

**London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham**

**LEADER'S URGENCY REPORT**

**28 March 2019**



**CONTRACT EXTENSIONS FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND YOUNG PEOPLE SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION SERVICES**

**Report of the Leader – Councillor Stephen Cowan**

**Open Report**

**Exempt Appendix**

This appendix is exempt from disclosure on the grounds that it contains information relating to the **financial or business affairs of a particular person (including the authority holding that information) under paragraph 3** of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, and in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information

**Classification - For Decision**

**Key Decision: Yes**

**Other services consulted:**

Not applicable

**Wards Affected: All**

**Accountable Director:** Lisa Redfern, Strategic Director of Social Care

**Report Author:** Johanna Cooper,  
Commissioning and Transformation  
Lead, Public Services Reform

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**Reasons for Urgency:**

Due to an omission on a previous report, four contracts delivering accommodation and support to vulnerable residents in the borough are due to expire on 31 March 2019. To ensure continuity of service for vulnerable residents we are seeking a leaders' urgency decision.

**Date by which decision is required:**

As soon as possible

AUTHORISED BY:

The Leader has signed this report.....

.DATE: 18 April 2019.....

## **1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1. Between 2010 and 2013, the council commissioned four providers to deliver supported accommodation: Centrepoint to deliver a young people's service; St Christopher's to deliver a young people's assessment centre; Hestia to deliver a domestic violence refuge and Metropolitan to deliver young parents supported accommodation.
- 1.2. Two Cabinet reports were approved on 5 March 2018 to direct award four contracts for the above services for the period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019, with the option to extend for up to an additional 12 months. Letters extending the original contracts dated 21 March 2018 were issued based on the terms of the original contracts.
- 1.3. With regards to the option to extend for a further period of 12 months from 31 March 2019, explicit wording to delegate the extension decision to the Director of Adult Social Care in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member was omitted.
- 1.4. Due to expiry of the existing extension periods in respect of the Contracts set out above, approval to exercise a further extension for a duration of 12 months, from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020, is sought by way of Leaders' Urgency Decision.

## **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended the Leader:

- 2.1. approves the extension of the contract with Hestia Housing and Support to deliver a Domestic Violence Refuge for a duration of 12 months from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020, at a total value of £121,934;
- 2.2. approves the extension of the contract with St Christopher's to deliver supported accommodation to young people for the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020, at a total value of £218,475;
- 2.3. approves the extension of the contract with Centrepoint to deliver supported accommodation to young people for the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020, at a total value of £316,536; and
- 2.4. approves the extension of the contract with Metropolitan to deliver supported accommodation to young parents for the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 at a total value of £139,580.

### 3. REASONS FOR DECISION

- 3.1 To ensure continuity of service for vulnerable residents whilst Officers complete a strategic review of these services and run a procurement exercise for these services.

### 4. PROPOSAL AND ISSUES

- 4.1. Two Cabinet reports were approved on 5 March 2018: the Young People's Accommodation Services Direct Contract Award Report and the Domestic Abuse Refuges Direct Contract Award.
- 4.2. In these Cabinet reports, three direct awards for Young People's Accommodation contracts and one Domestic Violence Refuge contract were approved. This covers the period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019 with the option to extend for up to an additional 12 months. The total contract value for the two year period was approved. However, explicit wording to delegate the extension decision to the Strategic Director of Adult Social Care in consultation with the Cabinet Member was omitted.
- 4.3. This report therefore seeks approval to extend the four contracts, outlined in Table 1 for 12 months each from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020.

**Table 1**

<b>Provider</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Original contract start dates<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Current end date</b>	<b>Proposed extension end date</b>
Hestia Housing and Support	Domestic Violence Refuge	01.04.2011	31.03.2019	31.03.2020
St Christopher's	Supported accommodation for young people	17.05.2010	31.03.2019	31.03.2020
Centrepont	Supported accommodation for young people	15.03.2010	31.03.2019	31.03.2020
Metropolitan	Supported accommodation for young parents	08.04.2013	31.03.2019	31.03.2020

- 4.4. The primary objectives of the services are:

- 4.4.1. to enable residents to move on successfully and rebuild their lives;

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<sup>1</sup> Details of previous extensions were included in the Key Decision Reports approved by Cabinet on 05 March 2018: the Young People's Accommodation Services Direct Contract Award Report and the Domestic Abuse Refuges Direct Contract Award.

- 4.4.2. to enable vulnerable young people to develop the skills and resilience to be independent in adulthood;
- 4.4.3. to prevent homelessness; and
- 4.4.4. to increase the number of people in employment, training, or education.

4.5 All four contracts continue to deliver good outcomes for residents. These four contracts provide 57 units of accommodation and in 2017-18 supported 95 individuals. One of the main objectives of the services is to enable residents to move on successfully and rebuild their lives; the contracts' KPI (Key Performance Indicator) target for planned moves is 78%. All four providers cumulative planned move rate over the last two years has exceeded this target.

**Review Timetable**

4.6 All the services are being reviewed and the expected timetable to develop proposals for the future procurement strategies and business cases are outlined below. The Specialist Housing Board and Programme set up by the Public Services Reform department in 2018 will ensure a coherent strategic approach to commissioning supported accommodation services, and facilitate joint working across the council

**Indicative timetable:**

<b>Task</b>	<b>Young parents supported accommodation</b>	<b>Young People's supported accommodation</b>	<b>Domestic violence refuge</b>
Review commenced	December 2018	January 2019	April 2019
Options appraisals	April 2019	April/May 2019	May/June 2019
Consult residents and stakeholders on options	May 2019	June/July 2019	July/Aug 2019
Proposals to Cabinet	October 2019	October 2019	October 2019
New services in place	April 2020	April 2020	April 2020

**5. OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

**Allow existing contracts to expire on 31 March 2019**

5.1 The services are non-statutory and therefore the Council is not obligated to replace them when the current contract expires. However, the Council is committed to supporting women and children who have experienced domestic abuse and preventing homelessness, therefore this option is not recommended.

**Extend for an additional 12 months to the incumbent providers**

5.2 This will enable the Council sufficient time to consult with residents and other stakeholders to determine the future commissioning and procurement

strategy and ensure new services are in place to improve outcomes and value for money by April 2020.

This option is the recommended way forward.

## 6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1. The service providers have confirmed their willingness to continue to provide services as set out above. Further engagement with residents, suppliers and other stakeholders is being undertaken as part of the service review and the development of the procurement strategy.

## 7. EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1. There are no direct negative equality implications for protected groups because of the proposed extension of these contracts, under the Equality Act 2010. A continued positive impact is anticipated through service continuity, which will ensure vulnerable young people and victims of domestic violence are provided vital support and accommodation.
- 7.2. Implications completed by Fawad Bhatti, Social Inclusion Policy Manager, tel 07500 103617.

## 8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1. These are set out in the exempt appendix.

## 9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1. This report seeks approval to extend the four contracts for 12 months each from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 at a total sum of £796,525 as outlined in the table 2.

**Table 2**

<b>Provider</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Current contract end date</b>	<b>Proposed extension end date</b>	<b>Extension cost</b>	<b>Credit score %</b>
Hestia Housing and Support	Domestic Violence Refuge	31.03.2019	31.03.2020	£121,934	67%
St Christopher's	Supported accommodation for young people	31.03.2019	31.03.2020	£218,475	87%
Centrepont	Supported accommodation	31.03.2019	31.03.2020	£316,536	93%

	for young people				
Metropolitan	Supported accommodation for young parents	31.03.2019	31.03.2020	£139,580 <sup>2</sup>	Accounts provided: A+ Credit Standard & Poor's

9.2 The cost of this contract will be met from the current Supporting People General Fund budget. There are no savings implications arising from the proposed contract award.

9.3 Financial implications completed by Daniel Doherty, Finance Manager, 0208 753 4287

9.4 Financial implications verified by Emily Hill, Assistant Director, Corporate Finance, 020 8753 3145.

## 10. IMPLICATIONS FOR LOCAL BUSINESS

10.1. Implications for Local Business are detailed in the key decision reports approved by Cabinet on 5 March 2018.

## 11. COMMERCIAL IMPLICATIONS

11.1. These are set out in the exempt appendix.

## 12. IT IMPLICATIONS

12.1 No direct IT implications are considered to arise from this report as it requests approval for the extension of existing contracts for an additional 12 months. Should this not be the case, or should this change, for example, by requiring new systems to be procured or existing systems to be modified, IT Services should be consulted.

12.2 IM implications: if not already in place, (a) Privacy Impact Assessment(s) should be carried out to ensure that all the potential data protection risks around these contracts (e.g. around processing data related to victims of domestic violence or young people) are properly assessed with mitigating actions agreed and implemented.

12.3 All the above suppliers will be expected to have a GDPR policy in place and all their staff will be expected to have received GDPR training.

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<sup>2</sup> £105,220.80 for support costs and £34,359.08 for sleep-in costs

- 12.1. Any contracts arising from this report will need to include H&F's data protection and processing schedule. This is compliant with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) enacted from 25 May 2018.
- 12.2. *Implications verified/completed by: Tina Akpogheneta, Interim Head of Strategy and Strategic Relationship Manager, IT Services, tel 0208 753 5748.*

### **13. RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 13.1 The report proposals contribute positively to the H&F Vision specifically, Creating a Compassionate Council and provide essential continuity of services. A review will enable the Council to ensure that objectives continue to be met during a period of uncertainty due to Brexit when it is reasonably foreseeable that there will be increased pressures in society and demands for services.
- 13.1. Implications verified by: Michael Sloniowski Risk Manager, tel 020 8753 2587, mobile 07768 252703. David Hughes on 07817 507695 and 0207 361 2389

### **14. BACKGROUND PAPERS USED IN PREPARING THIS REPORT**

- 14.1 Cabinet reports of 5 March 2018.

### **LIST OF APPENDICES:**

Appendix 1 – Exempt information