

<b>DELEGATING THE DISCRETIONARY FUNCTION FOR THE PROVISION OF CARERS SERVICES TO CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL</b>
<b>COUNCILLOR WAYNE FITZGERALD, CABINET MEMBER FOR INTEGRATED ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH</b>
<b>25<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2020</b>
<b>Deadline date: N/A</b>

Cabinet portfolio holder: Responsible Director:	Cllr Wayne Fitzgerald, Cabinet Member for Integrated Adult Social Care and Health Wendi Ogle-Welbourn, Executive Director People and Communities Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Councils
Is this a Key Decision?	NO
Is this decision eligible for call-in?	NO
Does this Public report have any annex that contains exempt information?	NO
Is this a project and if so has it been registered on Verto?	NO

<b>R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S</b>
The Cabinet Member is recommended to authorise the delegation of the discretionary function of contracting for the provision of adult and young carers services to Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) for a period of 3 years commencing the 1 August 2020, with an optional 1 year extension.

**1. PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT**

- 1.1 This report seeks the Cabinet Member for Integrated Adult Social Care and Health to authorise delegation of the discretionary function of a preventative service for both adult and young carers services within the Peterborough area to Cambridgeshire County Council.
- 1.2 The current service for carers in Peterborough is funded through Caring Together (formerly Carers Trust Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Peterborough) to deliver a range of preventative services to both young and adult carers at an annual value of £280,000. This arrangement shall remain in place until conclusion of the new joint procurement of services. The intention is that the newly procured contract will be for 3 years from the 1 August 2020 with one optional 1 year extension.
- 1.3 This report is for Cabinet Member for Integrated Adult Social Care and Health to consider

exercising delegated authority under paragraph 3.4.3 and 3.4.4 of Part 3 of the constitution in accordance with the terms of their portfolio at paragraph (b).

## 2. **TIMESCALES**

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	<b>NO</b>	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	<b>N/A</b>
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## 3. **BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES**

3.1 PCC and CCC currently commission a range of preventative services for both adult and young carers which are due to be re-tendered. The services are designed to meet the Council's duties under the Care Act 2014 and Children and Families Act 2014 to provide support to young carers in the community. Work has been undertaken with stakeholders and service users to understand and assess the potential benefits of a joint commissioning approach, with all carer services commissioned across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough being viewed as a single entity.

3.2 This service has been discussed at the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Joint Commissioning Board, with support being given for the recommendation that resources should be brought together to provide a more consistent and comprehensive service to both adult and young carers

3.3 Peterborough City Council (PCC) & CCC are currently in the process of jointly procuring an all age preventative service for carers across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. This will replace the current contract for carers services in Peterborough which will come to an end on the 31<sup>st</sup> July 2020. This follows a detailed review of voluntary sector provision for both adult and young carers needs through a series of engagement events and the creation of an all age strategy for carers across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Approval to go out to tender was granted by CCC's Adults Committee on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2019. This CMDN is required to authorise delegation of the discretionary function of carers services from PCC to CCC which will be managed through a Delegation and Partnership Agreement. CCC shall enter into contract with the successful contractor on behalf of both authorities. The Delegation and Partnership Agreement will set out clear roles and responsibilities and PCC will maintain mechanisms for performance and financial oversight to ensure that the service meets the needs of carers in Peterborough

3.4 PCC currently invests £280,000 for the delivery of services to adult and young carers through a commissioned service delivered by Caring Together (formerly known as the Carers Trust).

3.5 CCC commissions the following from the voluntary sector for carers services:

- Centre 33 (Young Carers support services) - £230,000 annually
- Making Space (Carers of people with mental health conditions) - £114,350 annually
- Caring Together (Adult Carers) -£730,000 annually

3.7 The contracts above have been jointly reviewed by children's and adults commissioners in PCC and CCC. It is recommended that a service to deliver an all age carers service is procured across Peterborough and Cambridgeshire, bringing together the resources from the two authorities.

- The resources identified for Peterborough is £280,000

This amount would be ring-fenced for delivery in Peterborough and would ensure that the

service has a dedicated financial resource.

3.9 The All Age Carers Service contract will be managed in an integrated way through the joint commissioning and contract structures which are in place across both Council's.

3.10 The mechanism to provide the transfer of funds and contractual responsibility from PCC to CCC would be undertaken through a Delegation and Partnership Agreement.

3.11

3.12 In summary, in order to develop the new service and achieve the benefits outlined above, the following is recommended:

- Joint procurement of a service which operates across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.
- Finances for PCC are ring-fenced and delegated to CCC through a Delegation Agreement.
- Tender bids should show how efficiencies and savings will be delivered year on year through transformation and effective development of the service.
- A contract length of 4 years – comprising of 3 years plus a possible extension of 1 year should be issued. This will give the new providers some financial certainty but also enable a further opportunity for re-procurement within a rapidly changing environment

#### 4. CONSULTATION

4.1 Work has been undertaken with stakeholders and service users throughout 2018 and 2019 to understand the issues and difficulties of the currently commissioned service profile as well as to seek opportunities for innovation, efficiencies and economies of scale. Several events have been held to fully explore these areas and the following issues were identified with the current service profile:

Area for Improvement	Proposed Service Criteria
Inequity of service with more provision focussed around urban centres	Providing an equitable service – both geographically across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and to under-represented groups
Carers are not identified early enough	Duty on new provider to identify carers early especially those from under-represented or hard to reach groups
Service Users aren't at the heart of service design	Involvement from carers who use services is at the heart of service design and development and there is a person-centred approach to support
Service Users feeling they are 'bounced' around the system	A 'right door – every time' approach to access and supported signposting providing a stepped approach to support
Duplication of service provision	A strategic overview of provision to ensure that the service provides a stream-lined, joined up approach to support

Ability to innovate	Using whole system approaches to identify and support gaps in provision, as well as seeking efficient service delivery and delivering savings
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The commissioning of an all age carers service across Peterborough and Cambridgeshire will provide an opportunity to address the issues which have emerged as a result of historical commissioning of services, creating greater capacity by reducing duplication and ensuring that pathways are clearly defined with improved experience and outcomes.

**5. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT**

5.1 The delegation of the discretionary function to contract for the provision of an all age carer’s service from PCC to CCC.

Joint working with CCC and reinvestment of current resources offers the opportunity to:

- Align current investment within a new preventative service which delivers improved outcomes for individuals, making better use of the resources invested.
- Re-design service models and delivery to enhance outcomes across the system in line with wider system changes. Reduce and minimise service duplication.
- Identify and address gaps.
- Improve equity - both geography and under-represented groups.
- The preventative service will include 1:1 support, group support and peer support and be delivered through a hub and spoke model of provision
- Advice, information and signposting delivered through a ‘one-stop shop’ approach
- Performance will be managed through regular carer feedback; quantitative and qualitative monitoring and an outcomes based approach
- Providers will be required to work with an external academic partner in order to demonstrate that outcomes are being achieved and savings made through avoiding unnecessary costs for example those which arise from carer breakdown

**6. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION**

6.1 The recommendation to delegate the discretionary function of providing an all age carers service to CCC and for a jointly procured service is made on the basis of the following factors:

- Improve service delivery and individual outcomes for carers of any age in Peterborough
- Provide the opportunity to integrate with wider system changes in order to improve the continuity/seamlessness of care
- Improved commissioning of services by aligning resources with CCC in order to increase capacity and improve outcomes for individuals by making better use of the resources invested
- Working to Care Act and Children and Families Act 2014 principles to provide a preventative support service for both adult and young carers to reduce referrals to more costly services

**7. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

7.1 Alternative options considered:

- 1) PCC to re-tender a contract for carer’s services. Rejected - Adopting a joint commissioning approach will provide efficiencies , as well as achieving an

increase in aligned resources. There are economies of scale to be achieved and opportunities to improve the use of the invested resource by bringing the resources invested by the two organisations together

- 2) Cut funding completely and stop preventative support services for carers. Rejected – would result in non-compliance with Care Act and Children and Families Act 2014 and in greater use of higher cost services due to carer breakdown

## **8. IMPLICATIONS**

### **Financial Implications**

- 8.1 The procurement would require a reinvestment of current financial resource of £280,000 annually as part of the ring-fenced amount specified for service delivery in Peterborough.

### **Legal Implications**

- 8.2 PCC shall delegate its commissioning responsibility and delivery of the function for the Carers Service to CCC and shall transfer funding to CCC accordingly. CCC shall therefore act as lead commissioner and enter into contractual arrangements on the council's behalf.
- 8.3 The Delegation and Partnering Agreement shall set out clear roles and responsibilities for both councils, including (but not limited to) liabilities, financial arrangements, information governance and performance management.
- 8.4 The Parties shall enter into a Delegation and Partnering Agreement in reliance on their powers and the exclusive rights given to local authorities to undertake administrative arrangements of this nature in sections 101 and 113 of the Local Government Act 1972, and sections 19 and 20 of the Local Government Act 2000 and the regulations made under these Acts; together with the general power within section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000 and the supporting provisions within section 111 Local Government Act 1972.
- 8.5 The services are designed to meet the Council's duties under the Care Act 2014 and Children and Families Act 2014 to provide a preventative support service to carers.

### **Equalities Implications**

- This service is designed to support those in our communities who require support under the Care Act 2014 and Equality Act 2010.
- The service will aim to improve equality and consistency of access to services for carers.

## **9. DECLARATIONS / CONFLICTS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS GRANTED**

- 9.1 None

## **10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985) and The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

- Local Government Act 1972
- Local Government Act 2000
- Equality Act 2010
- Care Act 2014
- Children and Families Act 2014

## **11. APPENDICES**

11.1 None.