

	<b>CHIEF OFFICER IN CONSULTATION WITH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DELEGATED POWERS REPORT</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Authorisation of a direct award contract to Middlesex Association for the Blind for the provision of prevention support services to people with visual impairment.</b>
<b>Report of</b>	Executive Director, Adults and Health
<b>Wards</b>	All
<b>Status</b>	Public
<b>Enclosures</b>	Appendix A: Home Visiting Service / Practical support and advice Appendix B: <u><a href="#">Visual Impairment Support Options in Barnet</a></u> Appendix C: <u>SWOT Analyses of Commissioning Options</u>
<b>Officer Contact Details</b>	Amisha Lall, Health and Social Care Commissioner <a href="mailto:Amisha.Lall@Barnet.gov.uk">Amisha.Lall@Barnet.gov.uk</a> Sue Tomlin, Head of Commissioning Learning Disabilities and Physical & Sensory Impairment <a href="mailto:Sue.Tomlin@barnet.gov.uk">Sue.Tomlin@barnet.gov.uk</a>

### Summary

The Policy and Resources Committee agreed the Annual Procurement Forward Plan 2020/21 on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 which included authorisation for Adults and Communities to procure the contract which provides services for people with visual impairment.

The current provider of this contract is Middlesex Association for the Blind (MAB) and this report seeks authorisation to award a contract directly to MAB via single tender action, for the provision of preventative support for people with visual impairment. This contract is a key prevention contract for Barnet residents with visual impairment. MAB has a long history of working with the Council, providing services for people with visual impairment. The contract award would be for 1-year effective from 1 April 2020 until 31 March 2021, with the option to extend the contract by a further 1 year until 31 March 2022 subject to the Council's strategic position in relation to commissioning services for people with visual impairment. The contract value will be £27,219 per annum and the total global contract value, should the contract be extended, will be £54,438 for 2 years. The contract value is within the budget approved for the Annual Procurement Forward Plan 2019/20. This is a single tender action and is concurrence with section 6.1 of the Council's Contract Procedure Rules.

### Decisions

To authorise the direct award of a contract to Middlesex Association for the Blind for the provision of preventative support services to people with visual impairment. The contract award would be for 1 year effective from 1 April 2020 until 31 March 2021, with the option to

extend the contract by a further 1 year until 31 March 2022. The contract value will be £27,219 per annum and should the contract be extended by 1 further year the total global contract value will be £54,438.

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

- 1.1 The Policy and Resources Committee agreed the Annual Procurement Forward Plan 2020/21 on 6th January 2020 which included authorisation for Adults and Communities to procure the contract which provides services for people with visual impairment.
- 1.2 The London Borough of Barnet (LBB) currently commissions Middlesex Association for the Blind (MAB) to deliver this service.
- 1.3 The current contract with MAB started on 1 April 2014 and is due to end on 31 March 2020.
- 1.4 With the contract coming to an end in March 2020 the Council has considered its requirements in respect of commissioning services for people with visual impairment in the borough. Additionally, there are plans to develop a Sensory Impairment Strategy throughout 2020-2021. The intention would be that future commissioned visual impairment services are aligned to the Sensory Impairment Strategy, ensuring that the Council continues to meet the needs of residents as well as making best use of resources.
- 1.5 For the reasons stated in 1.4 above and to ensure service consistency and continuity as well as stability, this Delegated Powers Report is required to authorise the direct award of a contract to Middlesex Association for the Blind for the provision of preventative support services to people with visual impairment for a period of 1 year effective from 1 April 2020 until 31 March 2021, with the option to extend the contract by a further 1 year until 31 March 2022. The contract value will be £27,219 per annum and should the contract be extended by 1 further year the total global contract value will be £54,438.
- 1.6 According to Section 6 of the Council's contract procedure rules, direct contract award via single tender action is permitted in exceptional circumstances, for example, where the works, supplies and services can be supplied by a particular provider. In this case, the exceptional circumstances arise from the need to align the procurement of services for people with visual impairment with the Sensory Impairment Strategy 2020-2021, and therefore a short-term contract is required to enable this.

## **2. REASONS FOR DECISIONS**

- 2.1 MAB is a long-standing and incumbent provider of preventative support for people with visual impairment. The service is a universal service for adults who are Care Act eligible and non-Care Act eligible.
- 2.2 The commissioning of preventative support for people with visual impairment demonstrates the continued commitment to improve the lives of people in Barnet. The commissioning is taking place within the context of significant

reductions in public sector budgets so the service will need to respond innovatively and creatively in supporting people in a different way.

- 2.3 Commissioners will be developing a Sensory Impairment Strategy in 2020-21 so future opportunities for delivery of alternative service models will be aligned to the strategy and this will allow the Council to take a strategic approach to commissioning future visual impairment services, in line with the needs of the borough.
- 2.4 Once a Sensory Impairment Strategy has been developed, the intention is to conduct a review of the service provided by MAB in order to help specify the requirements for a home visiting / practical support and advice service for people with visual impairment and to align the service specification to the strategy. Once this is completed, a review of procurement routes to market will be undertaken and will initially likely lead to publishing a Request For Information (RFI) on the Council's e-sourcing portal. This will enable the Council to test the market and identify if there are other suitable providers in the market place. Commissioners will use this time as an opportunity to work with the market to build up provision in line with the Sensory Impairment Strategy. This will be followed by a competitive procurement exercise, if appropriate.
- 2.5 Should there be a delay in finalising the Sensory Impairment Strategy the Council will enact the 1-year extension requested in this report.
- 2.6 In the meantime, there is a continued need for a service which provides the type of service provided by MAB - preventative support to be people with visual impairment. See Appendix A for a service description. Internal scoping and research within Adults and Health department suggested that although there are services in the borough for people with visual impairment, there are no providers or services in the marketplace who can meet the needs of service users in the way that MAB is currently able to, for example other services do not provide a home visiting service which includes befriending, peer support, help with shopping or errands, dealing with welfare benefits issues, training courses (e.g. computer training) and supporting/training to develop domestic / life skills. Appendix B sets out details of other visual impairment services available in Barnet.
- 2.7 To ensure that the Council continues to meet the needs of people who are visually impaired and to ensure consistency and continuity in service it is proposed to award the contract to MAB who have built a good partnership with the Council over a significant number of years This will also avoid destabilising a highly regarded and valuable service in the borough.
- 2.8 Benchmarking has been carried out against other local authorities and from information available it is apparent that there are other boroughs (Harrow, Ealing and Richmond) commissioning MAB to provide preventative support for people with visual impairment. It would therefore be in the Council's interest to continue to build on the strategic partnership with MAB, who already has an established reputation in the borough and across London.

- 2.9 To inform the intended single source award, a full options appraisal was carried out. The option to award the contract to MAB in the interim of developing the Sensory Impairment Strategy was identified as being the most realistic and the best option to deliver a high-quality service to residents whilst delivering the best value for money, for reasons which include:
- MAB provides a niche service however it has a significant impact for users of that service and their carers
  - MAB is experienced in the provision of this service and has established links in the borough with partners allowing greater opportunity to strengthen the offer
  - MAB provides a good service therefore moving away from the incumbent provider at this moment is unnecessary
  - The approach would ensure continued support and commitment to people with visual impairment
  - Continuation of service for residents with no/minimal disruption
  - The initial model is already in place with established links with partners allowing greater opportunity to strengthen the offer.
- 2.10 The rationale for proposing the contract award to MAB are based on:
- Opportunities to streamline and improve service delivery to meet Barnet residents' needs effectively
  - Evidence through contract performance monitoring of an effective and high-quality service
  - Consideration of the wider services available for people with visual impairment, available through other council commissioned and non-commissioned services as well as other sources locally and nationally
  - Discussions with MAB and with the Barnet Sensory Impairment Team.
- 2.11 A full Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken to inform the decision to award the contract to MAB and overall the EIA demonstrates a positive impact for Barnet residents. The current provider has shown their intention and willingness to work with the Council and apply the proposed approach and the Council will work closely with the current provider to develop and further strengthen the service.
- 2.12 Therefore, the recommended approach is to award a direct contract via single tender action to MAB for the provision of preventative support for people with visual impairment.

### **3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

3.1 The following options were considered to inform commissioning intentions and discounted following a strengths, weakness, opportunities and threats analysis (SWOT):

- Re-procure the service – go out to tender. This option was not recommended as it was evaluated as having negative consequences, for reasons which include; lack of provider availability and capacity within in Barnet; there are no other services in Barnet for people with visual impairment which offer the type of service currently provided by MAB; therefore there would be a gap in meeting the needs of people who require this service; transitional period for service users and therefore impact on continuity of service; increase in resident dissatisfaction ; risk of reputational damage to the Council and loss of goodwill from MAB
- Do nothing; service is not re-commissioned. This option was not recommended as it was evaluated as having negative consequences for reasons which include: it would destabilise service users and the provider; there would be negative effect on service user outcomes; increase in resident dissatisfaction ; risk of reputational damage to the Council and loss of goodwill from MAB.

Refer to Appendix C for the SWOT analysis completed as part of the Commissioner's option appraisal.

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

- 4.1 Following the authorisation of this decision, a contract will be awarded directly to MAB.
- 4.2 Communications will be circulated to service users/carers, stakeholders and the wider public.
- 4.3 Council officers will continue to undertake regular contract monitoring to ensure the requirements of the service are delivered to a high standard.
- 4.4 In due course, Commissioners will scope opportunities for future service developments pending development of the Sensory Impairment Strategy as outlined in 2.3 of this report.
- 4.5 Based on the needs and requirements set out in the proposed Sensory Impairment Strategy, the Council will publish a RFI on the Council's procurement portal to better understand what the market can offer and work with the market to build up provision and run a procurement thereafter if appropriate.

#### **5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION**

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

5.1.1 The council's Corporate Plan (Barnet 2024) strategic objectives are that the council, working with local, regional and national partners, will strive to ensure that Barnet is the place:

- 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 tax payer.

Enacting the proposed contract award as contained within this Delegated Powers Report will ensure that this contract supports the council in meeting these objectives.

5.1.1 Barnet's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2015–2020) includes the overarching aims of "Keeping Well" and "Promoting Independence". The service provided by MAB clearly supports the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

5.1.2 The contract with the provider will be robustly monitored and reviewed including their performance through key performance measures and outcome indicators.

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

5.2.1 The contract value will be £27,219 per annum for 1 year and the total global contract value should the contract be extended by 1 further year, will be £54,438. The contract value is within the budget approved for the Annual Procurement Forward Plan 2019/20.

5.2.2 Regular financial monitoring forms part of the contract, as does working within the ethos of continuous service improvement. The Provider will be required to evidence key performance indicators that will form part of performance monitoring and contract monitoring which will take place on a quarterly basis.

5.2.3 There are no TUPE implications associated with this contract or approach.

5.2.4 There are no staffing or IT implications

5.2.5 Middlesex Association for the Blind is the current provider and there are no concerns with their performance.

5.2.6 Contract monitoring will take place on a quarterly basis.

## 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. There is no definitive list of what those improvements could be. The Act is deliberately flexible, giving public bodies freedom to determine what best suits local needs, as well as providers the opportunity to innovate.

- 5.3.2 The specification and contract for this service includes a social value requirement. The aim of this service is to help people with visual impairment to maximise their independence, supporting and empowering them to help themselves and supporting demand management for statutory services.

#### **5.4 Legal and Constitutional References**

- 5.4.1 The Report is seeking authority to directly award a contract to Middlesex Association for the Blind via a single tender action for the provision of preventative support for people with visual impairments. The current contract was extended until 31st March 2020. It was for three years with an extension period of two years. The total cost of this is £134,919.00.

- 5.4.2 A further 12 months is needed with an option to extend for a year, in order to allow the Council to develop an impairment strategy. The annual cost of the contract with an extension is £54,438; therefore the total cost for this service is £189,357.00.

- 5.4.3 The Council has a statutory duty to provide the service provisions under the Care Act 2014. This is a below threshold contract and therefore the Council's Contract Procedure Rules 6.1 will apply. A direct award is only permitted in exceptional circumstances and should be approved in advance by the Commercial & ICT Services Director. Procurement advice should be sought in all cases. Exceptional circumstances may include where the works, supplies or services can be supplied only by a particular supplier. This is a single tender action and is concurrence with section 6.1 of the Council's Contract Procedure Rules.

- 5.4.4 Officers are satisfied there are no providers or services in the marketplace who can meet the needs of service users in the way that Middlesex Association for Blind is currently able to, for example other services do not provide a home visiting service which includes befriending, peer support, help with shopping or errands, dealing with welfare benefits issues, training courses (e.g. computer training) and supporting/training to develop domestic / life skills.

- 5.4.5 The process outlined in the body of the report complies with the Council Procedure Rules.

- 5.4.6 The authorisation document for this decision is via Officer DPR in Consultation with the Chairman in line with the Council's Constitution, Contract Procedure Rules and the approval of the Annual Procurement Forward Plan 2020-21 via the Policy and Resources Committee.

#### **5.5 Risk Management**

- 5.5.1 The intention to award a single source contract to MAB for the provision of preventative support to people with visual impairment is unlikely to raise any public concern as the service is already in operation and there will be no change/disruption for service users.
- 5.5.2 Entering into a contract under a single source option is vital to ensure continuity of services. This also allows the Council to achieve quality in services and best value for money, by working with the provider to develop a strengthened offer.
- 5.5.3 While the service is of low monetary value and delivers preventative support rather than discharge of statutory services, the profile of the service and the impact across the wider care economy is considerable. The Council also has a good track record of commissioning and working in partnership with MAB.
- 5.5.4 Risks of non-delivery will be managed by developing a strategic relationship with the Provider in relation to the contract and robust contract monitoring.
- 5.5.5 There are no risks to the Council with regards to the Transfer of undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 20016 ('TUPE').

## 5.6 **Equalities and Diversity**

- 5.6.1 The core provisions of the Equality Act 2010 came into force on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010 and the public sector equality duty (section 149 of the Act) came into force on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2011. Under section 149, the Council must have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation prohibited under the Act and to advance equality for opportunity and foster good relations between those with protected characteristics and those without.
- 5.6.2 The protected characteristics are age; disability; race; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation. They also cover marriage and civil partnership with regard to eliminating discrimination.
- 5.6.3 Any organisation providing public sector services is subject to scrutiny by the Council to ensure that delivery complies with the public sector equality duty.
- 5.6.4 The contract for the MAB service includes explicit requirements fully covering the Council's duties under equality legislation and the specification requires that hard to reach groups are to be identified and have the opportunity to receive the services.
- 5.6.5 The Equality Impact Analysis undertaken for this service found that there will be a positive impact through the intended contract award.
- 5.6.6 The service specification requires involvement and inclusion of the wider community in all areas of work. The success of engagement with the wider community and hard to reach groups will be monitored through the contract monitoring processes and the provider will be required to address any anomalies where potential under-representation can be rectified or when an action has unintended consequences.

5.6.7 Further equality-specific measures may be developed with reference to projects or services as the contracts progress to ensure that the organisation acts in keeping with the Council's public-sector equality duty.

## 5.7 Corporate Parenting

5.7.1 None in the context of this report.

## 5.8 Consultation and Engagement

5.8.1 The provider and the Barnet Sensory Impairment Team have been engaged in the options appraisal process. The provider has demonstrated their commitment to delivering the service. Consultation and engagement will be a key stage in the development of the Sensory Impairment Strategy will

## 5.9 Insight

5.9.1 N/A

## 6 BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 The Policy and Resources Committee agreed the Annual Procurement Forward Plan 2019/20 on 11th December 2018 which includes authorisation for Adults and Communities to extend the Community Advice and Signposting Contract and extend the service provision for Care Act Advocacy currently in situ.

<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=692&MId=9460&Ver=4>

6.2 Policy and Resources Committee, 6 January 2020, Annual Procurement Forward Plan 2020-21, Line 207, Services for people with visual impairment

<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s56940/Appendix%201%20Annual%20Procurement%20Forward%20Plan%20202021.pdf>

## 7. DECISION TAKER'S STATEMENT

7.1 *I have the required powers to make the decision documented in this report. I am responsible for the report's content and am satisfied that all relevant advice has been sought in the preparation of this report and that it is compliant with the decision making framework of the organisation which includes Constitution, Scheme of Delegation, Budget and Policy Framework and Legal issues including Equalities obligations.*

## 8. OFFICER'S DECISION

I authorise the following action:

The direct award of a contract to Middlesex Association for the Blind via a single tender action for the provision of preventative support services for people with visual impairment. The contract award is for 1-year effective from 1 April 2020 until 31 March 2021, with the option to extend the contract by a further 1 year until 31 March 2022. The contract value will be £27,219 per annum and should the contract be extended by 1 further year the total global contract value will be £54,438.

Decision maker having taken into account the views of the Chairman

**Signed**



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**Date**

**25<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

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Chairman has been consulted:

**Signed**



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**Date**

**17<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

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## **Home Visiting Service / Practical support and advice**

The advice service seeks to provide specialised knowledge, signposting and support that people with visual impairment require. It will provide support in the community where the person concerned and their family or carers resume responsibility for themselves. The service can act to co-ordinate care, facilitating where arrangements are complex, and ensuring people do not fall out of the system. Information and advice are offered as part of a process rather than a specific episode, in an active way that allows scope for finding the best fit for the person's needs and priorities at that time.

The current service provides time limited support to people with visual impairment, with the aim of providing enough practical support, information and guidance that service users or their carers have the confidence and resources necessary to be able to identify other providers of appropriate preventative services.

The provider will be expected to raise awareness of visual impairment in the wider community such as promotion of eye health care and having a presence at local health promotion and wellbeing events is expected.

The service will be for clients with visual impairment conditions and / or registered blind, identified as having low and moderate level needs, and their carers. The service will provide practical support and advice through a volunteer delivered befriending scheme and the following activities;

- Help in establishing personal safety and security
- Help with shopping, errand running and good neighbour tasks
- Providing advice and information on services available to people with visual impairment conditions, within the borough
- Providing signposting to other appropriate services in and out of borough
- Providing befriending
- Providing peer support
- Providing group peer support sessions
- Help in establishing social contacts and activities
- Support / training to maintain / obtain employment
- Support / training to develop domestic/life skills
- Dealing with welfare benefits problems
- Obtaining insurance / making claims
- Applying for assisted travel
- Help with disability-related transport problems and schemes
- Assistance with negotiating the health and social care system
- Development of group activities
- Facilitating social events and outings
- Recruiting, training and leading a team of volunteers

The service will be delivered utilising volunteers, in addition to paid staff.

### Appendix B -Visual Impairment Support Options in Barnet

The following tables provide information on activities and services available in the borough for those with visual impairment and their carers. This is not an exhaustive list but contains the main service providers; please contact the providers to confirm dates, times and costs. The information has been split into hearing, visual impairment and Deafblind services.

Organisation	Service Description	Details	Contact/Referral
<b>Sensory Team Adults and Communities</b>	The Sensory Team aims to improve the quality of life for Barnet residents with a visual impairment or hearing impairment by enabling them to remain independent.	Services available include: full community care assessment; provision of equipment; information and advice; registration for people with sensory disabilities; specialist service to people who are deafblind and dual sensory impaired; and specialist support to hearing-aid wearers.	<b>Phone:</b> 020 8359 5000  <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:sensory.team@barnet.gov.uk">sensory.team@barnet.gov.uk</a>  <b>Monday to Thursday 9am - 5.15pm and Friday 9am - 5pm</b>

<b>Visual Impairment Services</b>			
Organisation	Service Description	Details	Contact/Referral
<b>Association for the Blind (Middlesex)</b>	Barnet Association for the Blind works locally to provide support to blind, partially sighted and deafblind people throughout the Borough of Barnet. Staff and trained volunteers work together to provide a range of high quality services, information, advice and training, all aimed at assisting visually impaired people to lead independent lives.	Offering services such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Computer Training at Barnet Independent Living Service</li> <li>• Visual Awareness Training</li> <li>• Resource Centres</li> <li>• MidSight Hospital Information points</li> <li>• information and support to patients of diagnosis of at the</li> </ul>	<b>Address:</b> Middlesex Association for the Blind Suite 18, Freetrade House, Lowther Road, Stanmore, HA7 1EP  <b>Phone:</b> 020 8423 5141  <b>Web:</b> <a href="http://aftb.org.uk">aftb.org.uk</a>  <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:info@aftb.org.uk">info@aftb.org.uk</a>

		<p>Eye Clinics at Barnet and Edgware Hospitals</p> <p>A home visiting service offering additional support and companionship to any visually impaired person.</p> <p><b>Office opening hours:</b>  <b>Mon to Fri 9.30 am - 4.30pm</b></p>	
Organisation	Service Description	Details	Contact/Referral
<b>Barnet Borough Sight Impaired</b>	Barnet Borough Sight Impaired are a local voluntary organisation for people who are blind, partially sighted or experiencing problems with their sight	A social gathering meets on the first Tuesday of each month from 1.30-3.30pm at: St. Mary's Church Hall, Hendon Lane, N3 1TR.	<p><b>Address:</b> Barnet Borough Sight Impaired  BILS, Flightways  The Concourse  Grahame Park Estate  Colindale  London NW9 5UX</p> <p><b>Tel:</b> 020 8200 5462</p> <p><b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:office@barnetbsi.org.uk">office@barnetbsi.org.uk</a></p> <p><b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.barnetbsi.org.uk">www.barnetbsi.org.uk</a></p>
<b>Barnet Blind and Partially Sighted Bowls Club</b>	Bowls for the blind and partially sighted people of all ages with coaching available for all new members.	The club meets at various greens around Barnet and Finchley on Tuesday and Friday afternoons the winter location is Glebelands Bowling Club, North Finchley.	<p><b>Address:</b> 1 Oakfields  Burtonhole Lane  London  NW7 1AT</p> <p>Geoffrey Johnson 020 3612 4841  <b>Phone:</b> 020 8906 8654</p> <p><b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:jamesdavidqi@yahoo.co.uk">jamesdavidqi@yahoo.co.uk</a>  <b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.millhillbowlingclub">www.millhillbowlingclub</a></p>

<b>Barnet Independent Living Service (BILS)</b>	<p>Offers specialist support to adults with a range of physical and sensory impairments. Staff are able to offer information &amp; advice around rehabilitation, enablement, employment and training while promoting independence to enable people to take part in activities they enjoy.</p>	<p>Referrals can be made by anyone, including the person requiring support, please contact Barnet Independent Living Service for a referral form.</p>	<p><b>Address:</b> The Concourse Grahame Park Estate, Colindale London NW9 5UX</p> <p><b>Phone:</b> 020 8359 3750</p> <p><b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:bils@yourchoicebarnet.org">bils@yourchoicebarnet.org</a></p> <p><b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.yourchoicebarnet.org">www.yourchoicebarnet.org</a></p>
<b>Barnet Torch Fellowship Group</b>	<p>A local Christian support group for and run by people with visual impairments.</p>		<p><b>Address:</b> Underhill Baptist Church, Elton Avenue, Barnet, EN5 2EA</p> <p><b>Phone:</b> 020 8441 3440</p> <p><b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:info@torchtrust.org">info@torchtrust.org</a></p> <p><b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.torchtrust.org">www.torchtrust.org</a></p>
<b>Blind Veterans UK</b>	<p>Provide support for blind veterans including rehabilitation and training, activities and support groups.</p>	<p>To be eligible for support you need to have served in the armed forces or completed national service.</p>	<p><b>Phone:</b> 020 7723 5021</p>
<b>British Blind Sport</b>	<p>At British Blind Sport, we help blind and partially sighted people get active and play sport.</p>	<p>Membership details can be found on the website or by calling.</p>	<p><b>Address:</b> British Blind Sport Pure Offices, Plato Close Tachbrook Park Leamington Spa Warwickshire CV34 6WE</p> <p><b>Phone:</b> 01926 424247</p> <p><b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:info@britishblindsport.org.uk">info@britishblindsport.org.uk</a></p> <p><b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.britishblindsport.org.uk">www.britishblindsport.org.uk</a></p>

<b>East Barnet Shooting Club (EBSC)</b>		<p>Meet second and forth Monday afternoon monthly</p> <p>Albert Road, off Victoria Road, Barnet Herts EN 4 9SH</p>	<p><b>Phone:</b> 0208 449 2503</p> <p><b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:membership@ebsc.co.uk">membership@ebsc.co.uk</a></p>
<b>Edmonton Dance Club for the Visually Impaired (open to all)</b>		<p>Meet fortnightly at All Saints Church Hall, Church Street, Edmonton N9 9AT 7.45pm – 9.45pm</p>	<p><b>Phone:</b> 020 8440 1490/07901 633030</p> <p>Meg</p>
<b>Jubilee Sailing Trust</b>	<p>Their mission is to promote the integration of people of all physical abilities through the challenge and adventure of sailing tall ships on the open sea.</p>		<p><b>Opening Hours:</b> Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm</p> <p><b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:info@jst.org.uk">info@jst.org.uk</a></p> <p><b>Telephone:</b> +44 (0) 2380 449108</p> <p><b>Address:</b> 12 Hazel Road, Woolston, Southampton, Hampshire SO19 7GA UK <a href="http://jst.org.uk/">http://jst.org.uk/</a></p>
<b>Jewish Blind Association</b>	<p>Provide information, advice, advocacy and support for Deaf/Deafblind British Sign Language users age 18+ of all faiths or none who live in the Borough of Barnet.</p>	<p>Every Tuesday (except Bank Holidays and Jewish Holy Days) from 10 am - 1 pm and 2 pm - 4 pm</p> <p>BSL Tuesdays weekly drop-in providing information, advice and advocacy - form filling, letter translation, telephone calls, benefits, housing and other issues</p>	<p><b>Address:</b> Julius Newman House Woodside Park Road Off High Road North Finchley N12 8RP</p> <p><b>Phone:</b> 020 8446 0502</p> <p><b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:jdssbarnet@jdeaf.org.uk">jdssbarnet@jdeaf.org.uk</a></p> <p><b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.jewishdeaf.org.uk">www.jewishdeaf.org.uk</a></p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- booking interpreters for your appointments with GP, hospital, council etc.</li> <li>- ongoing support and follow-up</li> <li>- additional advocacy when necessary</li> <li>- access to Social Services support last Tuesday of each month</li> </ul>	
<b>Jewish Care - Disability Services</b>	Provides audio news, entertainment and talking books for anyone who has a visual impairment. The KC Shasha Centre for Talking News and Books is a unique postal service with an audio catalogue of over 1500 books with a Jewish theme or Jewish author, the weekly edition of the Jewish Chronicle and the Jewish Extra magazine.	£40 per year to become a member of the audio library contact by phone or email to join	<p><b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:audio@jcare.org">audio@jcare.org</a></p> <p><b>Phone:</b> 020 8922 3333</p> <p><b>Web:</b> <a href="https://www.jewishcare.org/how-we-can-help-you/services/disability-services">https://www.jewishcare.org/how-we-can-help-you/services/disability-services</a></p>
<b>The Macular Disease Society</b>	The Macular Society is the national charity for anyone affected by central vision loss.	<p>The closest group to Barnet is in Enfield.</p> <p>They meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month between 10 am – 12 noon,</p> <p><b>Address:</b> Trinity Church Hall EN2 6NA</p> <p><b>Group Leader:</b> Alan Newson <b>Phone:</b> 0208 8865659</p>	<p><b>For more information contact the Helpline</b></p> <p><b>Phone:</b> 01264 350551</p> <p><b>Helpline:</b> 0300 3030 111</p> <p><b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:info@macularsociety.org">info@macularsociety.org</a></p> <p><b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.macularsociety.org">www.macularsociety.org</a></p>
<b>Metro Blind Sport</b>	Metro is a London-based charity; our aim is to open doors to sport for all vision impaired people, regardless of age or sporting ability.		<b>Phone:</b> 07814 751643
<b>Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB)</b>	RNIB has practical and emotional support for everyone affected by sight loss and this support can help individuals face the future with	<p>There is a free membership which includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vision magazine every two months in the format you choose</li> </ul>	<p><b>Phone:</b> 0845 702 3153</p> <p><b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.rnib.org.uk">www.rnib.org.uk</a></p>

	confidence whether they are losing their sight, partially sighted or blind.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exclusive discounts on RNIB products</li> <li>• telephone book clubs</li> <li>• Connect with other members online in our members' area</li> <li>• Save on holidays and hotels</li> </ul>	
<b>The Royal National College for the Blind</b>	RNC offers a range of courses at various levels to both students (16 to 25 year olds) and adult trainees (18 to 65 year olds).		<p><b>Address</b> The Royal National College for the Blind (RNC) Venns Lane, Hereford, HR1 1DT <b>Phone:</b> 01432 376 621</p> <p><b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:info@rnc.ac.uk">info@rnc.ac.uk</a> <b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.rnc.ac.uk">www.rnc.ac.uk</a></p>
<b>Thrive Carry on Gardening</b>	Can provide practical information to make most garden jobs easier, advice on how to take care, other useful hints and tips, and notes.		<b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.carryongardening.org.uk">www.carryongardening.org.uk</a>
<b>TouchBase South East (Sense)</b>	Sense work with deafblind adults of all ages and people who have sensory impairments with additional learning disabilities and other associated disabilities. The centre offers specialist facilities for those with dual sensory impairment and profound and multiple needs.	Families and professionals are welcome to visit informally (by appointment) phone to book.  <b>Mon-Fri 9am-4pm</b>	<p><b>Address:</b> 12 Hyde Close, Barnet, EN5 5TJ</p> <p><b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:awcenuquiries@sense.org.uk">awcenuquiries@sense.org.uk</a></p> <p><b>Phone:</b> 020 8449 0964 <b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.sense.org.uk">www.sense.org.uk</a></p>
<b>Visually Impaired Club</b>		Meet every Friday from 1.30pm to 4pm at Maxwell Park Community Centre, Maxwell Road, Borehamwood WD6 1JJ	<b>Phone:</b> Sasha 07771 862 820 or David 01923 854 403
<b>Deafblind Services</b>			

Organisation	Service Description	Details	Contact/Referral
<b>Association for the Blind (Middlesex)</b>	Barnet Association for the Blind works locally to provide support to blind, partially sighted and deafblind people throughout the Borough of Barnet. Staff and trained volunteers work together to provide a range of high quality services, information, advice and training, all aimed at assisting visually impaired people to lead independent lives.	Offering services such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Computer Training at Barnet Independent Living Service</li> <li>• Visual Awareness Training</li> <li>• Resource Centres</li> <li>• MidSight Hospital Information points</li> <li>• information and support to patients of diagnosis of at the Eye Clinics at Barnet and Edgware Hospitals</li> </ul> A home visiting service offering additional support and companionship to any visually impaired person.	<b>Address:</b> Middlesex Association for the Blind Suite 18, Freetrade House, Lowther Road, Stanmore, HA7 1EP  <b>Phone:</b> 020 8423 5141  <b>Web:</b> <a href="http://aftb.org.uk">aftb.org.uk</a>  <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:info@aftb.org.uk">info@aftb.org.uk</a>  <b>Office opening hours: Monday to Friday 9.30 am - 4.30 pm.</b>
<b>TouchBase South East (Sense)</b>	Sense work with deafblind adults of all ages and people who have sensory impairments with additional learning disabilities and other associated disabilities. The centre offers specialist facilities for those with dual sensory impairment and profound and multiple needs. The Centre also supports some individuals in the evenings and at weekends with leisure activities.	Families and professionals are welcome to visit informally (by appointment) phone to book.  Mon-Fri 9am-4pm	<b>Address:</b> 12 Hyde Close, Barnet, EN5 5TJ  <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:awcenquiries@sense.org.uk">awcenquiries@sense.org.uk</a>  <b>Phone:</b> 020 8449 0964  <b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.sense.org.uk">www.sense.org.uk</a>
<b>Jewish Deaf Association</b>	Provide information, advice, advocacy and support for Deaf/Deafblind British Sign Language users age 18+ of all faiths or none who live in the Borough of Barnet.	Every Tuesday (except Bank Holidays and Jewish Holy Days) from 10 am -1 pm and 2 pm - 4 pm	<b>Address:</b> Julius Newman House Woodside Park Road Off High Road North Finchley N12 8RP  <b>Phone:</b> 020 8446 0502

	<p>BSL Tuesdays weekly drop-in providing information, advice and advocacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- form filling, letter translation, telephone calls, benefits, housing and other issues</li> <li>- booking interpreters for your appointments with GP, hospital, council etc.</li> <li>- ongoing support and follow-up</li> <li>- additional advocacy when necessary</li> <li>- access to Social Services support last Tuesday of each month</li> </ul>		<p><b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:jdssbarnet@jdeaf.org.uk">jdssbarnet@jdeaf.org.uk</a></p> <p><b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.jewishdeaf.org.uk">www.jewishdeaf.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>British Sign Language (BSL) Tuesdays Coffee Mornings</b></p>	<p>BSL Tuesdays hosts a coffee morning every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month for all Deaf and Deafblind sign language users living in Barnet.</p>	<p>You can meet new people and have teas and coffees at low prices.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When: 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month</li> <li>• Times: 10.30am till 1pm.</li> <li>• Where: Julius Newman House, Woodside Park Road, N12 8RP</li> </ul>	<p><b>Address:</b> Julius Newman House Woodside Park Road, North Finchley, London N12 8RP</p> <p><b>Tel:</b> 020 8359 6093</p> <p><b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:SLIS@barnet.gov.uk">SLIS@barnet.gov.uk</a></p>
<p><b>Deafblind UK</b></p>	<p>They support people with combined sight and hearing loss to live the lives they want.</p> <p>They can provide support to get back on your feet after a diagnosis, a helping hand to help you do the things you love, someone to turn to when you're feeling low or some information, advice and guidance.</p>		<p><b>Address:</b> The National Centre for Deafblindness, John and Lucille van Geest Place, Cygnet Road, Hampton, Peterborough, PE7 8FD</p> <p><b>Phone:</b> 01733 358100/0800 132320 <b>Text phone:</b> 01733 358100</p> <p><b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:info@deafblind.org.uk">info@deafblind.org.uk</a></p> <p><b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.deafblind.org.uk">www.deafblind.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>Tottenham Hotspurs Sensory Sessions</b></p>	<p>Sense active multi- sports</p>	<p>These multi-sport sessions are for adults who are deafblind or have</p>	<p><b>Address:</b> New Barnet &amp; Southgate, Learning Disability Centre of</p>

		<p>single sensory impairments. Parents, carers and support workers are welcome to join in as well.</p> <p>To book or for more info, please contact Peter Stone: <a href="mailto:peter.stone@tottenhamhotspur.com">peter.stone@tottenhamhotspur.com</a> Phone: 07787504237</p>	<p>Excellence, Southgate Campus, High Street, Southgate, London, N14 6BS</p>
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**Appendix C – SWOT Analyses of Commissioning Options (extract from Options Appraisal paper)**

Options	Consequences and SWOT Analysis
<p><b>Option 1 - Recommended.</b></p> <p>Award a single source contract to MAB for up to 4 years (the contract value is £27,219 pa, total for 4 years is £108.846), from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2024.</p>	<p><b>Positive consequence.</b></p> <p><u>Strengths</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The current Provider has indicated that they would agree to this proposal</li> <li>• The current Provider is experienced in the provision of this service and has established links in the borough with partners allowing greater opportunity to strengthen the offer</li> <li>• The current Provider provides a good service therefore moving away from the incumbent is unnecessary</li> <li>• Ensures continued support and commitment to people with Sensory Impairment</li> <li>• Continuation of service for residents with no/minimal disruption</li> <li>• Initial model already in place with established links with partners allowing greater opportunity to strengthen the offer</li> </ul> <p><u>Weaknesses</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historical ways of delivery of the contract may impact on opportunities to deliver a strengthened service</li> </ul> <p><u>Opportunities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased satisfaction amongst residents and/ or their families/carers through streamlined offer</li> <li>• Improve the service in line with feedback from the Barnet Sensory Impairment Team</li> <li>• Work closely with the current provider to deliver a strengthened service</li> <li>• Opportunity to improve outcomes for people</li> <li>• Scope opportunities for alternative models to deliver the service in line with the planned Sensory Impairment strategy. HRS service expansion for 2021</li> </ul>
<p><b>Option 2: Not recommended</b></p> <p>Re-procure the service – go out to tender</p>	<p><b>Negative consequence</b></p> <p><u>Strengths</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-vamp the specification</li> </ul> <p><u>Weaknesses</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provider availability and capacity within Barnet</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transitional period for service users therefore impact on continuation of services</li> </ul> <p><u>Opportunities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a new model of support</li> </ul> <p><u>Threats</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in resident dissatisfaction</li> <li>• Risk of reputational damage</li> <li>• Loss of goodwill from MAB (current provider)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Option 3. Not Recommended.</b></p> <p>Do nothing; service is not re-commissioned.</p>	<p><b>Negative consequence</b></p> <p><u>Strengths</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Financial savings</li> </ul> <p><u>Weaknesses</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No appropriate support for people with Sensory Impairment in Barnet</li> <li>• De-stable residents and the provider</li> <li>• Negative impact on service user outcomes</li> </ul> <p><u>Opportunities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a new model of support</li> </ul> <p><u>Threats</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in resident dissatisfaction</li> <li>• Risk of reputational damage</li> </ul>