

**NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL  
DECISION**

**DECISION OF: DIRECTOR OF PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES  
WITH ADVICE FROM: HEAD OF COMMISSIONING  
DIRECTORATE: PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES**



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**DECISION NO: PC106 (2019/20 SCHEME)**

**SUBJECT: DECISION TO EXTEND THE SUPPORT TO LIVE AT HOME CONTRACT  
FOR AREA 1 FOR THE ADDITIONAL TERM**

**KEY DECISION: YES**

**REASON:**

**This Decision is applicable to more than one ward and has a value of more than £500,000.**

**BACKGROUND:**

On 19 July 2016, Full Council approved the decision to award the Support to Live at Home contract for Area 1 to Alliance Living Care, commencing 5 September 2016. The Term of the contracts being an Initial Term of 4 years with an Additional Term of 3 years.

**DECISION:**

To extend the Support to Live at Home Contract for Area 1 for the Additional Term of three years.

**REASONS:**

The purpose of tendering the Support to Live at Home contracts was to improve the capacity within the domiciliary care market. The market position is still challenging however we believe that the model still has the potential to improve the situation. The service is stable, and no quality issues have been raised with the Council. Therefore, we recommend that the contract is extended for the available Additional Term. Contractually there is the ability to terminate the contract, without cause, on 6 months' notice, should we decide that we need to change the service delivery model.

**OPTIONS CONSIDERED:**

The alternative option is to not extend the contract and to re-tender.

The hourly rates we are proposing to continue with are lower than the average spot rate across domiciliary care providers in North Somerset. Therefore, we believe that re-tendering at this point is not likely to be financial beneficial to the Council.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

There are no specific financial impacts of the decision to extend the contract, in the sense that the existing pricing mechanism will continue.

The figures below are approximate as they are not taking into consideration new care packages or changes to existing care packages or any annual uplifts awarded during the Additional Term.

### **Costs**

The total cost for commissioned hours under the contracts for the Period 6 January-2 February 2020 was circa £101,028. Subject to annual uplifts, over the 3-year Additional Term this equates to a spend of c. £3.9m or c. £1.3m per annum

### **Funding**

Funding is from the Adult Social Care budget.

## **LEGAL POWERS AND IMPLICATIONS**

Contract Standing Orders Clause 26,

### 26 Contract Extension

**26.1** Contracts may be extended subject to authorisation by the relevant decision-maker.

**26.2** If the extension period and value was incorporated into the original contract, then the relevant Director may authorise the extension.

## **CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

The contract's Terms and Conditions require the Provider to use environmentally friendly practices specifically under the Social Value paragraph 7.

### 7.4. Environmental

7.4.1. The Provider shall endeavour to develop sustainable transport initiatives in the provision of its Service including encouraging 'greener' ways of travelling i.e. walking and cycling where appropriate; and

7.4.2. The Provider will dispose of all waste, including proper disposal of, and take measures to reduce, re-use and recycle these resources where possible.

## **CONSULTATION**

There has not been any consultation with regards to the contract extension, however, we undertake service user questionnaires as part of our contract compliance process with the most recent results being gathered in September 2019. 97% of people who responded to the questionnaire were happy with the service provided by Alliance Living Care and 98% said that Alliance Living Care's service improves their quality of life.

We will consult with the public and the market when we are considering the re-commissioning for the end of the Additional Term.

**RISK MANAGEMENT**

We evaluate the risk of the contract quarterly. The main risk involved remains the capacity available across the domiciliary care sector both locally and nationally. Several initiatives are being pursued to try and address the lack of care staff wanting to work within the sector at a BNSSG level.

**EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

Have you undertaken an Equality Impact Assessment?

A full EIA was undertaken as part of the original decision to tender and was rated Low.

**CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

None.

**APPENDICES**

None.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Full Council meeting 19/07/16 Report 21.

**SIGNATORIES:**

**DECISION MAKER(S):**

Signed:  p.p. Sheila Smith

Title: ~~Director of People and Communities~~

Date: 19.3.20 *City Exec.*

**WITH ADVICE FROM:**

Signed: 

Title: Head of Commissioning

Date: 19.3.20

**Footnote: Details of changes made and agreed by the decision taker since publication of the proposed (pre-signed) decision notice, if applicable:**

