



OFFICER DECISION NOTICE

4th January 2022

REPORT TITLE:	AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR CARE AND SUPPORT AT HOME MOBILE NIGHTS IN WIRRAL
REPORT OF:	LEAD COMMISSIONER COMMUNITY CARE MARKET

REPORT SUMMARY

The purpose of the report is to seek approval from the Director of Care and Health in respect of the Award of the Care and Support at home Mobile Night service within Wirral following a procurement exercise.

Provider information can be found in Appendix 1 please note this information is commercially sensitive and is restricted by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

This matter affects all wards within the Borough as referrals can be made from anywhere in Wirral. This is a key decision.

RECOMMENDATION/S

The Director of Care and Health is recommended to approve the award of 2 year contract (with a one year extension option) to highest scoring tenderer Provider B outlined in Appendix A and approve the progression to notice of the award of the contract, within the approved budget and in accordance with the most economically advantageous tender criteria.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1.1 The service provided for the mobile nights are required to meet the Council's statutory duty under the Care Act and are complimentary to other commissioned service provisions.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 To not tender the service out to contract and remain with incumbent provider, which would not be compliant with contract procedure rules.
- 2.2 To offer a contract of an alternative length.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 A report was presented to Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee on 7th June 2021 where the Committee agreed to undertake a procurement exercise to re-tender of the Mobile Nights Service detailed above in the summary.
- 3.2 The Committee approved the commencement of the tender process and gave delegated authority to the Director of Health and Care to make the award following the conclusion of the tender.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Below, is the annual cost and overall cost of the contract including the RLW rate
- 4.2 Standard Rate

Staff per evening	Number of runs	Hours per week	Hourly Rate	Weekly cost	4 weekly costs	Total contract cost for 2 years
14	7	882	17.24	£15,205.68	£60,822.72	£1,581,390

Enhanced Rate (RLW)

Staff per evening	Number of runs	Hours per week	Hourly Rate	Weekly cost	4 weekly costs	Total contract cost for 2 years
14	7	882	18.43	£16,255.26	£65,021.04	£1,690,547

4.3 The enhanced rate applies to the Real Living Wage

The current rate(s) payable for this contract is set out in the Table of Prices above from 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022 (the real Living Wage (RLW) rates in the above table applies for providers who have committed to paying the Real Living Wage of £9.50 to front line staff up to 31st March 2022). Thereafter this is subject to annual review and fee setting by the council.

4.4 The successful Provider has committed to paying the Real Living Wage.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The Care & Support at home Mobile Nights Service will support the Council to deliver its Statutory duties under the Care Act

5.2 The award of contract will be made on the basis of the most economically advantageous tender (MEAT) scoring. The meaning of MEAT is currently governed by the Public Contract Regulations 2015. As criteria for the assessment of tenders on the basis of the best price-quality ratio, MEAT will always predominantly contain a cost or quality element, but the MEAT criteria may also include assessment on the basis of various other criteria linked to the subject-matter of the contract in question, including lifecycle costing and environmental or social aspects. For example, particular award criteria may take into account the inclusion of vulnerable and disadvantaged people, local wealth building, training and educational aspects or the use of non-toxic substances in the production process to deliver the requirement. The Council's Contract Procedure Rules (Standing Orders) set out how contracts are to be awarded by the Council, which will include reference to the Council's Procurement Strategy and Social Value Policy.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: STAFFING, ICT AND ASSETS

6.1 No implications arising directly from this procurement exercise

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

7.1 Contract would be in breach if the procurement exercise had not gone ahead. The local authority has a statutory duty to provide services to deliver Care Act responsibilities that assist to prevent, reduce or delay individual's needs. A direct award and failing to undertake a tendering process would have been open to potential challenge.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

8.1 We engaged with approximately 20% of the Mobile Night Service users via telephone due to COVID restrictions.

From the people we engaged with 25% were the actual users themselves and 75% were close relatives or friends with the consent of the service user.

Overall, 85% of the people we spoke to were happy with the current Mobile Nights Service provided by Premier Care.

We also engaged with Operational Social Work Teams (6 teams) to obtain feedback on the service. We received feedback from 4 of the teams, with suggested comments on how they feel the service could be improved and this was taken into consideration when developing the specification.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Wirral Council has a legal requirement to make sure its policies, and the way it carries out its work, do not discriminate against anyone. An Equality Impact Assessment is a tool to help council services identify steps they can take to ensure equality for anyone who might be affected by a particular policy, decision or activity.

9.2 Equality implications are embedded into the procurement process during application, selection and award

10.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

10.1 The tender included a requirement to contribute to the Council's target of reduction carbon emissions. The successful provider has included a vehicle solution which is environmentally friendly, and will help to meet the Council's target of reduction carbon emissions

11.0 COMMUNITY WEALTH IMPLICATIONS

11.1 As a result of the revised service specification, the residents in Wirral will benefit from clearer pathway to help and support and to maintain people living at home.

11.2 The Care and Support at Home Mobile Nights Service is offered as a strength-based service using an asset-based community development approach where possible.

11.3 The successful provider B as outlined in appendix 1 provides services which are enhanced through the deployment of local people from Wirral who bring a variety of skills, knowledge, and experience.

11.4 Social Value measures were included in the tender process

11.5 The successful provider is required to have an office based on Wirral and pay business rates

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 - Provider Information (restricted by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972)

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Tender and procurement documentation
Summary of engagement exercise with stakeholders

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee Report on Commissioning activity quarter 2 to Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee	7 th June 2021