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<b>Meeting</b>	Cabinet Resources Committee
<b>Date</b>	4 November 2013
<b>Subject</b>	Contract Extension and Regularisation
Report of	Cabinet Member for Adults
Summary	The Adults and Communities Delivery Unit wish to extend six contracts identified in this report. The Adults and Communities Delivery Unit also wish to vary the existing Contract for Neighbourhood Services. These recommendations are the result of a managed process of reviewing current contracts and planning future procurement activity.

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Officer Contributors	Andrew Shirras, Category Manager Jess Baines-Holmes, Category Manager
Status (public or exempt)	Public
Wards affected	All
Reason for urgency / exemption from call-in	Not applicable
Function of	Executive
Enclosures	None
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## **1. RECOMMENDATION**

1.1 CRC are asked to agree the extension of the following contracts:

- The generic floating support contract with Notting Hill Housing Trust by six months to September 2014;
- The specialist mental health floating support contract with One Housing Group by seven months to September 2014;
- The specialist information and advice contract with the Barnet Centre for Independent Living by 12 months to March 2015;
- The community advice contract with the Barnet Citizens Advice Bureau by six months to March 2015;
- The peer support brokerage contract with the Barnet Centre for Independent Living by six months to September 2014; and,
- The supported housing contract with One Housing Group by two years to March 2015.

1.2 CRC are asked to authorise a Contract Variation for the existing Contract for Neighborhood Services with Age UK Barnet to include the Handyperson Service.

## **2. RELEVANT PREVIOUS DECISIONS**

2.1. None.

## **3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

3.1 The contracts covered by this report relate to adult social care services. They contribute directly to Barnet Council's Corporate Plan priorities 4, 5 and 6:

- To sustain a strong partnership with the local NHS, so that families and individuals, can maintain and improve their physical and mental health;
- To promote a healthy, active, independent and informed over 55 population in the Borough to encourage and support our residents to age well; and,
- To promote family and community well-being and encourage engaged cohesive and safe communities.

## **4.0 RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES**

4.1 The effective risk management of these contracts and the recommendations contained in this report is being achieved as follows:

- Performance standards on the six contracts recommended for extension are all monitored by Officers at Barnet Council. These Contracts are judged to be delivered effectively and in accordance with the performance standards set out in their current Contract Specifications; and,

- The recommended Contract Variation is for the Neighbourhood Services Contract which is judged by Officers of Barnet Council to be delivered effectively and the new service, the Handyperson, can be delivered in addition to current requirements.

## **5.0 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

5.1 The Equality Act 2010 places a duty on public authorities to have due regard to eliminating unlawful discrimination, advancing equality and fostering good relations in the contexts of age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, religion or belief and sexual orientation.

5.2 The contracts referred to in this report contain, or will contain once signed, clear equalities goals for service delivery. The care providers are required be compliant with Equalities Legislation, operating an equalities policy, observing Codes of Practice issued by the Commission for Equality and Human Rights, and giving appropriate consideration to each customer's race, nationality, cultural or ethnic background, marital status, age, gender, religion, sexual orientation and disabilities.

## **6.0 USE OF RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROCUREMENT, PERFORMANCE & VALUE FOR MONEY, STAFFING, IT, PROPERTY, SUSTAINABILITY)**

6.1 The Adults and Communities Directorate currently funds the services delivered by these contracts from the Council's revenue budget. Resources are identified in 2014/15 in the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy to meet the costs of extending or awarding contracts as identified in this report.

6.2 There are no performance, staffing, IT, property or sustainability issues arising from this report.

## **7.0 LEGAL ISSUES**

7.1 Procurement processes must comply with the EU law and the EU Treaty obligations of transparency, equality of treatment and non-discrimination as well as the Council's Contract Procedure Rules.

## **8.0 CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS**

8.1 Council Constitution, Responsibility for Functions – section 4.6 details the responsibilities of the Cabinet Resources Committee which includes agreeing exceptions to standing orders.

8.2 Council Constitution, Contract Procedure Rules – section 15 deals with waivers and states that in the event that the application of the Contract Procedure Rules prevents or inhibits the delivery or continuity of service, Directors and Assistant Directors may apply for a waiver. All applications for a waiver must be submitted to the Cabinet Resources Committee specifically identifying the reason for which a waiver is sought, including justification and risk. The detailed justification is set out in Section 9 (Background Information) of this report. Risks are detailed in Section 4 (Risk Management Implications).

## **9.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 9.1 The Adults and Communities Delivery Unit wish to extend six contracts identified in this report. The Adults and Communities Delivery Unit also wish to vary the existing Contract for Neighbourhood Services. These recommendations are the result of a managed process of reviewing current contracts and planning future procurement activity.
- 9.2 Following extensive work with service users and providers during the course of 2013 to develop a new approach to floating support, it is recommended that the two Floating Support contracts are extended to September 2014 to ensure appropriate time to work with service users to contribute to the design of an improved specification. The first contract, for generic floating support, is the "Barnet Supporting People Steady State Contract: Outreach Barnet" which is between the Council and the Notting Hill Housing Trust. The current contract value for this 3 year contract is £3.6m. The second contract, for specialist mental health floating support, is the "Umbrella Floating Support" which is between the Council and One Housing Group. The current contract value for this three year contract is £650k. This contract has previously been extended and requires a Waiver of the Council's contract procedure rules for this extension to take place.
- 9.3 It is recommended that two of the Council's contracts for information and advice, which are with the Barnet Centre for Independent Living and with the Barnet Citizens Advice Bureau, are extended so that they both finish in March 2015. These two contracts will then be retendered in a co-ordinated way, to enable the Council to meet its new statutory duty to provide information and advice on adult social care. This new duty will come into effect from April 2015, as a result of the Care Bill (expected to become law in spring 2014). The first advice contract is the "User Controlled Information, Advice, Advocacy and Brokerage Services" contract between the Council and the Barnet Centre for Independent Living. The current value for this three year contract is £1m. The second contract is the "Community Advice Service" contract between the Council and the Barnet Citizens Advice Bureau. The current value for this three year contract is £1m.
- 9.4 It is recommended that the Council's contract for peer support brokerage is extended for six months until September 2014. This new model of external support planning requires further development and this allows additional time for a successful model to be developed. This is the "Peer Support Brokerage" contract with the Barnet Centre for Independent Living. The current value for this three year contract is £330,000. This contract has previously been extended and requires a Waiver of the Council's contract procedure rules for this extension to take place.
- 9.5 It is recommended that one of the specialist supported housing contracts is extended by 2 years, to bring it into line with other comparable contracts. This is the "Adult Social Care and Health" contract between the Council and the One Housing Group for services at Bevatone House. This will allow the Council to redesign and retender these specialist services to be recommissioned in a more efficient way in future.
- 9.6 The Handyperson service contract with Age UK Barnet is due to expire at the end of the year. A tender exercise was undertaken but no bids were received.

Following discussion with the market it was determined there was no appetite. The contract value is approximate £52,000 over 3 years so it is recommended that the existing Neighbourhood Services contract with Age UK Barnet is varied to include the Handyperson service. This will ensure the continuation of the service which is known to provide a quality service plus reduce cost due to renegotiation of prices.

## **10. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

10.1 None

<b>Cleared by Finance (Officer's initials)</b>	<b>AD</b>
<b>Cleared by Legal (Officer's initials)</b>	<b>SD</b>