

**NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL**

**DECISION OF COUNCILLOR DAWN PAYNE  
THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE  
with advice from the  
DIRECTOR OF PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES**



---

**DECISION NO: P&C82**

**SUBJECT: 'Access Your Care' End of Life Block Contract**

**DECISION:**

For 'Access Your Care' to continue to provide end of life packages and re-ablement through a short term block contract for a further 6 months – from 21/04/17-20/10/17.

Any spare capacity will also be used to assist with hospital discharges and wider shortfalls in home care. The predominant requirement for this jointly commissioned service is end of life packages of care which are procured on behalf of North Somerset CCG. The provision of end of life care services in the community has had an impact on capacity of domiciliary care. The CCG approves of this short term arrangement to extend capacity in the domiciliary care market awaiting the wider commissioning exercise.

This decision has come to you for approval as under North Somerset Council's 'Contract Standing Orders' section 5, the Council has the power to suspend or waive the requirements within them due to:

- 5.2.11 Contracts for the placement of a person, or persons, requiring community care or special educational needs or requiring emergency accommodation under part VII of the Housing Act 1996.

**Background:**

Due to demographic demand pressures, domiciliary care services are subject to capacity constraints, particularly in the area of end of life, which has seen significant increases in recent months. Access Your Care are currently providing 500.5 hours per week. This support is relieving the ongoing pressure of capacity issues particularly in end of life packages and packages the north of North Somerset.

**Reasons:**

Further time is needed to consider longer term options, this together with other procurement exercises within the department and the recommissioning of domiciliary care means that the service is required on a further fixed term basis of 6 months whilst these new services bed in.

This action is seen as a proactive move to stabilise capacity whilst existing domiciliary care providers reposition their business activity. The recommissioning of the north of North Somerset is almost complete, with recommendation for award being decided at Full Council in April and the contract start being 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017. Service transfers across the new strategic providers can gather momentum with the blocks supporting these transfers by supporting with any additional capacity. By October the intention will be to decide whether the blocks are still required in some form or whether the recommissioning has begun to see results in the north.

As the majority of the packages are end of life care, by nature of the work the packages will be short term.

**Other Alternatives Considered:**

This is not a long term commitment. This is an interim arrangement to support the re-commissioning of domiciliary services for the whole of North Somerset.

**Financial Implications:**

The cost of the proposed service is £235,535.30 over 6 months, based on delivering 71.5 hrs a day, 500.5 hrs of domiciliary care a week.

- 1. The service offers a same day start which includes an assessment of the patient.
- 2. The service is covering both the north and south of North Somerset. Access Your Care are able to accept all packages resulting in higher mileage coverage.

A significant element of the costs will be funded by North Somerset CCG for the end of life element.

**Implications for Future Years:**

None as this is short term solution for 6 months.

Signed: .....  
Councillor Dawn Payne  
Executive Member for Adult Social Care

Dated: .....

**Reviewed:**

Signed: .....  
Gerald Hunt  
Head of Commissioning

Dated: .....

**Confirmation of advice given:**

Signed: .....  
Sheila Smith  
Director, People and Communities

Dated: .....