

OFFICER DECISION NOTICE



Reading
Borough Council
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This notice is to be used for the following types of officer decisions. (Select one option).

☒ **A.** Decisions taken by officers under a specific express delegation from Council or a Committee.

☐ **B.** Decisions taken by officers under a general delegation from Council or a Committee, which relates to (i) a permission or a licence, or (ii) the rights of an individual, or (iii) a contract or expenditure over which materially affects that relevant local government body's financial position.

1. Title of decision:	Care Provider Contract Extensions for Extra Care
2. Date of the decision:	29 November 2024
3. The decision maker:	Executive Director – Communities & Adult Social Care (DCASC)

4. Decision details:

It is the decision of the Executive Director for Communities & Adult Social Care using their delegated authority, and in consultation with Councillor Paul Gittings, to award contract extensions with 1. Care Outlook Ltd and 2. G P Homecare Ltd for the provision of an on-site care provider at 3 Extra Care Schemes each within the Borough (6 in total).

This is in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rule 20 (2).

The contract extensions will be for a period of 3 years each. These contract extensions will begin on 01/06/2025 and end on the 31/05/2028.

5. Reasons for the decision:

Extra Care provides an integrated housing and care community solution whereby residents access continuous or periodic support to meet their needs. Extra Care supports vulnerable adults to live well and independently at home.

6. Alternative options considered (if any) and rejected:

No Extension

This would result in needing to commission homecare framework providers to provide support at the Extra Care Schemes at a greater cost and decreased continuity of care for residents. On-site care management presence would cease. Background support would cease or require separate commissioning. Nighttime support would have to be commissioned separately at the higher homecare framework rate.

Re-tender both contracts

The contract reviews indicated that current provision provides good value and it is unlikely that better value could be achieved through retendering.

Direct Award to an Alternative Provider

The Council's Contract Procedure Rules determine that this is not possible due to the contract value and anti-competitive nature. The current contracts offer good value so the Council would not seek to award directly to another provider.

Extend for 1 year or 2 years

The Council's intention is to work with the service providers to complete development work over the next 3 years. A short-term extension of 1-2 years will not allow enough time for completion of this work prior to re-procurement of the services.

7. List of open Background Papers:

N/A

8. List of confidential or exempt Background Papers:

N/A

9. Any other matters taken into consideration:

<input type="checkbox"/> Legitimate expectation of consultation	<input type="checkbox"/> Procedural requirements
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Health implications	<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental or Climate Change
<input type="checkbox"/> Health and Safety	<input type="checkbox"/> Risk Management implications
<input type="checkbox"/> Transparency of Information (FOI etc)	<input type="checkbox"/> Privacy Impact Assessments
<input type="checkbox"/> Human Rights Act Duties	<input type="checkbox"/> Equality Impact Assessment
<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Parenting	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Safety
<input type="checkbox"/> Regulatory duties	<input type="checkbox"/> EU withdrawal
<input type="checkbox"/> Armed Forces Covenant	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

Details of the matters taken into account:

10. Legal considerations

It will be necessary to enter into contract extensions with Care Outlook Ltd and G P Homecare Ltd. The contract extensions will be for a period of 3 years each.

11. Financial considerations

The cost of the 3-year extension for G P Homecare Ltd is £2,626,627.32 and for Care Outlook Ltd is £3,076,915.30. The cost of the Contract forms part of the existing budget covered by services for Care in the Community.

12. Internal consultations

Legal Services and Finance.

Sections 13- 18: To be completed only for Decision A (express delegation from a Committee)	
13. The name of the Committee:	Adult Social Care, Children's Services and Education Committee
14. Date of the meeting:	20 October 2021
15. Minute number:	20
16. The delegation given by the Committee:	<p>That procurement be progressed to procure two Extra Care support contracts (for 141 units and 229 units respectively) to go live on 1 June 2022, with a maximum total cost as set out in the report, each contract to be for the term of 3 years with the option to extend for up to a further 3 years</p> <p>That the Executive Director Social Care and Health, in consultation with the Lead Councillor for Adult Social Care, be granted delegated authority to enter into a contract with the two successful tenderer(s) for the support/care services to be provided, at the stage of contract award (close of Q4 2021/2022) at an hourly rate range as set out in paragraph 10.2 of the report, which would be permitted for bidders in year one of the contract to ensure that the contract remained within budget (accounting for inflation) and a higher weighting would be given to price as opposed to quality to ensure that rates were competitive within this range</p>
17. The name of any member of the committee who declared a conflict of interest in relation to the decision:	N/A
18. Any councillor or officer required to be consulted prior to the exercise of this delegation and details of their response.	Lead Councillor for Adult Social Care