

APPENDIX 1 Criteria agreed by cabinet member for Adult, Culture and Community Services on 24 February 2011

Adult, Culture and Community Services proposed approach for assessing funding for Supporting People Organisations 2011/12

Unlike those services assessed for Area Based Grant Funding in Adult, Culture & Community Services, the Supporting People programme not only operates under different criteria, it also needs to re-evaluate the future direction of the programme with significantly less money, due to the cuts being imposed. With that in mind, notwithstanding the requirement to secure savings by 1 April 2011 the criteria being followed by SP is that of the longer term services that shall be needed to re-model the programme. This is consistent with the report presented to Cabinet on 8th February 2011, where in principle agreement was given to the removal of £5m from the Supporting People programme. The Council is unable to comply with the suggested time limits for consultation set out in the Local Compact guidance due to the necessity to take timely decisions in respect of budgetary decisions for 2011/12. The Council is therefore proposing a lesser consultation period and would request that responses to this consultation are submitted by 5.00pm 18th March 2011.

Services are being measured against 2 criteria:

Criteria 1

Services with an annual contract value of £850,000 and above will be subject to a contract review with the existing contractors with a view to finding significant savings. This recognises that a large part of the Supporting People budget is spent with on these existing contracts and significant savings will need to be found in these contracts in order to make the overall savings to the Supporting People budget.. The Council is contractually committed to funding these contracts post April 2011 and therefore will need to enter contract negotiations to achieve the savings requirements.

There is a significant difference in value of the contracts, with smaller contracts providing completely different services: it has therefore been necessary to identify those contracts that have the highest value within the current programme in order to ensure that the Council is able to achieve significant savings whilst continuing to provide essential services. Smaller contracts affect a smaller proportion of the borough but may also represent how the programme is meeting niche needs – it is therefore essential that they are examined using specific criteria as set out below.

Criteria 2

Lower value contracts will be marked on criteria as listed below and the total score will determine whether the service is to:

- (i) end on 31 March 2011
- (ii) end at a subsequent agreed date
- (iii) continue at a reduced contract value
- (iv) continue at the existing contract value
- (v) continue at the existing contract value, subject to review

	Criteria		max	Maximum Score
1	Strategic Relevance			10
2	Impact	5	10	10
3	Contract Capacity	5	10	10
4	Other significant factors	0	5	5
				35

Proposed evaluation process for those contracts falling into criteria 2

1. Strategic Relevance

All existing SP Providers have Strategic Relevance, as they provide housing related support and to end a service in the SP programme would, potentially, lead to a breakdown in appropriate support and possible transfer to an alternative, more expensive service. 10 points are awarded for Strategic Relevance.

2. Impact

There will be an impact on other services (including Council services), with the removal of SP services on this scale. This score relates to the decision on future funding from the SP grant, which removes an SP funded service from the programme and potentially transfers services delivery to another, more expensive service.

It has been deemed that there will be less of an impact with the withdrawal of floating support services, as opposed to accommodation based services, except where there is a contract capacity in excess of 300 service users.

The rationale for this, is that, Accommodation-based services meet the greater housing needs of the Borough; there is a need to retain as much stock as possible across all tenure types. To remove accommodation based services, would not only lose valuable stock but increase homelessness.

By contrast, in recognising that Floating Support services help maintain tenancies, there is also a statutory responsibility upon the Council to provide support where no other exists.

Floating Support services will be awarded 5 points and Accommodation-based services will be awarded 10 points.

3. Contract Capacity

Providers who have a contract capacity below 360 will be awarded 5 points. It is deemed that a Provider who has a contract capacity greater than 360, and therefore has greater throughputs (where an average duration for short term interventions is deemed to be 3 months), shall be awarded 10 points.

4. Other significant factors

It is possible that areas of Provider activity, or other sources of funding will be highlighted which may have a positive or negative influence on the status of the service after application of the other criteria and this needs to be taken into account. For example, other sources of funding.

Where this is proven to be the case, an award of 5 points can be given with reasons.

Provisional Determination

- (i) **end on 31 March 2011**
Where a service scores 20 points, or below and the contract is due to end on 31 March 2011, then, the service will end on 31 March 2011.
- (ii) **end at a subsequent agreed date**
Where a service scores 20 points, or below and there is a pre-existing agreement of a different termination date, the service will end on that date.
- (iii) **continue at a reduced contract value**
Where a service scores 25 points, or above and there is a Procurement Committee approval for a new contract, but at a reduced rate, the service will continue for the agreed period and at the agreed reduced rate.
- (iv) **continue at the existing contract value**
Where a service scores 25 points, or above and has been reviewed and Procurement Committee approval granted for a new contract, the service will continue for the agreed period at that agreed rate.
- (v) **continue at the existing contract value, subject to review**
Where a service scores 25 points, or above and was not fully reviewed in 2010/11, the contract will continue at the existing contract value, until its expiry date, subject to the renegotiation at any time of these terms, such renegotiation may include a reduced contract value and/or term..

Note: Any decisions will be subject to compliance with the Council's Contract Standing Orders and none of the above prejudices the Council's ability to renegotiate any contracts on more favorable terms.