

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&C87

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. 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:

Subsequently to the Decision Paper that was passed on 2nd October 2015, Access Your Care have identified additional resources to provide North Somerset Council with 2 more block runs in the morning, lunchtime and evening. This would give North Somerset Council in total 7 blocks and would allow an extra capacity of 161 hours per week and in total 479.5 hours per week.

Due to demographic demand pressures, domiciliary care services continue to be subject to capacity constraints, particularly in the area of End of Life, which has seen significant increases in recent months. In order to meet this challenge it is proposed to extend the existing community response service operating out of hours, to provide additional capacity.

Reasons:

Access Your Care are able to recruit staff to this service and start immediately. A delay in starting this service will mean a potential loss of staff already recruited.

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.

This option is preferred as it is needed to start immediately for our end of life patients to ensure sufficient capacity is available during the interim period.

Financial Implications:

The cost of the proposed service is £223,159.30 for 6 months, based on delivering 68.5 hrs a day, 479.5 hrs of Domiciliary Care a week. This does not exceed the Light Touch EU procurement threshold of £589,000 and therefore can be approved by the relevant Director and Executive Member. The cost of this service is not additional spend as the service will be covering Packages for people who have been assessed as requiring funding from the Council/CCG.

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 a further 6 months.

This action is seen as a proactive move to stabilise capacity whilst existing domiciliary care providers reposition their business activity awaiting the outcome of first phased re-commissioning in the Worle area.

As the majority of the packages are End Of Life care, by nature of the work the packages will be short term.

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

Dated: 21.4.16

Confirmation of advice given:

Signed: Sheila Smith
Sheila Smith
Director, People and Communities

Dated: 21.4.16

