

	<p align="center">Community Leadership Committee 24 June 2015</p>
<p align="center">Title</p>	<p>Voluntary and Community Sector Development Partner: New contractual arrangements</p>
<p align="center">Report of</p>	<p>Commissioning Director, Adults & Health Director of Strategy</p>
<p align="center">Wards</p>	<p>All</p>
<p align="center">Status</p>	<p>Public</p>
<p align="center">Enclosures</p>	<p>None</p>
<p align="center">Officer Contact Details</p>	<p>Elissa Rospigliosi, Community Engagement, Participation & Strategy Lead elissa.rospigliosi@barnet.gov.uk 020 8359 7158</p> <p>Zoe Garbett, Commissioning Lead, Health & Wellbeing zoe.garbett@barnet.gov.uk 020 8359 3478</p>
<p align="center">Summary</p>	
<p>Cabinet Resources Committee agreed on 24 February 2014 to authorise procurement of a local voluntary and community sector development partner for a contract term of four years.</p> <p>The contract was split into four separate lots, and these were awarded to two separate providers, CommUNITY Barnet and Groundwork London, to work in partnership to provide the services specified. This decision was taken by the Later Life Lead Commissioner through a Delegated Powers Report, signed on 24 September 2014.</p> <p>This report introduces the new contractual arrangements and the new providers, who will present together on their work to the Community Leadership Committee meeting on 24 June 2015</p>	

Recommendations

- 1. That the Committee notes the presentations from the two providers and comments on the support the Committee, and the Council more generally, can offer their work.**

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1 Cabinet Resources Committee agreed, on 24 February 2014, to authorise procurement of a local voluntary and community sector development partner for a contract term of four years, up to a maximum of 4 years (2 years plus the option to extend by 2 years) with an annual contract value of £225,000 and a total contract value of £900,000 over the 4 years, to commence no later than 1 April 2015.
- 1.2 The contract was split into four separate lots, which were awarded to two separate providers on 24 September 2014. The new contract began on 5 January 2015.
- 1.3 Consultation was undertaken with local voluntary sector organisations to design the contract and divide the work into the separate lots. These were specified as set out below:
 - Lot 1: Empowering Local Communities and Volunteering (won by Groundwork London)
 - Lot 2: Voluntary Sector Support and Representation and Communication (won by CommUNITY Barnet)
 - Lot 3: Safeguarding Children and Young People (won by CommUNITY Barnet)
 - Lot 4: Insight and Database (won by Groundwork London).
- 1.4 The providers will attend the meeting of the Community Leadership Committee on 24 June 2015 to introduce the new contractual arrangements and the work they have been doing.

2. REASONS FOR DECISIONS

- 2.1 Elected Members, both in their roles as Committee Members and as Ward Councillors, are vital community champions and could offer great support to the work of these two providers. It is therefore important that Members are given an opportunity to understand the form of the contract and consider how they can best support the providers.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

- 3.1 The Council could have decided not to invite the providers to present, but this would have missed an opportunity to strengthen connections between the voluntary and community sector and the Council.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 None.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

5.1.1 The Council's Corporate Plan 2015-2020 has an objective to build more involved and resilient communities and the successful work of the Voluntary and Community Sector Development Partner is a key part of the Council's strategy for achieving this priority.

5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

5.2.1 None.

5.3 Legal and Constitutional References

5.3.1 Section 15 of the Council's Constitution, Responsibility for Functions, Annex A, sets out the terms of reference for the Community Leadership Committee, which include:

'To maintain good relationships with all Barnet's diverse communities ensuring that all communities have the opportunity to participate fully in the Borough's affairs.'

5.4 Risk Management

5.4.1 None.

5.5 Equalities and Diversity

5.5.1 The core provisions of the Equality Act 2010 came into force on 1 October 2010 and the Public Sector Equality Duty (section 149 of the Act) came into force on 5 April 2011. Under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the Council must have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation prohibited under the Act and to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between people from different groups. For the purposes of Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

5.5.2 The work of the VCSDP supports the Council's duties under the Equality Act 2010 by promoting good relations between different community groups and helping the Council make contact with 'hard to reach' groups who might otherwise be at risk of missing out on opportunities available to them.

5.6 Consultation and Engagement

5.6.1 Local voluntary and community groups were engaged as part of the process of designing the specification for this contract.

5.6.2 Later in the process, in May 2014, a workshop with interested bidders was held at Hendon Town Hall. Prospective bidders had the opportunity to

comment on a draft specification and have an input about what they thought the VCS in Barnet could realistically deliver. Bidders were thereafter given the opportunity to ask questions about timescales and the specification in general.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 6.1 CRC, February 2013, approval of a 1 year extension to the contract with CommUNITY Barnet for children's services.
- 6.2 CRC, March 2011: approval of two 3 year funding agreements with CommUNITY Barnet to cover the period from March 2011 until March 2014.
- 6.3 CRC, July 2008: approval of a Third Sector Commissioning Framework
- 6.4 CRC, February 2014: tendering for a local voluntary and community sector development partner
- 6.5 Delegated Powers Report, September 2014: Voluntary and Community Sector Development Partner: tender award