

PART 1 - PUBLIC

Decision Maker: Adult and Community Portfolio Holder

Date: For pre-decision scrutiny by Adult and Community Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee on 29th March 2011

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

Title: **SUPPORT PLANNING AND BROKERAGE FOR PEOPLE WHO DO NOT MEET THE COUNCIL'S ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR SOCIAL CARE**

Contact Officer: Rebecca Jarvis, Joint Strategic Commissioning Manager (Older People and Adults with Complex Health and Social Care Needs)
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Chief Officer: Terry Rich, Director of Adult and Community Services

Ward: Boroughwide

1. Reason for report

The contract with Age Concern Bromley for provision of Support Planning and Brokerage to older people who do not meet the Council's eligibility criteria for social care expires on 31st March 2011 with no option to extend. The report proposes to award a new contract for one year to continue to provide support to older people with moderate needs.

2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

The Portfolio Holder is asked to waive the requirements for competitive bids pursuant to Contract Procedure Rule 13.1 and approve the proposal to negotiate a new contract with the current provider for the provision of support planning and brokerage services to older people for a period of one year from 1st April 2011 to 31st March 2012.

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing policy.
 2. BBB Priority: Supporting Independence.
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Estimated cost £114,570
 2. Ongoing costs: Recurring cost. £114,570 p.a
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Age Concern Repair and Care: 824900 3446 (£77,170) and Supporting Independence in Bromley: 802001 3441 00000 (£38,000)
 4. Total current budget for this head: £115,170
 5. Source of funding: LBB Adult and Community Services revenue budget
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Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): N/A
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours:
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: No statutory requirement or Government guidance.
 2. Call-in: Call-in is applicable
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): In 2009/10 over 3000 people accessed the service .
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? No.
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments:

3. COMMENTARY

Background

- 3.1 Age Concern Bromley has been providing support planning and brokerage services to older people since 2007. The current contract expires on 31st March 2011. The value of the contract is £114,570 per year.
- 3.2 The aim of the Support Planning and Brokerage service is to provide support to people over the age of 65 who are not eligible for council services (either because they do not meet the Fair Access to Care critical and substantial criteria or because they are self-funders) to set up their own package of care. The support can range from 'light touch' signposting and provision of information to in depth support planning and brokerage functions.
- 3.3 Since April 2009 the contract has also incorporated what was previously known as First Checkpoint – a brokerage, advice and information service for building maintenance and repairs for people who are not eligible for the Council's Handyperson's scheme, and domestic help.
- 3.4 In 2009/10 over 3000 people accessed the service. Approximately 400 of these required the detailed support planning intervention to help them set up the care they needed.
- 3.5 The service is routinely monitored by the contracts team and has consistently met the targets identified in the service specification. Customer feedback is good, and the service has received very few complaints (only 7 to date in 2010/11).
- 3.6 It is not proposed to go out to tender for the service as Age Concern Bromley is a well regarded voluntary organization providing a range of services and support for older people. There are no other organisations which have the local knowledge, reputation, infrastructure or specialist knowledge and expertise to deliver this service in Bromley. Tendering would not bring in other suppliers to bid as there are no comparable services. Value for money is achieved through the extensive use of volunteers in the delivery of services. Therefore it is proposed to award a new contract to Age Concern Bromley to continue to provide support to people who do not meet the Council's eligibility criteria for social care for a further year.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Support Planning and Brokerage service provided by Age Concern Bromley supports the priority outcomes in the Older People Strategy 2008-2013, Independence and Choice for Older People in Bromley. The services also support the Putting People First agenda which stresses the importance of supporting the whole population to stay healthy and active, and also to be assisted in making the right choices regarding ways of meeting their care and support needs.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The 2010/11 available budget is £115,170. Awarding a new contract to Age Concern Bromley for one year at a cost of £114,570 is within the budget.
- 5.2 Contract procedure rule 13.1 allows for a waiver of the requirement for competitive bids, subject to the relevant approval being obtained.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 This is a waiver of the need for competitive tendering and in accordance with contract procurement rule 13.1 the Director of Legal and Democratic Services and Director of Resources have indicated their agreement to the proposed contract negotiation as achieving best value for the Council. Given the value of the proposed contract it is necessary for the Portfolio Holder to

also approve the contract. A note of the exercise of the waiver will be reported to the Audit Sub Committee. The service is a Part B service under Schedule 3 to the Public Procurement Regulations 2006 and not subject to the full EU procurement regime.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Personnel
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	