

## **Cabinet – 16 July 2008**

### **Re-tender of Residential and Nursing Care Services**

<b>Portfolio:</b>	Councillor Barbara McCracken, Social care, health and housing
<b>Service:</b>	Social care and Inclusion (Adult Services)
<b>Wards:</b>	All Wards
<b>Key decision:</b>	Yes
<b>Forward plan:</b>	Yes

#### **1. Summary of report**

This report outlines proposals for the re-tender of the Council's Residential and Nursing Care Services as a core element of the overall modernisation and redesign of services for older people and people with disabilities.

The Council commissions residential accommodation from the independent sector in order to meet a statutory duty under the National Assistance Act 1948 and a secretary of state's direction contained in circular LAC (93)10. The provision of Residential and Nursing Home Care in accordance with these duties is to meet the assessed needs of those people who cannot be supported to live in the community.

Residential and Nursing Care Services in Walsall are provided to adults who are identified via a Community Care Assessment as being in need of health and social care support in a residential setting, whether that is permanent or as part of a respite package.

Services and service contracts in Walsall have developed over time in an ad-hoc way with a majority of business being spot purchased. This has led to wide ranging contract agreements and prices. This tender will provide stability in the market by standardizing contracts and rationalising the pricing mechanism.

#### **2. Recommendations**

2.1 That Cabinet approves the re-tender of the Residential and Nursing Home Care service as detailed above.

2.2 That Cabinet delegates the award of contracts to the Executive Director of Social Care and Inclusion in conjunction with the Portfolio Holder.

### **3. Background information**

- 3.1 Central Procurement will be leading on this project on behalf of Social Care and Inclusion. Due to capacity and because of some of the very specialist negotiation skills required to carry out such a tender the day to day procurement work will be provided by the same project manager who has overseen the Housing 21 transformation. Similarly legal advice and guidance may have to be sought outside of the council in order to meet agreed deadlines. The procurement team and any contracted organisations will report to a board including the Assistant Director for Social Care and the Heads of service for Older People, Disabilities and Finance who will make the key project decisions.
- 3.2 Agreement to the re-tender would enable the Council to meet the legal duties conferred upon it by the National Assistance Act 1948.

### **4. Resource considerations**

- 4.1 **Financial:** Social Care and Inclusion are anticipating making procurement savings (net of procurement and legal advice) as a result of this tender.
- 4.2 **Legal:** Legal services will be procured as part of this review of service if there is no capacity from within the Council's own legal team.
- 4.3 **Staffing:** There are no staffing implications for Council employees.

### **5. Citizen impact**

This should improve the quality and choice of residential homes for citizens of Walsall.

### **6. Community safety**

There are no community safety implications.

### **7. Environmental impact**

There are no environmental issues

### **8. Performance and risk management issues**

A full analysis of risk will be undertaken during the next stage of the process. The increased targeting of the service will ensure that performance improves and efficiencies are realised provision the council with better value for money.

## 9. Equality implications

The consultation, tender and contract award processes will be assessed against the Central Procurement Teams Equality Impact Assessment and will not exclude any citizen who has an assessed need for the service and meets the Fair Access to Care criteria.

## 10. Consultation

As above.

## Background papers

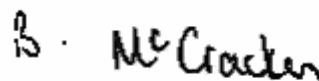
### Author

Gary Mack  
Strategic Commissioning Manager  
☎ 658393  
✉ [mackg@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:mackg@walsall.gov.uk)



David Martin  
Executive Director

Dated: 30 June 2008



Councillor Barbara McCracken  
Portfolio Holder

Dated: 2 July 2008