

Decision under Delegated Powers

Officer Requesting Decision

Sally Harbey, Principal Officer – Supported Housing

Officer Making the Decision

Christine Ansell, Head of Landlord Services

Recommendation

To enter into a contract on behalf of the Council with Leicestershire County Council Supporting People for the provision of Supporting People services and receipt of the associated grant.

Reason

To enable the Council to receive funding through the Supporting People funding stream provided by the Government through the Administering authority Leicestershire County Council.

Authority for Decision

Section 8.1 of the constitution states that "officers with delegated authority are able to take such action as may in his or her opinion be necessary or appropriate in connection with:

- (i) all operational management matters for those functions and service areas for which he or she has;..."

The Council has received grant for Supporting People and delivered Supporting People services for a number of years. This decision therefore reflects the continuation of a longstanding arrangement. The requirement by the County Council to sign an agreement arises from its wish to extend the existing arrangements following a tendering process in 2013 which did not result in a new provider being commissioned. Authority is therefore available to the Strategic Director of Housing, Planning and Regeneration, and Regulatory Services to enter into this agreement.

Decision and Date

Agreed	CHRISTINE ANSELL	20.6.14
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Background

Supporting People grant is a funding stream which was introduced by the Government on 1st April 2003, following a review of the housing benefit regime. The grant is paid to service providers who deliver supported housing

services to customers. Within the housing service, support is provided to elderly and vulnerable persons in sheltered housing complexes and to those in accommodation with community alarm provision.

The Supporting People regime is not an optional scheme, but a funding stream which was introduced by the Government, which affects all providers of supported housing.

When Supporting People grant was first introduced, Leicestershire County Council (LCC) allocated it on an interim basis, based on the services provided at a particular point in time. The monitoring and performance regime has since been developed. There have been several extensions to the contract over the years.

In June 2013 LCC Cabinet took the decision to recommission this service and undertook a tendering process. This process did not result in a new provider being commissioned so LCC have requested that existing providers continue to deliver under the same terms and conditions for a further year.

Comments from HR

HR Advisor: Anna Cairns (21/5/14)

On the information contained in this DD the reasons behind the extension to these contracts has no implications from HR perspective

HR seen recommendations: Yes

Financial Implications

The income from Supporting People grant stream is included in the overall Housing Revenue Account. In 2014/15 the funding is £551,711.68. The level of funding is based on the number of units in the stock that receive supported housing services. This exceeds the budgeted income for Supporting People which is £491,600. This was reduced following an expected reduction in the grant income which hasn't occurred with this final LCC contract offer.

This funding is for the financial year 2014/15, however there is the option to extend the contract to September 2015 and payments will be made pro rata.

Risk Management

Risk Identified	Likelihood	Impact	Risk Management Actions Planned
In order to ensure the continuation of the funding stream, CBC will need to comply with the	L	H	There is an ongoing assessment and appraisal process which determines the quality of the services being delivered against the contract requirements

Risk Identified	Likelihood	Impact	Risk Management Actions Planned
requirements of the contract.			

Key Decision:

No as this is an existing funding stream

Background Papers:

DD Supporting People - Sep 08
LCC Cabinet report – June 2013