

	<h2>Adults and Safeguarding Committee</h2> <h3>23<sup>rd</sup> April 2015</h3>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Title</b></p>	<p><b>Variation of contract with the Alzheimer’s Society for the provision of dementia support services</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Report of</b></p>	<p>Adults and Communities Director</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Wards</b></p>	<p>All</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Status</b></p>	<p>Public</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Enclosures</b></p>	<p>None</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Officer Contact Details</b></p>	<p>Karina Vidler, Commissioning Lead  <a href="mailto:Karina.vidler@barnet.gov.uk">Karina.vidler@barnet.gov.uk</a>                  020 8359 4559</p>

<h2>Summary</h2>
<p>This report seeks approval to vary the Council’s contract with the Alzheimer’s Society for the provision of dementia support services, to increase the number of Dementia Advisors from one to three.</p> <p>The Dementia Advisor Service addresses the need for specialist advice and support at an early stage, and delivers specific information at the point of diagnosis. It promotes better informed decision making so that independence can be sustained. The commissioned Dementia Advisor Service currently has one Dementia Advisor. There is a need to expand the service, in view of an increasing number of people being diagnosed and living with dementia in Barnet. It is planned that the additional Dementia Advisors will be in place from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2015 until the contract ends on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.</p> <p>A competitive procurement is being undertaken for all dementia support services from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016. It would not be efficient to undertake competitive tendering for two additional Dementia Advisors in the interim. It would be unnecessarily complicated and resource-intensive to award a contract for the employment of two additional Dementia Advisors to another organisation, and then integrate these within the management and relationship structures of the existing Dementia Advisor Service.</p>

The costs of the variation will be funded through, and are identified in, the Better Care Fund pooled budget for 2015/16.

Expansion of the Dementia Advisor Service supports the objectives of the Barnet Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2012 to 2015 'Keeping Well, Keeping Independent'.

## **Recommendation**

- 1. That a variation to the Council's contract with the Alzheimer's Society for the provision of dementia support services be approved to increase the number of Dementia Advisors from one to three, from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2015 until the contract ends on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.**

### **1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED**

- 1.1 The Council's contract with the Alzheimer's Society for dementia support services includes a Dementia Advisor Service. The Dementia Advisor Service addresses the need for specialist advice and support at an early stage, and delivers specific information at the point of diagnosis. It promotes better informed decision making so that independence can be sustained.
- 1.2 The commissioned Dementia Advisor Service currently has one Dementia Advisor. There is a need to expand the service, in view of an increasing number of people being diagnosed and living with dementia in Barnet. Demand for the service cannot be met by a single Dementia Advisor. It is proposed to vary the contract with the Alzheimer's Society to allow for the recruitment of two further Dementia Advisors, to be in place from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2015 until the contract ends on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.
- 1.3 This report is required under the Council's Contract Procedure Rules. These state (at Appendix 1, Table A) that a Committee Report is needed for acceptance of a contract variation which is within budget, where the contract value exceeds £172,514. The value of the contract for dementia support services, subject to the recommended variation, will be £475,330 (as set out in 5.2.2).

### **2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 The addition of two further Dementia Advisors to the Dementia Advisor Service is required to meet increasing demand for specialist information, advice and support.
- 2.2 The Cabinet Member for Adults on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2013, approved the award of a contract for prevention services to the Alzheimer's Society for one year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015, with the option to extend for a further year subject to review. An

element of the contract was a Dementia Advisor Service with an approved annual contract value of £60,000, to cover the employment of one Dementia Advisor and service infrastructure.

- 2.3 Policy and Resources Committee on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2014, agreed to the extension of the contract for prevention services with the Alzheimer's Society for one year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.
- 2.4 A competitive procurement is planned for all dementia support services from April 2016 onwards. Funding has been approved for three Dementia Advisors within this procurement (specified in Procurement Forward Plan 2014/15 Appendix 1a, as agreed by Policy and Resources Committee, 21<sup>st</sup> July 2014).
- 2.5 The Alzheimer's Society has been providing support services to people with dementia in Barnet for a number of years, firstly through grant funding from both Barnet Clinical Commissioning Group and Barnet Council, and then via formal contracting arrangements with the council as lead commissioner. The services provided by the Barnet Alzheimer's Society are an integral part of the Barnet Dementia Pathway organised around a Barnet dementia network. Additional investment in the network has been made through the Clinical Commissioning Group, to expand the Memory Assessment Service provided by the Barnet Enfield and Haringey Mental Health Trust. Development of the Dementia Advisor Service is an important part of the care pathway.

### **3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED**

- 3.1 The option to separately procure two Dementia Advisors has been considered. This option has been rejected, as:
  - It would be inefficient to undertake competitive tendering for two additional Dementia Advisors at this stage, when the full dementia support services are being re-procured from April 2016.
  - It would be unnecessarily complicated and resource-intensive to award a contract for the employment of two additional Dementia Advisors to another organisation, and then integrate these within the management and relationship structures of the existing Dementia Advisor Service.

### **4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION**

- 4.1 The Alzheimer's Society will be instructed to recruit two further Dementia Advisors on the same terms and conditions as the current Dementia Advisor.
- 4.2 The two additional Dementia Advisors will be integrated into the Service's existing management structures.
- 4.3 The expanded Dementia Advisor Service will be subject to existing outcomes-based performance monitoring arrangements.

## 5 IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

### 5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

5.1.1 One of the key aims of the Corporate Plan 2013 to 2016 is 'To promote a healthy, active, independent and informed over 55 population in the borough to encourage and support our residents to age well'. Early diagnosis, treatment and support for people with dementia allows them to continue to live good quality lives. A key area affecting the ability of people with dementia to remain living in their own home is the availability of sound support in the community.

5.1.2 The currently commissioned dementia support services, including the Dementia Advisor Service, support the objectives of the Barnet Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2012 to 2015 'Keeping Well, Keeping Independent'. The strategy notes the expectation that the number of people with dementia in Barnet will increase.

5.1.3 The Health and Well-being Board:

- on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2014, agreed to support the achievement in Barnet of the three key outcomes of the Dementia Manifesto for London. One of these outcomes is timely diagnosis and appropriate post-diagnosis support.
- on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2015, agreed to the development of a local Barnet Dementia Manifesto, which builds on the progress to date on dementia care in Barnet.

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

5.2.1 The contract value of the variation is £67,834. This cost covers the two additional Dementia Advisors' salaries and on-costs over eleven months.

5.2.2 The contract value is:

	Current contract	Variation	Whole contract including variation
<b>Contract value (£)</b>	407,496	67,834	475,330

5.2.3 The contract covers a Dementia Advisor Service and a Dementia Day Opportunities Service which includes carer support.

5.2.4 There are no indirect costs to the Council associated with the decision (eg property, IT).

5.2.5 The full costs of the variation are identified in, and will be met from, the

2015/16 Better Care Fund pooled budget.

5.2.6 The Barnet Better Care Fund Plan ratified by the Health and Well-Being Board on 29th January 2015 sets out proposals for the implementation of a 5-Tier model of integrated health and social care. Dementia support services, including the Dementia Advisor Service, are important components of Tier 2 of the integrated care model.

5.2.7 The recommendation is compliant with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules:

- Authorisation of the contract variation has been obtained through the Annual Procurement Forward Plan approved by Policy and Resources Committee on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2014. (Contract Procedure Rules 7.1)
- The Contract Procedure Rules in Section 14.1 b) state that variation of an existing contract is permitted where a change of contractor cannot be realistically made for economic or technical reasons and would cause significant inconvenience or substantial duplication of the Council's costs, and new works, services or supplies need to be purchased from the contractor. This is subject to the provision that each change does not increase the Contract's value by more than 50 per cent as a result.
- Acceptance of the contract variation is being sought through this report, as required by Contract Procedure Rules (Section 14 and Appendix 1, Table A.) The Contract Procedure Rules state that acceptance is through the relevant thematic committee where the contact value exceeds the threshold of £172,514.

### **5.3 Legal and Constitutional References**

5.3.1 The Public Contracts Regulations 2015, regulation 72 contains provision dealing with the modification of contracts during their term. Guidance issued by the Crown Commissioning Service advises that regulation 72 applies to variations made to contracts after 26 February 2015 regardless as to whether the contract was awarded prior to that date. The variation proposed by this report is permitted by Regulation 72 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

5.3.2 The Public Contracts Regulations 2015 requires the Council to publish a 'Contract Variation Notice' in the Official Journal of the European Union if the Council varies the contract as proposed in this report.

5.3.3 The variation is compliant with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules paragraph 14 (Extensions and Variations).

5.3.4 The responsibilities of the Adults and Safeguarding Committee are contained within the Council's Constitution, Section 15: Responsibility for Functions

(Annex A). The Adults and Safeguarding Committee is responsible for the following:

- (1) promoting the best possible Adult Social Care services
- (5) ensuring that the Council's safeguarding responsibilities are taken into account
- (9) authorising procurement activity within the remit of the Committee and any acceptance of variations or extensions if within budget in accordance with the responsibilities and thresholds set out in Contract Procedure Rules.

5.3.5 The two additional Dementia Advisors will be included in the contract for dementia support services being drawn up by HB Public Law. The contract allows for variation of services.

## **5.4 Risk Management**

5.4.1 The addition of two further Dementia Advisors to the currently commissioned service is very low risk:

- The Council has an established relationship and currently commissions dementia support services from the Alzheimer's Society.
- Payments will be made in accordance with usual contract management procedures and subject to performance and outcome monitoring.
- The addition of two Dementia Advisors to the contract is unlikely to raise significant levels of public concern or give rise to policy considerations as the Alzheimer's Society is an established local provider with a good track record.
- The provision of these services supports the development of a dementia network in Barnet. The aim of the dementia network is to provide a dementia resource of multi-agency interventions and support networks for people with dementia and their carers.
- The service which is being expanded supports the health and social care agenda for older people, in preventing the need for longer term or more expensive services such as residential care.

5.4.2 The addition of two further Dementia Advisors to existing support services will address the risk of the growing number of people in Barnet not receiving information, advice and support that they need. Specifically, it will work towards meeting the need for greater and earlier social care, and mitigate the risk of vulnerable older people at home having a poorer quality of life. The provision of this service supports people to remain at home in the community for longer and delays admission to care homes.

## **5.5 Equalities and Diversity**

5.5.1 The Equality Act 2010 outlines the provisions of the Public Sector Equalities Duty which requires Public Bodies to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010.
- advance equality of opportunity between people from different groups.
- foster good relations between people from different groups.

5.5.2 The dementia support services assist the Council in meeting its duties under the Equality Act 2010, particularly with regard to age and race, in that:

- Dementia Incidence is much higher in older age groups, and increases markedly with age. Amongst the 65+ age group, estimated prevalence ranges from 7.8% to 8.7%, and amongst those aged 85 or over, prevalence is nearly 1 in 4.
- In Barnet approximately 80% of the population aged 65 and over are White. The largest ethnic minority group is Asian/ Asian British (13% of the 65+ population). (Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2013/14). Barnet will see an increase in the ethnic diversity of their older populations and thus a greater proportion of people with dementia will be from Black and Minority ethnic groups in the future.

## **5.6 Consultation and Engagement**

5.6.1 Consultation undertaken with a range of stakeholders in relation to the procurement of dementia support services from April 2016 has shown strong support for the Dementia Advisor Service. A range of stakeholders have voiced the urgent need to expand the service in order to meet demand from people with dementia for specialist information, advice and support. These stakeholders include:

- People living with dementia and their carers (group consultation 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2014, 19 participants plus written comments from carers)
- individual carers (structured interviews with individuals 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> July 2014)
- Older Adults Partnership Board (meeting 17<sup>th</sup> July 2014 with 20 participants including service user and carer representatives, and voluntary sector providers of services for older people).
- Adults and Communities Social Work Locality Team Leaders and Lead Practitioners (consultation meeting with three participants 10<sup>th</sup> October 2014 plus one set of written comments received).

## 6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 6.1 Cabinet Members for Adults decision on 10 April 2013 to award contract for prevention services to the Alzheimer's Society for one year from April 2013 – March 2014, with the option to extend for a further year:  
<http://committeepapers.barnet.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=5228>
- 6.2 Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee agreement on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2014 to extend the contract for prevention services with the Alzheimer's Society to 31 March 2016: [Agenda for Policy and Resources Committee on Monday 21st July, 2014, 7.00 pm - London Borough of Barnet](#) and Forward Plan to which this agreement relates, including in Appendix 1(a) extension of the contract with the Alzheimer's Society for dementia support services:  
<http://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s16153/documents/s16153/Appendix%20A%20-%20list%20of%20procurements.pdf>
- 6.3 The Barnet Better Care Fund Plan ratified by Health and Well-being Board 29<sup>th</sup> January 2015:  
<http://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s20674/Appendix%201%20Final%20BCF%20Plan%20Part%201%20v1.1%2014%20Jan%202015.pdf>