



Report of the Deputy Director, Strategic Commissioning

Scrutiny Board, Adult Social Care

Date: 19th July 2010

Subject: Adult Social Care Commissioning Services Update

Electoral Wards Affected:

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Executive Summary

This report provides Members of the Scrutiny Board, Adult Social Care (ASC) with an update on progress made with the review of the Neighbourhood Network Schemes (NNS), and other current commissioning initiatives. It follows on from the report presented to the March 2010 meeting of the Scrutiny Board.

In relation to the NNS review, Members will be aware that following the report to the March Board indicating an intention to award contracts via a delegated decision of the Director of Adult Social Services, a decision was subsequently taken to suspend the process. This decision was taken following representations from a number of NNS who had been advised that an award of contract was not to be recommended. In order to adequately enquire into the representations an independent review panel was established with terms of reference agreed with the organisations affected, their representatives and representatives of the different political groups in the City Council. The review was led by Mr Bill Kilgallon and Mr Peter Howarth who, between them, have significant and longstanding expertise of third sector social care commissioning and procurement.

Their review concluded at the end of June 2010 and is to be reported to the Executive Board of the Council on the 21st July 2010. A copy of the Executive Board report will be circulated to Members prior to this meeting of the Board.

Other examples of commissioning activity underway at this time are summarised in this report, including services for people with sensory impairments and those with autistic spectrum conditions, as well as domiciliary and extra care housing provision.

1.0 Purpose of this Report

- 1.1 To provide Members of the ASC Scrutiny Board with a further report of the progress made and future plans for delivering the Neighbourhood Network Scheme (NNS) contract award process in the light of the outcome of the independent review. The report also describes the status of current commissioning activity.

2.0 Background Information

- 2.1 Members will be aware that following the report to the March Board indicating an intention to award contracts via a delegated decision of the Director of Adult Social Services, a decision was subsequently taken to suspend the process. This decision was taken following representations from a number of NNS who had been advised that an award of contract was not to be recommended. In order to adequately enquire into the representations an independent review panel was established with terms of reference agreed with the organisations affected, their representatives and representatives of the different political groups in the City Council. The review was lead by Mr Bill Kilgallon and Mr Peter Howarth who, between them, have significant and longstanding expertise of third sector social care commissioning and procurement.
- 2.2 The outcome of that review is contained in the Executive Board report.
- 2.3 Members have been previously appraised of a number of other commissioning initiatives underway at this time namely:
- Framework Contracts for the provision of domiciliary care and support.
 - The award of contracts for hearing and visual impairment services
 - The award of care and support services for physically disabled people resident at Terry Yorath House
 - The award of a framework contract with Supporting People for the provision of care and housing related support to young adults with autistic spectrum conditions.
 - The arrangements for care and support services for South Leeds Extra Care Housing scheme due to commence January 2011.

3.0 The Neighbourhood Networks Services

- 3.1 Members are invited to consider the Executive Board report (circulated seperately) which deals with the outcome of the independent review of the NNS commissioning process and contract award proposals. Any comments or resolutions made at the this meeting will be made available to the Executive Board at their meeting.

4.0 Other Commissions

4.1 Framework Contracts for the Provision of Domiciliary Care and Support

Leeds City Council ASC and NHS Leeds are working together to jointly commission community domiciliary care. This is about the care and support people receive in their own homes which is purchased from Independent Sector providers, on their behalf, by Leeds City Council ASC and NHS Leeds. This will be achieved through a Framework Agreement. A framework Agreement is a general term for agreements with suppliers which set out the terms and conditions under which services are purchased throughout the term of the agreement. The Framework Agreement will give a much wider choice of domiciliary care providers which can be used by ASC to

provide care and support for service users. The tender for the Framework Agreement was published on 16 July 2010. Tenders will be evaluated for both price and quality. Only domiciliary care providers who are rated Good or Excellent by the Care Quality Commission will be considered for the Framework Agreement. A maximum price is being set to ensure affordability. The Framework Agreement will run from 1 November 2010 to 31 October 2013, with the option for renewal for a further 2 years.

4.2 The Award of Contracts for Hearing and Visual Impairment Services

ASC is tendering to deliver a Leeds Deaf and Hard of Hearing Service. The existing contract comes to an end on 31 March 2011 and competitive bids need to be sought through open competition for the re-commissioned service. The new contract will be for three years, with a provision to extend for a further two 12 months. The purpose of this specification is to set out a framework for the provision of assessment, advocacy and support for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deafblind adults. The tender went out on 23 June 2010 and the closing date is 21 July 2010. A maximum price has been set and the tenders will be evaluated for price (40%) and quality (60%). Leeds City Council is also to deliver a Leeds Severely Sight Impaired and Sight Impaired Service. The existing contract will come to an end on 31 March 2011 and competitive bids will be sought through open competition for the re-commissioned service. The new contract will be for three years, with provision to extend by two 12 month extensions. The purpose of this specification is to set out a framework for the provision of assessment, advocacy and support for Severely Sight Impaired and Sight Impaired adults. This tender relates to a single service across Leeds which will offer support to specific groups of service users who have a range of issues related to their sight loss. They are:

- Services to adults who are registered as Severely Sight Impaired (SSI)
- Services to adults who are not registered SSI
- Services to adults who are registered Sight Impaired (SI)
- Services to adults who are not registered SI
- Services to adults who are Dual Sensory Impaired
- Services to young people who are in transition from Children's Services

The tender was advertised on 7 July 2010 and its deadline is 4 August 2010. A maximum price has been set and the tenders will be evaluated for price (40%) and quality (60%).

4.3 The Award of Care and Support Services for Physically Disabled People Resident at Terry Yorath House (TYH)

This is a 12 bed residential care home, of which 10 beds are available for long term residential care and 2 beds are allocated for respite users. Leeds City Council ASC is seeking to procure an integrated package of care and support from a provider, or providers, for residential and respite/short break provision for adults who are physically disabled. The tender went out on 26 May 2010 and its deadline was 30 June 2010. The deadline has been extended by six weeks to 11 August 2010. This is because ASC needs more time to respond to enquiries regarding a temporary lease and detailed information about the assets/equipment at TYH. Tenders will be evaluated for both price and quality (40% - 60%). A maximum price has been set to ensure affordability. The new contract will be for three years, with a provision to extend for a further two 12 months. The current contract expires on 31 March 2011 and the new contract will commence on 1 April 2011.

4.4 The Award of a Framework Contract with Supporting People for the Provision of Care and Housing-related Support to Young Adults with Autistic Spectrum Conditions

An Autism-specific supported living Framework Agreement has been jointly procured by ASC and Supporting People (SP). A Framework Agreement consists of a list of quality assured providers which is procured using a rigorous process, in accordance with European Union regulations and Contracts Procedure Rules. There is no guaranteed work attached to the framework, but those providers on the framework are invited to engage in a mini competition for specific pieces of work as these become available. Places on the framework have been awarded from 21 May 2010 to five quality assured providers. In future, Care Managers and people with personal budgets who need supported living services will be able to use the framework to select a good quality provider to meet their individual needs. The framework is currently being used to procure care and support services for people at Brandling Court, a 17 bed autism-specific service in Middleton. There has been concern about the quality of the service for some time and it was agreed to develop the framework and use this to re-tender the service at Brandling Court. Following a mini competition, supported by ASC, SP and Corporate Procurement, a new provider has been recommended and approved. The current contract ends on 14 August 2010.

4.4 The Arrangements for Care and Support Services for South Leeds Extra Care Housing Scheme - due to commence January 2011

The contract for care and support services to be provided at South Leeds Extra Care Housing Scheme is to be let to Methodist Homes for the Aged. The scheme is on schedule to open in January 2011, with the nomination rights for all 45 units held by Adult Social Services. This important development, in a deprived area of the city with little in the way of similar resources, will offer older people an alternative to residential care, and the opportunity to live independently for as long as possible.

5.0 Legal And Resource Implications

- 5.1 The additional funding required to ensure adequate cover of the NNS in all areas of the city has been factored into the budget setting process for the year 2010/11.
- 5.2 This joint commissioning exercise, conducted by partners within Leeds City Council and NHS Leeds, has established a valuable precedent for future joint commissioning endeavors. It serves to deliver more efficient use of commissioning capacity whilst meeting the common goals of the organisations concerned.
- 5.3 The re-commissioning of care and support services for young, physically disabled people and those with autistic spectrum conditions will serve to enhance the quality of life and life chances of these groups, giving greater choice, control and independence. The South Leeds Extra Care Scheme is set to deliver high quality, independent living options to vulnerable older people in a relatively deprived area of the city. Similarly, the new Framework Contracts for domiciliary care will offer greater choice and quality for service users at an affordable price, enabling people to live independently for longer.

6.0 Conclusions

- 6.1 In the past two years, the Commissioning Service has made good progress in developing efficient and effective systems for the specification and procurement of ASC services which accurately target need, are outcome focused, and deliver good value for money. The review and re-commissioning of the NNS is a prime example of this new approach to commissioning, which has drawn regional and national attention.
- 6.2 In order to continue to improve and develop ASC commissioning in Leeds, staff are embarked on a range of professional development initiatives, in conjunction with NHS Leeds, which will serve to better equip them to successfully meet the challenges which lie ahead.

7.0 Recommendations

- 7.1 Members of the ASC Scrutiny Board are asked to consider and note the information contained in this report.

Background Documents referred to in this report

1. NNS Delegated Decision Panel Report – February 2010
2. NNS Executive Board Report – July 2010