

Extension of contract with Change, Grow, Live (CGL) for the IOM Support Service for a two-year period in accordance with Contracts Procedure Rule (CPR) 21 (contract extensions)

Date: 20th March 2023

Report of: Head of Commissioning, Adults and Health

Report to: Director of Communities, Housing and Environment

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

Brief summary

Leeds City Council commission the IOM (Integrated Offender Management) Service from CGL to provide support to people leaving prison and with an offending background, to live independently and reduce reoffending. The existing contract awarded in 2020 expires on 31st March 2023, a 24-month extension period is available. This report proposes applying the extension so that the service will continue for a further two years. During the extension period the contract will be reviewed, and a decision made about remodelling and re-procurement.

Recommendations

- a) The Director of Communities, Housing and Environment is recommended to
 - i) Approve the extension of the existing contract with Change, Grow, Live for the IOM Support Service for 24 months under Contracts Procedure Rules (CPR) 21, with effect from 1st April 2023. The value of the extension is £1,439,460.

What is this report about?

- 1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval for an extension of the contract with CGL for the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) Support service in accordance with Contracts Procedure Rule (CPR) 21 (contract extensions).
- 2 This service was commissioned in 2020, following a strategic review of existing commissioned services which support people leaving prison and those in the community who have an offending background to access accommodation, support and reduce re-offending. A competitive procurement exercise was carried out, resulting in CGL being awarded the contract from April 2020.

3 CGL deliver a service which is high quality and is performing well, it works alongside many strategic partners in the city to help achieve joint goals of reducing re-offending, ensuring community safety and reducing homelessness. They also deliver bespoke interventions in addition to the core support work, to address substance misuse and direct people towards treatment programmes and to work with perpetrators of domestic violence to reduce risk and re-offending rates.

4 The service is funded by a three-way arrangement; funding from the Leeds City Council Communities, Housing and Environment directorate, Leeds City Council Public Health and the West Yorkshire Mayor's Office (Community Safety Funding administered via Safer Leeds).

Communities, Housing and Environment	£106,765
Public Health	£357,600
Safer Leeds	£255,365

5 Core activity of the service involves delivery of support to offenders who are resident or wish to remain in Leeds and have a local connection. The service has a capacity of up to 300 people being supported at any one time, with a focus on delivery of key activities including –

- Providing targeted support to offenders who are identified by the Leeds IOM arrangements and the provision of Conditional Cautions.
- Engaging with prisoners on release to help identify accommodation and support with packages to reduce the likelihood of re-offending on release.
- Helping to rehabilitate and resettle offenders in the community by supporting them in addressing the issues that will promote their effective reintegration into the community, reducing risk of reoffending through intensive support, behaviour programmes and support to access specialist services.
- Arrest referral work – co-location at Police and Court settings, working alongside Police, Probation and Court staff engaging with those testing positive for drugs on arrest, or receiving a treatment order from the courts directing towards drug treatment support services
- Engaging with perpetrators of Domestic Violence through referrals made by the Front Door Safeguarding Hub.

The service has consistently achieved key performance indicators throughout the current contract period. Added value to the contract is offered by the CGL Emerging Futures programme which provides two properties offering supported accommodation options for people leaving prison. It is therefore considered that the service continues to offer value for money to the council.

What impact will this proposal have?

6 This proposal will allow the existing level of support and service delivery to continue for a further 24 months from 1st April 2023, during which time a strategic review of the service will take place. A decision will then be made around remodelling and re-procurement options to take effect with a new contract award from 1st April 2025 onwards.

How does this proposal impact the three pillars of the Best City Ambition?

- Health and Wellbeing Inclusive Growth Zero Carbon

7 The service contributes to the following elements of the Best Council Plan –

Safe, strong communities – keeping people safe from harm and protecting the most vulnerable, ensuring people with an offending background do not re-offend and adhere to any probation orders and rehabilitation programmes.

Health and Wellbeing – ensuring people who are engaging in substance misuse seek support and advice including interventions around treatment programmes to reduce the likelihood of harm and avoidable drug related deaths.

Housing – assisting people leaving prison, or those in the community who have no suitable accommodation into tenancies with support, reducing the risk of homelessness.

- 8 The service also contributes to the strategic objectives of the Reducing Reoffending Board contained within the Community Safety Plan 2018 – 2022.

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

Wards affected:

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

Consultation has taken place with the Executive Member for Environment and Housing, Procurement and Commercial Services and the provider.

What are the resource implications?

- 9 The cost of this extension will be met through existing budget provision from Communities, Housing and Resources budget for commissioned housing related support services. The service is also funded by Safer Leeds and Leeds City Council Public Health.
- 10 This service is considered to deliver good value for money and outcomes, working alongside strategic partners in the city to reduce re-offending, reduce homelessness, encourage pathways into substance misuse treatment programmes and improve community safety. Application of the available contract extensions will enable the service to continue and to contribute towards achieving city wide strategic goals.
- 11 Current investment is considered to meet value for money criteria, most of this paying for front line staff to deliver the services. Recent increases in service costs to providers and the past reduction in contract value has been considered when considering applying this extension whilst managing financial pressures.
- 12 Consideration has been given to whether the service could be delivered for a reduced price. As the contract has not been increased in value during its current term and the service is facing inflationary pressures, it is not possible to make reductions to the contract price without impacting on the scope and quality of delivery, which is not desirable at this point.
- 13 Prior to the previous strategic review and competitive procurement exercise which resulted in the current single IOM contract, two separate services existed delivering this provision. The combined value of these two contracts was £911,065 per annum, they have already been subject to a 10% reduction in the contract value of both services made in 2016/17, a further 11% reduction was made in 2017/18, and a further £30,000 reduction to the CGL service for 2019/20. Further assessment of value for money and outcomes will be made during the two-year extension period when a full review of the contract will take place.

- 14 This contract is jointly funded by the Council's Communities, Housing and Environment, and Public Health Directorates, and with funding received from the West Yorkshire Mayor's Office Safer Communities Fund, managed through Safer Leeds. There is confirmed budget for the extension period for the City Council funds and Funding from the Mayor's Office is approved annually.
- 16 It is considered the current contract represents value for money considering the investment and complexity of the service. A strategic review will take place during the next two years to examine the service and identify any added value and efficiencies ahead of any decision about re-procurement beyond the extension period.

What are the key risks and how are they being managed?

- 18 The contract extension is in accordance with CPRs 21 as it is in accordance with its original terms and proves to deliver Best Value. There is a small risk relating to the availability of funds from the Mayor's Office for the second year of the extension. This risk will be managed by seeking early confirmation of financial support. In the unlikely event that funds are not available, a variation to the contract will be made.
- 19 The service will continue to be contract managed by the Commissioning team in Adults and Health Directorate. Robust contract management processes ensure the on-going monitoring of quality, performance, and value for money.
- 20 Should the extension not be applied the service would not continue under existing funding and contract management frameworks, putting at risk the support provided to reduce re-offending and partnership work across the city.

What are the legal implications?

- 21 This is a Significant Operational Decision, because it is taken as a consequence of the previous Key decision taken on 15th March 2019 giving approval for the previous service to be reviewed and to enter into a procurement on conclusion of the review. This decision is also in connection to two subsequent decisions taken in July and November 2019 to procure the new IOM service, and award of contract following the review.
- 22 There are no grounds for treating the contents of this report as confidential with the Council's Access to Information Rules.
- 23 The recommendation within this report is in accordance with the terms of the original contract and Contracts Procedure Rule 21 which allows a contract to be extended before its expiry date where it is in accordance with its terms and proves to deliver value for money.

Options, timescales and measuring success

What other options were considered?

- 24 There are limited other options and the service is performing well. An option would have been to not apply the extension, but the service is still required, and an effective IOM partnership is in place. The service will be reviewed during the two-year extension period and decisions made around future re-procurement.

How will success be measured?

- 25 Success will be measured by ongoing quarterly contract management meetings between the service provider and the Council, analysis of performance reports, and assessment of quality through the Quality Management Framework toolkit.

What is the timetable and who will be responsible for implementation?

- 27 This decision will be made during March 2023, and the extension implemented by officers in the Adults and Health commissioning team working in partnership with Procurement and Commercial Services. The Contract extension will be applied before 31st March 2023.

Appendices

- Equality, Diversity, Cohesion, and Integration screening paper

Background papers

- None