

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 13th March 2025

REPORTING OFFICER: Executive Director, Adult Services

PORTFOLIO: Adult Social Care

SUBJECT: Contract for the Provision of Day, Residential & Nursing Home Care Contract

WARD(S): Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To seek an extension of the current contract for the provision of day, residential and nursing home care.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Board:

- 1) **note the contents of the report; and**
- 2) **confirms their approval for an extension to the current contract for the provision of day, residential and nursing home care for a period of two years from 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2027 for care homes in the Borough to continue placements on a spot purchase basis.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 It is a key priority for Halton Borough Council to ensure the provision of a range of good quality services to support adults requiring commissioned care in the Borough. The Care Act 2014 has put this on a statutory footing requiring the Local Authority to offer a choice of diverse high quality services that promote wellbeing.

3.2 The care home market in Halton consists of 23 registered care homes which provide 709 beds operated by 11 different providers. The bed capacity within the care homes ranges from homes with 66 beds to smaller specialist homes.

3.3 The original Executive Board report in 2020 requested a contract for Day, Residential and Nursing Home Care was for three years with an option to extend for a further two years. However, the contract that was issued was for five years with an option to extend for a further two years.

3.4 The current contract is due to expire on 31st March 2027 however this paper requests Executive Board confirms their approval for a period of extension of two years to the current contract for the provision of day, residential and nursing home care.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 None identified.

5.0 **OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 An extension to the Care Home contract would mean that we continue to work within the current agreed financial structure for procuring placements with residential and nursing care providers. An annual inflationary uplift will continue to be applied in April 2025 in line with current process.

6.0 **IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

6.1 **Improving Health, Promoting Wellbeing and Supporting Greater Independence**

The continuation of the contract will help secure sustainable and diverse adult social care support for people focusing on outcomes, wellbeing, quality, and choice, where service users will be safer and enjoy a better quality of life.

6.2 **Building a Strong, Sustainable Local Economy**

Adult Social Care will work with providers to maximise employment opportunities within the local community.

6.3 **Supporting Children, Young People and Families**

None identified.

6.4 **Tackling Inequality and Helping Those Who Are Most In Need**

The continuation of the contract will help secure sustainable and diverse adult social care support for people focusing on outcomes, wellbeing, quality, and choice, where service users will be safer and enjoy a better quality of life.

6.5 **Working Towards a Greener Future**

Adult Social Care will continue to work with providers to identify alternative approaches to support them with financial pressures e.g. training, procurement and alternative approaches to the delivery of care, including technology.

6.6 **Valuing and Appreciating Halton and Our Community**

None identified.

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 There are no significant risks associated with extending the contract which might otherwise warrant going out to re-procurement. Any individual performance issues can be managed using the provisions within the existing contract.

8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 Agencies working under contract to the Council are expected to comply with the Council's policies relating to Ethnicity and Cultural Diversity as well as promoting social inclusion of some of the most disadvantaged people in the Borough.

9.0 **CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 Adult Social Care will work continuously with providers to ensure services maximise the use of technology and exploit service innovations that support the Council's commitment for a greener environment.

10.0 **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

10.1 'None under the meaning of the Act'.