

BRIEFING NOTE

Agenda

Item No. 5

TO: Social Care and Inclusion Scrutiny Panel
DATE: 19th November 2009

RE: Walsall LINK Re-tender - Update

Purpose

This briefing note has been written to bring the Social Care and Inclusion Scrutiny Panel up to date on the progress of the procurement procedure for a new LINK host organisation.

Progress to date

- The existing contract with Carers Federation was finally terminated on Monday 2nd November 2009.
- All post-termination contractual requirements on both parties were discharged amicably and successfully
- We await the final invoice from Carers Federation that covers the October period, in order that the final claim can be examined, any amendments made and a final payment made to the outgoing host.
- As requested by the Walsall LINK, the incoming host-Black Country Housing Group (BCHG), has found town centre office accommodation in Tameway Tower.
- The existing staff that transferred to BCHG, were inducted by BCHG on Monday 2nd November and completed a successful office move on Wednesday 4th November.
- We have to date had 2 very productive contract review meetings with BCHG, and very much look forward working in partnership with the Walsall LINK and BCHG, to move the work of the Walsall LINK on quickly and successfully, for the benefit of the residents of Walsall.
- BCHG have already met informally with the Walsall LINK and will have their first official event, a Board meeting, on Thursday 12th November.

Author

Julie Gethin
Head of Neighbourhood Partnerships and Programmes
☎01922 654706
gethinj@walsall.gov.uk