

Cabinet

8 July 2021

Warwickshire Joint Procurement Activity for Community Services for Adults with Learning Disabilities, Autism, Mental Health or Physical Disabilities; permission to procure services.

Recommendations

- 1) That Cabinet authorises the Strategic Director for People to proceed with an appropriate procurement process for the provision of Community Services for Adults with learning disabilities, autism, mental health or physical disabilities and authorises the Strategic Director for People to enter into all relevant contracts for the provision of these services on terms and conditions acceptable to the Strategic Director for Resources.
- 2) That Cabinet authorises the Strategic Director for People to enter into a partnership agreement with NHS Coventry and Warwickshire Clinical Commissioning Group under section 75 of the National Health Service Act 2006 to manage the joint commissioning, on terms and conditions acceptable to the Strategic Director for Resources.
- 3) That Cabinet authorises the Strategic Director for People to proceed with an appropriate procurement process for the provision of Learning Disability Wellbeing Hubs and authorises the Strategic Director for People or his nominee to enter into all relevant contracts for the provision of these services on terms and conditions acceptable to the Strategic Director for Resources.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 Warwickshire County Council jointly with NHS Coventry and Warwickshire Clinical Commissioning Group (the CCG) currently commissions a range of community services for adults, with learning disabilities, autism, mental health or physical disabilities. Current framework agreements and contracts are due to expire on 31 March 2022.
- 1.2 The community provision for this cohort comprises the following current services for people who have eligible care needs (including under the Care Act 2014, NHS funded Continuing Healthcare and Section 117 Aftercare under the Mental Health Act 1983):

- Supported Living (including Transforming Care Specialist Supported Living)
- Live in Care
- Community Day Opportunities
- Community Complex Needs Day service
- Respite and Short Breaks for adults
- Complex Clinical Care

- 1.3 Additionally, a new framework will be commissioned as part of the community services offer to provide specialist interventions in relation to more complex disabilities, autism or mental health needs. These interventions are currently commissioned on a spot purchase basis by the CCG and the introduction of a joint framework will improve the ability to assure quality of provision and enable more timely access to specialist interventions for individuals.
- 1.4 The Learning Disability Wellbeing Hubs will also be re-procured during this timeframe to ensure alignment between these services for adults with learning disabilities, working to achieve the same priority outcomes outlined above. The current contract for the Learning Disability Wellbeing Hubs is due to expire in June 2022. The initial contract term for the Learning Disability Wellbeing Hubs will be three years. The Council will reserve the right to extend the contract up to a further two years. The contract will allow the Council to vary the service should there be a significant change in service area.
- 1.5 The current contracts for the services listed in paragraph 1.2 above were originally commissioned during 2014 to 2016 and were due to terminate between 2020 and 2021. Due to the impact of COVID-19, for those contracts that would expire before 31 March 2022 an exemption from the Council's Contract Standing Orders was approved and those contracts were extended until 31 March 2022 - enabling providers to focus on their COVID business continuity arrangements and to ensure the market had the capacity to engage and enter a procurement process.
- 1.6 The initial term of the new contracts will be five years. The Council will reserve the right to extend the contracts up to a further five years based on successful contract performance. The contracts will allow the Council to vary the service should there be a significant change in service area.
- 1.7 Redesign and re-procurement of community provision for adults with disabilities and/or mental health needs is necessary in the context of a focus on personalisation and outcomes, changes in operational processes and the need for market sustainability as well as to help manage rising demand and complexity and associated cost pressures,.

- 1.8 Due to the broad scope of service redesign and the need to engage in a COVID compliant way, a phased approach was undertaken to engaging with people with disabilities or mental health needs, their families and the provider market between October 2020 and June 2021. Over 400 contacts occurred via a mix of online workshops, surveys and telephone interviews.
- 1.9 Feedback from engagement activity has been used to design the service model. The purpose of care and support commissioned through this model is enabling people with disabilities, neurodevelopmental conditions or mental health to live good and fulfilling lives by being supported to achieve the things that are important to them. These priorities are summarised below:

Strategic priority	Outcomes for people
My Home life	People have a home of their own. They have a safe and secure place to live where their needs can be met by skilled support staff when needed. People are supported to be more independent
My Work Life	People have job opportunities and make a valued contribution to the local workforce through paid employment, voluntary work or work experience.
My Social Life	People are supported to make friends and maintain relationships with the people that are important to them,
My Healthy Lifestyle	People are well and healthy and are supported to access health care and health promotion services
My Family Life	Carers are supported to have fulfilling lives

- 1.10 The service model will deliver these outcomes by commissioning personalised support that is responsive, flexible, affordable and builds on people's strengths and assets. The following principles underpin the co-produced service model:
- Support will be focussed on building independence and empowering people to make a contribution to their local community through making best use of existing community assets.
 - Providers will be commissioned to support people to achieve their outcomes, rather than specifying a certain number of hours or days of support.
 - Customers and families will have greater choice in how support is delivered through providers being given the flexibility to adjust support as required within the allocated budget, rather than the current time and task focussed service model.
 - Providers will be encouraged to build partnerships with each other and community organisations to ensure person centred joint working with people and families.
 - There will be a range of provision reflecting varying levels of complexity of needs and specialist skills required.

- Co-production with people with lived experience and their families will continue to drive and shape the implementation of the new model.

2. Financial Implications

- 2.1 The total annual value of the framework contracts per annum is approximately £35,000,000 for the Council (funded by Adult Social Care) and approximately £11,000,000 for the CCG. The five-year contract period being requested in this report equates to a total approximate value of £230,000,000, comprising £175,000,000 for the Council and £55,000,000 for the CCG
- 2.2 There is a Medium Term Financial Saving (MTFS) of £500,000 attached to this re-procurement for the Council, £200,000 to be realised in year 1 and £300,000 in year 2 of the contract, representing approximately 1.43% of overall expenditure across the services over the two years.. Savings will be made by realising efficiencies through reducing duplication of support across services, increased personalisation and choice leading to better outcomes for individuals and greater ability for providers to utilise existing community assets to build independence.
- 2.3 Learning Disability Wellbeing Hubs current annual costs are £320,000 and this is funded by Adult Social Care. The three-year contract period being requested in this report equates to a total value of £960,000. There are no savings attached to the recommissioning of Wellbeing Hubs.

3. Environmental Implications

- 3.1 None

4. Supporting Information

- 4.1 This recommissioning of community services is underpinned by the Care Act, reflecting the local authority's and CCG's statutory duty to help people to achieve the outcomes that matter to them in their life. Supporting people to live as independently as possible, for as long as possible, is a guiding principle of the Care Act, as is enabling choice for people and families about how care and support are delivered.
- 4.2 Current service provision in scope of this re-procurement is as follows:
- 4.2.1 Supported Living
- Supported living services offer support to individuals to live as independently as possible within their own home. Traditionally they are for adults over 18, however the services are also offered to young people aged 16 and 17 where that is appropriate to support transition to adulthood.

The main principles of supported living are that people own or rent their home and have control over the support they receive, who they live with and how they live their lives.

The commissioning arrangements include commissioning the care itself and not the commissioning of accommodation. However, some supported living care providers also provide accommodation through a separate housing organisation within their business.

A specialist supported living framework is in place for people with complex behaviours that challenge and or forensic needs, including supporting people that have been discharged from long stay hospital placements.

4.2.2 Live in Care

Live-in care refers to a 24-hour care and support arrangement where a support worker spends the day and night with a customer. Traditionally they are for adults over 18, however live in care is also offered to young people aged 16 and 17 where that is appropriate to support transition to adulthood.

The support worker may sleep during the night. Although their sleep may be interrupted at night to assist the customer, they are guaranteed adequate nightly sleep and down-time.

The support worker is typically given a designated amount of time off each day, week and month as agreed with the customer and provider (i.e., 2 hours per day, one weekend each month or longer). At this time replacement care is provided as agreed with the customer.

4.2.3 Community Day Opportunities

The main aims of day opportunities services are to support individual customers to access meaningful activities in their community that reflect their needs and interests; deliver personalised outcomes, increase choice and equality of access; and deliver consistent, value for money services. These may be delivered from a building base or in the community.

Day services and complex needs day services are currently only commissioned for adults age 18+, but through the new model the offer will be extended to young people aged 16 and 17 to support transition.

4.2.4 Respite and Short Breaks

Respite and short breaks provide opportunities for adults (16+) with a disability to spend time away from their primary carers with the benefit of giving an unpaid carer a break from their caring role. The short break can be provided in the community during the day, overnight or in a residential respite facility.

4.2.5 Complex Clinical Care

Complex clinical care requires a skilled staff member to be deemed competent and have received delegation from a qualified nurse to perform

that task. It may be delivered in a domiciliary, supported living or live in care setting. Complex clinical care services are commissioned and paid for by the CCG.

4.2.6 Learning Disability Wellbeing Hubs

The Learning Disability Wellbeing Hubs support adults (16+) with learning disabilities by offering a community base that can deliver access to information, advice, and signposting, and can build community connections and inclusion. The Wellbeing Hubs are part of the universal offer in the community for people with disabilities or autism and do not require people to be eligible for support under the Care Act.

The service aims to deliver outcomes for individuals under the following headings:

- Improving emotional wellbeing
- Enhancing community life
- Providing prevocational employment support
- Improving physical health

4.3 Specialist Interventions (new framework)

An additional framework will facilitate better access to providers of specialist interventions for adults and children of all ages. Specialist interventions are required in some cases to inform care, support and treatment in the community, including for those individuals who would otherwise require admission to hospital. The term 'specialist interventions' includes services such as:

- Specialist Positive Behavioural Support packages of care
- Specialist autism assessments and/or profiles
- Specialist forensic assessments
- Specialist Mental Capacity assessments
- Neurodevelopmental (Autism and ADHD) diagnostic assessments
- Trauma Informed support

4.4 The Care Act outlines the duty on commissioning organisations to integrate social care and health services. The development of integrated commissioning arrangements for community services therefore supports both the Care Act and the planned move towards an integrated care system for Warwickshire and Coventry.

4.5 Section 75 agreements are made between local authorities and NHS bodies and can include arrangements for pooling resources and delegating certain NHS and local authority health-related functions to the other partner/s. In this case, a section 75 agreement will enable the Council to manage the procurement of community services on behalf of the CCG and enter into contracts on behalf of the CCG and the Council. This will be facilitated via the existing integrated commissioning function for disabilities and autism, which is hosted by the Council and jointly funded with the CCG. The CCG and the Council will maintain their current responsibilities to assess individuals' needs and commission and pay for care and support for individuals via their separate budgets.

5. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

- 5.1 The timescales for the procurement exercise are as follows;
- August 2021 – tender process commences
 - December 2021 – contracts awarded
 - January to March 2022 – mobilisation of new contract arrangements
 - April 2022 – Services/contracts start

Appendices

None

Background Papers

None

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