special Needs Housing Strategy 2008-11, including a Procurement Methodology which sets out the framework for renegotiating/tendering of Supporting People Contracts.
- 1.4 Whilst the majority of contracts have been renegotiated or tendered within the timescales set out in the Strategy there remain a number of negotiations still to take place.
- 1.5 To date, the procurement exercise has realised significant savings to the Authority. The extension of the remaining contracts will allow sufficient time for the process to be concluded. In doing so, this will achieve further efficiencies for the Council, whilst continuing to support a number of the Councils key corporate priorities and improving outcomes for the most vulnerable of Wirral residents.
- 1.6 As with previous negotiations, the outcomes will be reported to Cabinet in due course.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 2.1 That Members endorse the decision of the Interim Director of Corporate Services to extend the Supporting People contracts for the periods set out in Appendix 1.

## **3.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 3.1 In endorsing the decision to extend these contracts, Members will:
- Ensure continuity of support for vulnerable residents currently receiving services.
  - Reduce the financial burden on other Council Departments.
  - Avoid potential challenges that may arise from the expiration of contracts without formal notice being given or the subsequent withdrawal of support services.
  - Enable the conclusion of the negotiation process which will realise further efficiencies to the council.
  - Ensure that SP services are effectively aligned with the supported living services commissioned through the Department of Adult Social Services.

## **4.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES**

- 4.1 Supporting People (SP) is a national programme delivered locally through the Supported and Special Needs Housing Section (S&SNHS) in partnership with the Council, Probation Trust and PCT, that aims to develop or sustain an individual's capacity to live independently through the provision of housing related support.
- 4.2 The S&SNHS Commissioning Strategy 2008-2011, endorsed by members in December 2008 outlined the basis on which future contracting and commissioning of services were to be procured. The strategy aims to deliver, amongst other things, improved service delivery across all types of tenure, better outcomes for services users; delivery of best value and value for money and the potential for expansion of provision. Further, it would enable the modelling and commissioning of more flexible services to better meet the strategic expectations and requirements of the Council and Partners.
- 4.3 The procurement and negotiation process began in April 2009 and facilitated the reconfiguration and rationalisation of services, which has resulted in the establishment of contracts with 59 service providers (some of which are in the community, voluntary and faith sector) that deliver 126 services to approximately 6,000 vulnerable people.
- 4.4 To date, the process has realised annual efficiency savings of £441,000 to the Authority whilst increasing the level and type of services available to vulnerable people, and continuing to support and maintain services provided by the community, voluntary and faith sector, details of which have been previously reported to Cabinet on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2009 and 4<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

- 4.5 Whilst the majority of contracts have been renegotiated or tendered within the timescales set out in the Strategy there remain a number of negotiations still to take place.
- 4.6 There have been influencing factors that have inhibited progress including; uncertainty regarding levels of funding available for the programme, significant changes within partner departments and the need to carry out a comprehensive evaluation of the appropriateness of the use of Supporting People funding for clients with Learning Disabilities, in order to align with the re-tendering of services by the Department of Adult Social Services.
- 4.7 Appendix 1 lists those contracts yet to be negotiated / tendered, which had expiry dates falling between 31.March and 30 April 2011. These being:
- 14 contracts for Learning Disability Services with a total annual value of £2,300,000 (based on 2010/11 funding)
  - 10 contracts for Community Alarms services with a total annual value of £15,980
  - 9 contracts for miscellaneous services with a total annual value of £392,000.
- 4.8 In view of the imminent expiration of these contracts, it has been necessary for the Interim Director of Corporate Services, under his delegated powers of authority, (paragraph 23 of the Scheme of Delegation) to extend the contracts for services provided to clients with Learning Disabilities for six months whilst discussions take place with the Director of Adult Social Services, and for between 9 to 12 months for the remainder to allow sufficient time and resources to complete the exercise.
- 4.9 This process and the use of the Interim Directors delegated authority has been agreed with the Director of Finance and the Director of HR, Law and Asset Management.

## **5.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

- 5.1 The risk associated with the failure to extend these contracts would be:
- A loss of services to vulnerable people.
  - Potential litigation arising from the expiration of contracts without formal notice being given.
  - Potential financial implications for other Departmental budgets.

## **6.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 6.1 The option to not renew these contracts was considered but, for the reasons previously set out, was not considered feasible.

## **7.0 CONSULTATION**

- 7.1 The 'Wirral's Future: Be a part of it' consultation identified the importance of maintaining support for the most vulnerable people via the Supporting People programme.
- 7.2 Consultation has taken place with the Department of Adult Social Services which is supportive of the proposal set out in this report
- 7.3 As part of the re-contracting process, we will conduct Service User consultation in order to ensure that the re-provision meets their support needs.

## **8.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS**

- 8.1 A number of Voluntary, Community and Faith groups deliver support to vulnerable people via existing contracts and we will ensure that all re-tendered contracts will reflect the Councils emerging policy on assisting voluntary, community and faith groups to tender for these services.

## **9.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS**

- 9.1 The current budget will continue to pay for these contracts.

## **10.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1 Contract Procedural rule 5.1.2 says that Cabinet can approve an extension to a contract, if satisfied that the extension will provide value for money. In this instance, it is not proposed to increase any of the prices in return for the Contractor agreeing to the extension of the contract.

## **11.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 11.1 The services provided through the continuation of these contracts promote social inclusion and involvement.

- 11.2 Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

(a) Is an EIA required? No

## **12.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS**

- 12.1 Wherever feasible, the use of web-based and other IT solutions will be incorporated into subsequent negotiation and tendering exercises.

## **13.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

- 13.1 There are no specific planning implications arising from this report.

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## **APPENDICES**

Appendix 1: Table of contracts and extension dates.

## **REFERENCE MATERIAL**

Supported and Special Needs Housing Commissioning Strategy (including Procurement Methodology 2008-2011)

## **SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)**

<b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Cabinet: Wirral's Supported and Special Needs Housing Strategy 2008-2011</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> December 2008</b>
<b>Cabinet: Wirral's Supported and Special Needs Housing Contracts Report</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup> June 2009</b>
<b>Wirral's Supported and Special Needs Housing Tendered Contracts – Floating Support</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> February 2010</b>
<b>Wirral's Supported and Special Needs Housing Negotiated Contracts</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> February 2010</b>

## APPENDIX ONE

The following table shows the individual services yet to be negotiated / tendered, their respective contract values for the period of extension, their original contract expirations / new expiration dates.

The contract values are approximations, as they vary depending on the level of utilisation / occupancy. For the purposes of this table, we have based our estimates on levels of service utilisation during 2010/11.

Contracts running on extension		Capacity	Contract Value	Original Expiration Date	New Expiration Date
Learning Disabilities					
Alternative Futures	58 Borrowdale Road	3	20457.06	01/04/2011	02.10.11
Alternative Futures	614 New Chester Road	4	13587.08	01/04/2011	02.10.11
Alternative Futures	87 Park Road West	4	13384.8	01/04/2011	02.10.11
Alternative Futures	99 Hoylake Road	5	19012.5	01/04/2011	02.10.11
Alternative Futures	Chestnut Lodge	3	10833.16	01/04/2011	02.10.11
Alternative Futures	Nursery House	3	9810.06	01/04/2011	02.10.11
Alternative Futures	Saxondale	3	13004.16	01/04/2011	02.10.11
Alternative Futures	The Spinney	2	6388.2	01/04/2011	02.10.11
Autism Initiatives	Autism Initiatives New Chester Road	2	9742.72	01/04/2011	02.10.11
Autism Initiatives	Autism Initiatives St Peter's Court	2	5612.62	01/04/2011	02.10.11
European Lifestyles	European Lifestyles Floating Support	1	6656	01/04/2011	02.10.11
Harbour Supported Living Services Limited	Rake Lane Service	4	9155.12	01/04/2011	02.10.11
Macintyre Care	25 Shrewsbury Road	6	31600.8	01/04/2011	02.10.11
Macintyre Care	Macintyre Floating Support	1	1947.07	01/04/2011	02.10.11

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Macintyre Care	St James	6	19947.07	01/04/2011	02.10.11
Contracts running on extension		<b>Capacity</b>	<b>Contract Value</b>	<b>Original Expiration Date</b>	<b>New Expiration Date</b>
Northwest Community Services (Access Employment) Limited	Northwest Community Services (Access Employment) Limited	5	42983.72	01/04/2011	02.10.11
Options for Supported Living	Options for Supported Living Floating Support	9	73110.96	01/04/2011	02.10.11
Potens-	Grange Mount	4	14232.92	01/04/2011	02.10.11
Potens	Hertford Drive	7	29072.16	01/04/2011	02.10.11
Potens	Osborne Road	10	18079.36	01/04/2011	02.10.11
PSS	PSS Wirral Adult Placements AP75	23	198368.6	01/04/2011	02.10.11
Royal Mencap Society	74 Grosvernor Road	5	32527.3	01/04/2011	02.10.11
Royal Mencap Society	Supported Living Scheme	1	3166.02	01/04/2011	02.10.11
Royal Mencap Society	Westbank Road	5	17409.05	01/04/2011	02.10.11
WILL	WILL Floating Support	1	5014.36	01/04/2011	02.10.11
Hft (HF Trust Limited)	Allport Lane	3	10280.4	30/04/2011	02.10.11
Hft (HF Trust Limited)	Mark Rake	3	15420.6	30/04/2011	02.10.11
Local Solutions	Cearns Lodge (caretaker service)	7	35981.7	03/04/2011	02.10.11
The following 4 SLA's are linked to the outsourcing of in-house services currently being discussed with Colleagues in DASS. The amounts represent the annual contract value					
Social Services (Service Level Agreement)	Birkenhead Learning Disabilities Supported Housing	28	302,315.00	30/04/2011	
Social Services (SLA)	Livingstone Gardens	21	197,739.36	30/04/2011	
Social Services (SLA)	Wallasey Area LD Service	20	231,646.48	30/04/2011	
Social Services (SLA)	West Wirral Learning Disabilities Supported Housing	18	190,476.00	30/04/2011	

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		Capacity	Contract Value	Original Expiration Date	New Expiration Date
Contracts running on extension					
Miscellaneous					
Sahir House (Cross Authority)	Sahir House Floating Support Service	20	82,368.00 <sup>1</sup>	03/04/2011	03.04.12
Alpha (RSL) Ltd	Extra Support Element (Alpha)	44	41,964.00	30/04/2011	01.01.12
Housing 21	Cherry Tree Care Team	10	48,750.00	30/04/2011	01.01.12
Novas Scarman	Intensive floating Support Service (Cross Authority MAPPA) <sup>2</sup>	8	50,000.00	30/04/2011	02.10.11
Merseyside Society For Deaf People	Physical or Sensory Disability	7	28,024.00	30/04/2011	01.01.12
Local Solutions	Merseyside Accommodation Project	36	106,794.00	30/04/2011	01.01.12
Abbeyfield Heswall Society	Allandale	6	5,048.16	30/04/2011	01.04.12
Abbeyfield Hoylake & West Kirby	Abbeyfield Society	25	3,263.00	30/04/2011	01.04.12
Abbeyfield Oxtan & Prenton Society	65 Prenton Road West & 2 Gerald Road	21	9,783.80	30/04/2011	01.04.12
Community Alarms					
Anchor Trust	Churchlands (C.A.)	20	999.57	31/03/2011	31.12.11
Anchor Trust	Palm Court (C.A.)	24	1746.03	31/03/2011	31.12.11
Anchor Trust	Townfields (C.A.)	18	823.68	31/03/2011	31.12.11
Alpha (RSL) Ltd	St. Columbas Close (C.A)	20	2287.35	03/04/2011	31.12.11
Arena Options Limited	Flats 1-8 Hoeside Road (C.A)	8	276	31/03/2011	01.01.12
CDS Housing	Community alarms (C.A.)	22	2077.92	31/03/2011	01.01.12

<sup>1</sup> This is a cross-authority service, hosted by Wirral. The specific Wirral contribution is £22,464.00 (Liverpool - £37,440 Sefton - £14,976 St. Helens £3,744 and Knowsley - £3,744). These allocations are based on the numbers of units purchased by each individual authority)

<sup>2</sup> This contract is currently being tendered by Liverpool City Council as a cross-authority contract between Wirral, Liverpool and Knowsley. The outcome of this tender will be reported to Members in due course.



Cosmopolitan Housing Association	Clipper View (C.A)	14	255.06	31/03/2011	01.01.12
English Churches Housing Group	Grangewood Court (C.A.)	15	577.2	31/03/2011	01.01.12
Housing 21	Bower House (C.A)	22	655.2	31/03/2011	01.01.12
Housing 21	Homebank House (C.A)	4	149.76	31/03/2011	01.01.12
LHT (Rodney Division)	Kingswood Road (C.A.)	6	207.48	31/03/2011	01.01.12
LHT (Rodney Division)	Riverview Court (C.A.)	14	378.3	31/03/2011	01.01.12
LHT (Rodney Division)	Sarah Jamieson Court (C.A.)	12	531.96	31/03/2011	01.01.12
Regenda Group (Maritime HA)	Maritime Housing Community Alarms (C.A)	28	286.26	31/03/2011	01.01.12
Riverside Group Ltd	Acorn Close (C.A.)	14	733.2	31/03/2011	01.01.12

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