

**Report for:** Cabinet

**Item number:** 17

**Title:** Community Equipment Framework

**Report authorised by:** Beverley Tarka, Director of Adult Social Services

**Lead Officer:** Pauline Walker-Mitchell, Head of Adaptations Service

**Ward(s) affected:** All

**Report for Key/**

**Non Key Decision:** Key

## **1. Describe the issue under consideration**

- 1.1 The scope of the Community Equipment Service includes the supply, delivery, fitting/installation, adjustments, service/testing, collection, refurbishment, recycling and disposal of equipment. The provision of community equipment enables individuals to remain independent within their own home reducing the need for ongoing social and health care. Currently there is a Framework Agreement in place with Medequip Assistive Technology Ltd (Medequip) to provide community equipment for Haringey. This is accessed by over 600 prescribers across Health and Social Care.
- 1.2 This Framework Agreement expires 31 March 2017. To ensure continuity of service, the Consortium with Hammersmith & Fulham as the lead borough, carried out a tendering exercise using the OJEU process for a new equipment provider.
- 1.3 Medequip were successful and have been awarded the new contract of four years with the option to extend for a further two years.

## **2. Cabinet Member Introduction**

- 2.1 The continued use of a Framework Agreement with Medequip through the London Consortium will continue to provide an enhanced responsive equipment service delivery. This will provide the residents of Haringey with disabilities, the choice to remain in their own home as opposed to being a patient in a hospital bed. I therefore fully endorse this recommendation for the continued use of Medequip as the provider of complex community equipment.

## **3. Recommendations**

- 3.1 Approval is sought for Haringey to award a call off order under the Framework Agreement for the provision of Community Equipment for four years, from 1<sup>st</sup>

April 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 with the option to extend for a further two years to Medequip. With an estimated annual cost of £1.2 million in year one and £1.2 million in years two to four, equating to £5 million over the initial four year term.

#### **4. Reasons for decision**

- 4.1 The Framework Agreement has significantly enhanced service delivery and has been responsive to the increasing demands. Together with the partners in the Consortium the service has received a cost effective value for money service.
- 4.2 Haringey residents will continue to benefit from a responsive service whilst the service will benefit financially as this new Framework Agreement has secured several new benefits and improvements, including additional activity speeds to facilitate 7-day working. It is expected that the Framework Agreement will be accessed by 16 other boroughs in the London Consortium.
- 4.3 Haringey CCG will benefit from continued access to community health equipment through their current Access Agreement with Haringey Council.
- 4.4 The new contract is forecast to achieve savings for Haringey of 6.02% compared with the existing Framework. All else being equal with no change in demand, savings will range between 1.3% and 4.1% in the first year. A substantial proportion of the savings will come from lower cost equipment.

#### **5. Alternative options considered**

- 5.1 There is no alternative to the call off order as not to agree to this would result in the residents of Haringey not receiving personal care equipment to enable them to remain independent in their own homes, resulting in individuals moving into residential/long term care.

#### **6. Background information**

- 6.1 Procurement, delivery, maintenance and collection of complex daily equipment such as hoists, beds, pressure mattresses and recliner chairs which are essential for maintaining and maximising the independence of the disabled residents of Haringey is managed by Medequip through the London Consortium Framework from a depot in Woodford Green.
- 6.2 The original Framework Agreement was awarded in June 2012 for a period up to 31 March 2015 with the option to extend for a further 2 years.
- 6.3 Agreement for a further 2 year extension of the Medequip Framework Agreement was awarded in February 2015 by the Director as allowed under CSO 9.06.1.(c). This Agreement expires 31 March 2017

## **7. Contribution to strategic outcomes**

- 7.1 This will allow Haringey to comply with their statutory obligations to provide home based support services which includes community equipment and provide continuity of service.
- 7.2 It will support the Council's Corporate Plan of Building a Stronger Haringey Together and in particular demonstrate the service's commitment to achieve the outcomes of Priority 1 in terms of children and young people who need extra help receiving equipment to support them. Priority 2 by Enabling all adults to long, healthy and fulfilling lives with control over what is important to them.

## **8. Statutory Officers Comments (Chief Finance Officer (including procurement), Assistant Director of Corporate Governance, Equalities)**

### **8.1 Finance Comments**

- 8.1.1 There is sufficient budget within Cost Centre AH0221 to cover the £1.2m annual contract spend.

### **8.2 Legal Comments**

- 8.2.1 When awarding a contract the Council is required to comply with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (PCR).
- 8.2.2 The Council is permitted (on the basis of regulations 33 and 38 PCR) to award a contract using a framework agreement established by another contracting authority (such as LB Hammersmith and Fulham) where that contracting authority complied with the PCR in procuring the framework agreement and where the procurement was designed so as to take account of at least the possibility that the Council's requirements would be the subject of the call-off.
- 8.2.3 The Council must ensure that the call-off contract is awarded in the form and using the process set out in the framework agreement (in particular using the Order Form/Call-Off Contract set out at in Schedule 3 of the framework agreement).
- 8.2.4 The Assistant Head of Corporate Governance is not aware of any legal reasons preventing the approval of the recommendations in paragraph 3 of this report.

### **8.3 Equalities comments**

- 8.3.1. In formulating policies the Council has had regard to its public sector equality duty under the Equality Act 2010, which requires it to have due regard to:
- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act;
  - advance equality of opportunity between people who share a 'protected characteristic' and people who do not;

- foster good relations between people who share a relevant 'protected characteristic' and people who do not.

8.3.2 The 'protected characteristics' are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex (formerly gender) and sexual orientation. They also cover marriage and civil partnership with regards to eliminating discrimination.

8.3.3. Extending the framework will have a positive impact on continue to provide disabled people with equipment to help them live long, fulfilling and healthy lives without the need for social care.

8.3.4. The framework will follow procurement processes which comply with the Equality Act 2010.

## **9. Use of Appendices**

9.1 Not applicable.

## **10. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

10.1 Not applicable.