

South Area Council – Procurement and Financial Update

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To provide an update on two South Area Council contracts which are completing their first year of a one year plus one year contract in the following quarter of the year.
- 1.2 To consider the information from the two contracts who are presenting at the South Area Council meeting on the 31st July 2020.
- 1.3 To consider recommendations presented in this report.
- 1.4 To note information on current commissioned services and contracts.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That Members note the presentations at this meeting by Age UK Barnsley and Private Sector Housing Officer with regards to recommending a further year.
- 2.2 That Members note the performance information in Appendices 2 and 3 and contract review information for contracts completing their first year.
- 2.3 That Members recommend the continuation of the Age UK Barnsley Better Together Service (£59,560) for a further year based on the continued performance of the service, continued and increased need due to Covid 19 evidenced through target numbers achieved and the availability of South Area Council Funding.
- 2.4 That Members recommend the increase in the Private Sector Housing Officer hours from 30 hours to 37 hours for the continuation of the contract for a further year. The 37 hours post would be an increase from £ 26,480 to £32,580. The cost would be £6100, the £32,580 full time equivalent costs has been previously agreed when the post initially went out for recruitment. The recommendation is based on the continued performance of the Private Sector Housing Officer service, continued and increased need due to Covid 19 and the availability of South Area Council Funding.

3. Contract review

- 3.1 The South Area Council commission the Age UK Barnsley ‘Better Together’ service and the Private Sector Housing Officer post which are subject to a one-year review of performance, continued need and funding. The contracts are all commissioned on a one year plus a further one-year basis with the second year being approved if the contract is meeting its targets, outcomes and milestones, if there is evidence of continued need and if the funding is still available.

3.2 Age UK Barnsley ‘Better together’, service overview:

- New Service from October 19, £59,560 per year, 2yr contract, 2 Social Inclusion Workers
- Service commissioned to tackle loneliness and isolation, increase independence & health and well-being
- Target population considered vulnerable owing to loss of income, mobility, employment or partner bereavement



Since October 19 (further information in quarterly contract report, Appendix 2):

- 131 1:1 referrals in 9 months against an annual contract target of 130. 78 have been during Covid 19
- Good neighbour relationships developed = 44. Annual target = 30. 30 of these relationships have been during Covid 19
- Increase in people accessing services as a result of this contract = 444 against a target of 150
- 29 people helped to tackle fuel poverty
- £103,612 in benefits gain reported through the Information and advice support worker providing guidance to people unable to attend CAB drop ins or access IT solutions
- Support provided to over 50s during Covid 19. It is known that older people have been asked to shield for longer than other parts of the community and this has had an enormous impact on people's lives particularly in terms of isolation. This contract is addressing both emotional and physical support needed.

Better Together Service

**Darfield, Hoyland Milton
Rockingham & Wombwell**



**Supporting people aged 50+
to meet others and enjoy later life**



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- 3.3 Prior to Covid 19 the contractor was meeting the targets set for the contract and fully meeting the requirements set out for the project and the established needs in the community, providing a high-quality service. During Covid 19 this provider have flexed its contract in order to meet emerging needs. The service was available from the 1st day of lockdown, when many people did not know how they

would be able to get necessities. As you can see from the quarterly performance report (Appendix 2) the service liaised closely with Social Prescribing, Social Services, Memory Team Carers Services and GP surgeries to quickly adapt its provision and still maintain its relevancy as a service during Covid 19.

3.4 Examples of feedback submitted in the quarterly report from:

"Thank you once again for your help. It is important to me to know that there is someone reliable that can help him with his groceries." IR son of older person living in Rockingham Ward

"Thank you so much for what you have been doing." MT, Wombwell

"I don't have anyone around and it's lovely of you to ring me every week for a chat and to see how I am. I really look forward to it" AF, Hoyland Milton

"I can't thank you enough for what you are doing for me. All your staff are very good and doing a great job." DO, Darfield



Enjoying the Gardening Activity

3.5 Based on the continued performance of the Age UK Barnsley 'Better Together Service' continued and increased need due to Covid 19 evidenced through target numbers achieved and the availability of South Area Council Funding the South Area Council are being asked to agree the continuation of the contract for a further year. The contract continues to meet the South Area Council priorities of access to local information and advice, improving the local economy and changing the relationship between the Council and the community.

3.6 **Private Sector Housing Officer Post, service overview:**

- Tackling poor quality private rented housing stock
- Internal Service Level agreement with BMBC Community Safety
- £32,580 FTE per year up to Sept 2021

- Property inspections and support for landlords and tenants
 - Powers to issue formal notices
 - No need for a referral
 - Lucy Raynor on 07769246239
 - The Private Sector Housing officer has continued to offer support to landlords and tenants throughout Covid 19, initially moving all support to telephone assistance.
 - The officer has been instrumental in helping the South Area team supporting people needing additional help/ interventions in the area during Covid 19. The post holder has been the main point of contact when communication has stopped with a person being supported. The post holder has carried out welfare checks, carried out informal needs assessments and put support in place including making referrals for people needing assistance. Knowing the area, the housing stock and local networks has enabled a quick and valuable response.
 - The officer has distributed call centre leaflets, promoted support services and carried out patrols across the South advising on Council and partner services where appropriate.
 - This post continues to meet the South Area Council priorities of Improving the environment, access to local information and advice and changing the relationship between the Council and the Community.
 - Further information (Appendix 3- quarterly contract report)
- 3.7 The current post holder has a contract for 30 hours per week and was recruited on these hours. The post however, has always remained on BMBC structures as a full time equivalent (FTE) 37 hours position so that, if needed, the post could be re advertised and recruited to as a full-time post at any time in the future.
- 3.8 At the South Area Council meeting on the 25th October 2019 the South Area Council Members recommended to ringfence funding to enable a second year of the current post at 30 hours until the end of September 2021, subject to performance, funding and needs still being current.
- 3.9 The post holder is now in a position to fulfil the 37 hours per week, as such this report recommends increasing the hours to the original 37 hours. The 37 hours post will be an increase from £ 26,480 to £32,580. The cost would be £6100.
4. Based on the continued performance of the Private Sector Housing Officer service, continued and increased need due to Covid 19 and the availability of South Area Council Funding the South Area Council is being asked to agree the increase in officer hours from 30 hours to 37 hours for the continuation of the contract for a further year.

5. Current contracts and commissioned services:

Contract	Start date	End date	Total Contract Value
South Tidy Team	01/04/19	31/03/2021	£189,955 + £181,721
Advice service	01/07/2019	30/06/2021	£79,572 + £79,572
Environmental enforcement	01/04/2019	31/03/2021	£14,956 + £18,220
BMBC Environmental enforcement	01/04/2019	31/03/2021	£2735 + £5000
Private Sector Housing officer	02/09/2019	30/09/2021	£26,480 + £26,480
Tackling Social Isolation	01/09/19 Contract review TBC	31/08/21	£59,960 + £59.960
Healthy Holidays – WA top up	01/02/19	Ongoing	£10,000 (£2500 per ward)
Functional fitness MOT Training	TBC	TBC	£1200
South Health and Wellbeing Fund:			£24,870 public health, £938 SAC
- TADS for Wellbeing	01/07/19	30/06/2020	£4,110
- Young Wellbeing Ambassadors	01/07/19	30/06/2020	£4,450
- DIAL Community workshops	01/07/19	30/06/200	£2,400
- Fairshare Yorkshire, Step forward programme	01/12/19	30/06/2020	£4,850
- Reds in the community	01/11/19	30/06/2020	£4998
- Wombwell men in sheds	01/11/19	30/06/2020	£5000

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