

Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) for Policies, Procedures and Services

Proposal name	Direct Payment Support Service (DPSS) Provider Tender 2021		
Directorate	Adult Social Care		
Service	Adult Social Care Commissioning – Direct Payments		
Responsible Officer	Tracy Simcox		
Proposal planning start	01/10/2020	Proposal start date (due)	06/10/2021

1	What is the purpose of the proposal?	Yes / No	New / revision
	Policy	No	
	Procedure	No	
	Guidance	No	
	Is this a service to customers/staff/public?	Yes	Revision
	If yes, is it contracted or commissioned?	Yes	Revision
	Other - give details		
2	What is the business case for this proposal? Please provide the main purpose of the service, intended outcomes and reasons for change? What is the business case for this proposal? The business requirements for this case is the continued provision of a Direct Payment Support Service (DPSS) to enable provision of Personal Budgets to service users eligible to manage their care procurement and financial management through a Direct Payment. What is the intended outcome? The purpose of this proposal it to award a new framework for the provision of DPSS services, for a period of three years, with the option to extend on an annual basis for a further period of up to two years, which will replace the existing framework which ends on 5 October 2021. Reasons for change? The existing framework ends on 5 October 2021, but a 6 month extension is being requested. Furthermore as the current combined value of this exiting framework is in the region of £330,000 per annum for Adult Social Care and Children’s Services, EU Procurement Regulations and the Council’s current Contract Rules would require this service to be tendered.		
3	Who is the proposal likely to affect?		
	People in Walsall	Yes / No	Detail
	All	No	

	Specific group/s	Yes	ASC & Children's
	Council employees	No	
	Other (identify)	Yes	Existing and future direct payment recipients and existing DPSS provider staff
4	Please provide service data relating to this proposal on your customer's protected characteristics.		
	<p>Current services provide number of service users split into the following protected characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethnicity • Age • Religion • Gender • Disability <p>This data will be collected as part of the questionnaire that is being distributed to all Direct Payment recipients and will be collated, analysed and used to inform any issues. The information should inform us of how well needs have been met, the level of satisfaction with services and ideas for future provision.</p>		
5	Please provide details of all engagement and consultation undertaken for this proposal. (Please use a separate box for each engagement/consultation).		

A full engagement exercise has commenced as part of the re-procurement exercise to inform revision to the current specification for Direct Payment Support Service providers.

Hard copies of a questionnaire are being issued to all Direct Payment recipients and their Personal Assistants (approx. 1000 people in all). In addition, care agencies and council staff including social workers and business support functions will be invited to access the same web based questionnaire.

A facilitated workshop is being organised with the existing DPSS providers also, to obtain additional operational and system feedback.

Consultation Activity

Type of engagement/consultation	Questionnaire	Date	March-April 2021
Who attended/participated?	DP recipients, Personal Assistants, care agencies, social care and children’s service practitioners, business support, finance and other administrative in the council		
Protected characteristics of participants	TBC		
Feedback			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBC 			

Type of engagement/consultation	Facilitated provider workshop	Date	April 2021
Who attended/participated?	Existing DPSS provider staff		
Protected characteristics of participants	TBC		
Feedback			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBC 			

6 Concise overview of all evidence, engagement and consultation

Please see attached Communications Plan

7 How may the proposal affect each protected characteristic or group? The effect may be positive, negative, neutral or not known. Give reasons

and if action is needed.			
Characteristic	Affect	Reason	Action needed Yes / No
Age	At this stage of the process, it is not envisaged that there would be any significant impacts, positive or adverse envisaged through any proposed amendments to the service specification and re-procurement of the service. However, the EqIA will be continually reviewed to address any issues identified		
Disability			
Gender reassignment			
Marriage and civil partnership			
Pregnancy and maternity			
Race			
Religion or belief			
Sex			
Sexual orientation			
Other (give detail)			
Further information			
8	Does your proposal link with other proposals to have a cumulative effect on particular equality groups? If yes, give details.		(Delete one) No
9	Which justifiable action does the evidence, engagement and consultation feedback suggest you take?		
A	No major change required TBC		
B	Adjustments needed to remove barriers or to better promote equality TBC		
C	Continue despite possible adverse impact TBC		
D	Stop and rethink your proposal TBC		

Action and monitoring plan				
Action Date	Action	Responsibility	Outcome Date	Outcome

TBC				

Update to EqIA	
Date	Detail

Contact us

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Inside Walsall: http://int.walsall.gov.uk/Service_information/Equality_and_diversity