

DECISION RECORD ¹

Officer Key Decisions are subject to the Council's Call-In Procedure (Annex 9 of the Council's Constitution <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/about-the-council/freedom-of-information-and-council-data/open-data-statistics-about-hertfordshire/who-we-are-and-what-we-do/who-we-are-and-what-we-do.aspx>)

Subject: Provision of Housing Related Support services – Award of Contract	
Staff Contact: Helen Gledhill	Executive Member: Stella Nash
Tel: 01438 843617	Portfolio: Adult Care & Health

1. **Decision**

Extend Housing Related Support services by way of Single Tender Action for 2 years – contracts will be extended to March 2024.

2. **Reasons for the decision**

To enable the time to continue building on the relationships established with Districts, review contracts, evaluate current service provision, including a number of pilot projects, and conduct consultation with the market and stakeholders, in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic.

This will inform the future model and enable HCC to conduct a robust procurement exercise, which achieves value for money. Critically, HCC will be able to develop a service model that is driven by service user level involvement and experience.

3. **Alternative options considered and rejected ²**

Go out to the market and commission services for a period of two years, from April 2022.

Housing partners and providers are working on exit planning for COVID throughout 2021, upon easing of restrictions. Going out to procure services in 2021 will cause instability and directly impact service users, in what has already been a demanding 15-month period across the system.

The alternative option will also not enable HCC to meet its strategic ambitions to develop an evidence-based solution to complex needs services, due to various interdependent pilot projects, whose timelines do not align to this option. These projects will provide learning and analysis to be incorporated into future service model

This alternative option does not take into consideration the unprecedented wider funding streams that have been put in place across the county during the COVID-19 pandemic. Going out to the market in 2021 would not enable these funding streams to be consulted on and incorporated into a sustainable future model across the system.

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4. Consultation

- (a) Comments of Executive Member ^{3 4}
- (b) Comments of other consultees ⁵

5. Following consultation with, and the concurrence of the Executive Member, I am proceeding with the proposed decision.

Signed:

Title: Director Adult Care Services

Date: 13.07.21

6. Copies of agreed document to:

- All consultees
- Chairman, and Vice-Chairmen of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Hard & electronic copy available for public inspection both at County Hall and on www.hertfordshire.gov.uk Democratic Services - Room 213 County Hall. democratic.services@hertfordshire.gov.uk

¹ for guidance see Chief Legal Officer's note "Taking Decisions"

² details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the officer at the time the decision was made

³ record any conflict of interest declared by any Executive Member consulted. If an Executive Member declares a conflict of interest DO NOT PROCEED without seeking advice from the Chief Legal Officer

⁴ If the matter has general significance for the Council and/or is, or is likely to be, controversial, then the officer shall consult the appropriate Executive Member before proceeding. In some cases it will be necessary to consult more than one Executive Member, and in some cases the Leader of the Council will need to be consulted

⁵ If the matter has local significance, but no general significance for the Council and no controversial aspects, the officer shall consult or inform the local member in writing (or by e mail) and proceed. It is essential that all officers responsible for delivering services ensure that local members are kept well briefed on issues affecting their areas.