

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER SOCIAL SERVICES AND HEALTH
15 FEBRUARY 2005**

PRESENT: Councillor Katherine Wynne, Executive Member Social Services and Health.

1. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no such items.

2. DECLARATIONS BY EXECUTIVE MEMBER OF INTERESTS IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

No declarations were made.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 1 February 2005 be approved and signed.

4. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations.

5. SUBSTANCE MISUSE CONTRACTS: REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF REQUIREMENT TO TENDER (Report of the Director of Social Services – Agenda Item 6):

This item was the subject of a motion to exclude the press and public from the meeting as it contained exempt information relating to terms proposed or to be proposed by or to the authority in the course of negotiations for a contract for the acquisition or disposal of property or the supply of goods and services and to terms proposed or to be proposed by or to the authority in the course of negotiations for a contract for the acquisition or disposal of property or the supply of goods and services.

It was noted that the substance misuse contracts consisted of two crisis rehabilitation services currently provided by Odyssey Trust (City Road) and Rugby House and of two care management and assessment contracts provided by Haringey Advisory Group on Alcohol (HAGA) and Drugs Advisory Service Haringey (DASH). Contracts had been awarded to HAGA and DASH in 1999 for 5 years. Contracts had also initially been awarded to Rugby House and Odyssey Trust City Road in 1996, with new 2-year contracts put in place since 2002. These contracts were due to expire on 30 September 2005 and 31 March 2005 respectively.

It was also noted that these contract were linked as the care management and assessment fed in to the crisis drug and alcohol rehabilitation service and were integrated into a joint strategy to provide a joined-up, seamless range of treatment services across Social Services and Health to combat substance misuse and ultimately to provide safer communities for all residents in Haringey. The crisis rehabilitation contracts were jointly commissioned with the Health Service, while the commissioning of

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crisis bed-nights agreed were negotiated annually with the Service Manager.

Odyssey Trust and Rugby House had been identified as the sole London suppliers of these specialist residential drug and alcohol residential crisis rehabilitation services and a waiver of Contract Standing Order 6.4 (requirement to tender) was sought on the basis that the nature of the market for the services to be provided had been investigated and was demonstrated to be such that a departure from that requirement was justifiable in accordance with Contract Standing Order 7.3(a).

In addition, HAGA and DASH as specialist providers of assessment and care management services represented good value for money and it was in the overall interests of the Council under Contract Standing Order 7.3(d) to award the contracts for specialist care management and assessment for alcohol and drug mis-users to HAGA and DASH without engaging in a tendering exercise. Also as the only providers of this service in Borough they were accessible to borough residents.

It was further noted that the Social Services Directorate had established an excellent relationship with these providers and were happy with the quality of service provided. The contracts with the providers had been monitored regularly and continued to represent a good and invaluable service, which the Directorate was keen to continue with Health Service partners to reduce substance misuse and help to achieve the Council's vision of safer communities.

Confirmation having been sought that these were four separate contracts within the same service area and that there was no legal reason preventing the Executive Member from approving the waiver recommendation proposed, attention was drawn to the comments of the Head of Legal Services that because of the value of the contracts the waiver had to be approved by the Executive Member in accordance with Contract Standing Order 7.2(c) and that should the waiver be agreed then the Director would award all four contracts in accordance with Contract Standing Order 11.2.

RESOLVED:

1. That, in accordance with Contract Standing Order 7.2(c), approval be granted to the waiver of Contract Standing Order 6.4 (Requirement to Tender) to enable the substance misuse contracts to be awarded to Odyssey Trust (City Road), Rugby House, Haringey Advisory Group on Alcohol (HAGA) and Drugs Advisory Service Haringey (DASH) for the reasons outlined above.
2. That, in accordance with Contract Standing Order 11.2, the decision to award the contracts be made by the Director of Social Services on the terms set out in paragraph 7.1 of the interleaved report for a period of 3 years subject to any increase in line with inflation.
3. That, subject to satisfactory monitoring information having been provided to the Executive Member and to the availability of funding from the Department of Health, the Director be authorised to extend the contract for a period of up to two years as appropriate.

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KATHERINE WYNNE
Executive Member Social Services and Health