

	<h2>Policy and Resources Committee</h2> <h3>23 October 2018</h3>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Title</b></p>	<p><b>Update on Extra Care Procurement</b></p>
<p><b>Report of</b></p>	<p>Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee</p>
<p><b>Wards</b></p>	<p>All</p>
<p><b>Status</b></p>	<p>Public</p>
<p><b>Urgent</b></p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>Key</b></p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>Enclosures</b></p>	<p>None</p>
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### Summary

Metropolitan Support Trust provides care and support services at Wood Court extra care scheme in Burnt Oak. On 13<sup>th</sup> February 2018 Policy and Resources Committee agreed to a waiver of the Contract Procedure Rules. This permitted the extension of the contract with Metropolitan for provision of care and support at Wood Court for a period of twelve months up to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019. The Committee agreed this extension to provide more time for the development of the procurement, and ensure a sufficient mobilisation period to enable a smooth transition for residents, in the event that the tender resulted in a change to the current care and support provider.

Policy and Resources Committee requested that a progress update on the re-tendering of care and support services at Wood Court come to the October 2018 Committee.

## **Recommendations**

### **1. That the Committee notes the progress on the re-procurement of care and support services for the extra care service at Wood Court.**

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

- 1.1 Wood Court is an extra care housing scheme in Burnt Oak, which consists of 39 self-contained accessible flats. It was opened in 2008.
- 1.2 The building is owned and managed by Catalyst Housing Association, which provides landlord and housing management services to residents of the scheme. Metropolitan Support Trust provides care and support services to the residents of Wood Court.
- 1.3 On 13 February 2018, a report went to the Policy and Resources Committee. As there was no provision to extend the contractual relationship with Metropolitan Support Trust for care and support services at Wood Court beyond 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018, the report requested that Committee agree a waiver of the Contract Procedure Rules to enable the Council to extend the contractual relationship with Metropolitan for provision of care and support at Wood Court for twelve months up to the 31 May 2019. It was identified that this was needed as despite early preparations for the re-procurement of the care and support service at Wood Court, a number of complexities and risks had arisen:
- Central Government was consulting on reform of funding of housing costs and subsidies for supported housing. The consultation had proposed a potential new rent system for older people's housing including extra care from April 2020. There was a risk that if there were any significant changes to the way that Extra Care provision was funded nationally, this would need to be assessed and incorporated in to the design of the Wood Court care and support service procurement process.
  - It was identified that any change to provider needed to be managed carefully to ensure a smooth transition for the residents of Wood Court and that it was in the best interests of residents to include a longer mobilisation period.
- 1.4 The Committee agreed this extension in order to enable more time for the development of the procurement and ensure sufficient mobilisation period to enable a smooth transition for residents, in the event that the tender resulted in a change to the current care and support provider. Policy and Resources Committee requested that a progress update report on the re-tendering of care and support services at Wood Court come to the October 2018 Committee.

#### **Update**

- 1.5 Following the decision by Policy and Resources Committee in February 2018, officers from Barnet's Joint Commissioning Unit met with representatives from Wood Court to agree the terms of the new extension. A new care and support contract for Metropolitan Support Trust was put in place for the twelve month extension period.
- 1.6 In August 2018 <sup>1</sup> Central Government published the "[Funding for Supported Housing: Government Response To 2 Consultations](#)", this report identified that following national consultation, the Government would not be introducing a new 'Sheltered Rent' as it was identified that this mechanism would be too rigid to reflect the variable costs of buildings and of people's additional housing needs. This has meant that the council has not needed to factor this in to the design of the Wood Court care and support service procurement process.
- 1.7 Representatives from the Joint Commissioning Unit and from Procurement met with Catalyst Housing (the Landlord of Wood Court) in July 2018. Joint Commissioning Team member attended the Wood Court residents meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2018, to discuss the re-commissioning of the care and support service at Wood Court and to give them an opportunity to raise any questions about the process.
- 1.8 The tender documents for this procurement have been developed, taking into account residents' feedback. The council went out to tender for these services on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> October 2018 and will award the contract to the successful bidder early in the new year for the contract to commence 1<sup>st</sup> June 2019.

## **2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 N/A

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

- 3.1 N/A

## **4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION**

- 4.1 N/A

## **5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION**

### **5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance**

The Corporate Plan 2015 – 2020 sets out the council's vision and strategy for the next five years based on the core principles of fairness, responsibility and opportunity to make sure Barnet is a place:

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<sup>1</sup>[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/732692/Supported\\_Housing\\_Funding\\_Consultation\\_Response.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/732692/Supported_Housing_Funding_Consultation_Response.pdf)

- of opportunity, where people can further their quality of life
- where people are helped to help themselves, recognising that
- prevention is better than cure
- where responsibility is shared, fairly
- where services are delivered efficiently to get value for money for the taxpayer

5.1.1 The 2018-19 Addendum to the 2015-2020 Adults and Safeguarding Commissioning Plan includes the following commissioning priorities:

- Developing best practice social care, focused on what people can do and how they can help themselves.
- Diversifying Barnet's accommodation offer to help more people live independently.
- Transforming day care provision to ensure that people remain active and engaged through access to employment and volunteering.
- Improving the borough's leisure facilities, parks and open spaces to support and encourage active and healthy lifestyles, helping to manage demand for adult social services.
- Expanding evidence-based prevention and early support, including technology, to make sure people can use services closer to home to help them stay independent for as long as possible.

5.1.2 Extra Care Housing is a key element of the council's commissioning of services that support vulnerable older people to maintain their independence, receiving care and support in their own homes, engaging in their local community, and avoiding more institutional settings.

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

5.2.1 The procurement for this tender will be delivered in line with the contract procedure rules and the OJEU regulations.

5.2.2 The new service provider is required to deliver the service within the current financial envelope.

## 5.3 **Social Value**

5.3.1 The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 requires people who commission public services to think about how they can also secure wider social, economic and environmental benefits. Before commencing a procurement process, commissioners should think about whether the services they are going to buy, or the way they are going to buy them, could secure these benefits for their area or stakeholders.

## 5.4 **Legal and Constitutional References**

5.4.1 Under public procurement rules contracts for services of this nature need to be competitively tendered if the total contract value exceeds £615,278.

5.4.2 Under the council's Constitution (Contract Procedure Rules), the council is required to tender for services of this value.

## 5.5 Risk Management

5.5.1 To mitigate the risk of residents of Wood Court experiencing disruption to their services as a new care and support contract is mobilized, the council has incorporated a five month mobilisation period in to the procurement process. The council has also engaged with residents to provide them with information about the tender process and to provide reassurance that the procurement will not have an impact on their tenancy or on the number of care and support hours they receive.

5.5.2 Establishing the new contract will be implemented following a project management approach which will include recording and managing risks.

## 5.6 Equalities and Diversity

5.6.1 The 2010 Equality Act 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

The broad purpose of this duty is to integrate considerations of equality into day business and keep them under review in decision making, the design of policies and the delivery of services.

5.6.2 Pursuant to the Equality Act 2010, public sector organisations have a responsibility to consider equality as part of every procurement. The Council and any organisation contracted by the Council to provide services on its behalf are under an obligation 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.

## 5.7 Consultation and Engagement

5.7.1 The specification has been developed by a cross-directorate project group and informed by the finding of engagement that the council did with a range of stakeholders (including carers and extra care service users in Barnet) between October 2015 and January 2016 into good practice in the provision of care and support in extra care housing schemes.

5.7.2 The council worked with the landlord and the current care and support provider to develop a fact sheet of frequently asked questions for residents to provide them with information about the tender process. Representatives from the Joint Commissioning Unit and Procurement attended a Wood Court resident's forum 23<sup>rd</sup> August to provide residents with information about the

procurement; to provide reassurance that the tender would not have an impact on their tenancy or the number of their care and support hours and to answer any questions they might have about the process.

5.8 **Insight**

5.8.1 N/A.

**6. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 6.1 Extension of Extra Care Contract for Provision of Care and Support, Policy and Resources Committee, 13 February 2018 (agenda Item11)  
<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=692&MId=8742&Ver=4>
- 6.2 Appendix 1 of the Annual Procurement Forward Plan (agenda Item 10) for 2017/2018 presented to the Policy and Resources Committee on 1 December 2016 which provided approval for the extension/tender of extra care housing schemes and sheltered plus schemes.  
<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=692&MId=8731&Ver4>
- 6.3 Extension of Extra Care Services, Adults and Safeguarding Committee, 10 November 2016 (Item9)  
<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=698&MId=8674&Ver=4>