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| DECISION TITLE: Extension to (i) the Council's corporate social care framework agreement; and (ii) non-social care call-off from MSTAR framework agreement. |
| Councillor David Seaton, Cabinet Member for Finance |
| December 2020 |
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| Cabinet portfolio holder: Responsible Director: | Councillor David Seaton, Cabinet Member for Finance Peter Carpenter, Director Resources |
| Is this a Key Decision? | YES If yes has it been included on the Forward Plan: YES Unique Key decision Reference from Forward Plan: KEY/28SEP20/04 |
| Is this decision eligible for call-in? | YES |
| 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 |

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S

The Cabinet Member is recommended to:

1. Authorise contract extension to the corporate frameworks for the provision of social care roles to the following agency worker providers:

Lot 1: Social Care Specialists
 Kent County Trading Limited (Trading As Connect2Staff)
 Sanctuary Personnel Limited
 HCL Social Care Limited
 Eden Brown Limited (Trading As Eden Brown Synergy)
 Liquid Personnel
 Badenoch and Clark
 iPeople Solutions Limited
 Maxxima Limited

Lot 2: Children's Residential Workers
 BS Social Care

Lot 3 Social Care Specialists and Children's Residential Workers

Cardea Resourcing Limited
Caritas Recruitment Limited
Service Care Solutions Limited
Medacs Healthcare Plc

The extension shall be for a period up to 31 March 2021 at a cost of approximately £320,000 per month.

2. Authorise contract extension to Reed via call-off from MSTAR framework for the provision of all non-social care agency roles. The contract extension shall be for a period up to 31 March 2021 at a cost of approximately £110,000 per month.

1. PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

- 1.1 This report is for the Cabinet Member for Finance to consider exercising delegated authority under paragraph 3.4.3 of Part 3 of the constitution in accordance with the terms of their portfolio at paragraph (a)

2. TIMESCALES

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

- 3.1 An OJEU procurement was completed in 2016 for the provision of social care agency workers to the Council, which concluded in the award of a Framework Agreement for the provision of Social Care Temporary Agency Workers for a period of three years, with an option to extend for a period of up to twelve months at the Council's discretion. The providers within each Lot are:

Lot 1: Social Care Specialists
Kent County Trading Limited (Trading As Connect2Staff)
Sanctuary Personnel Limited
HCL Social Care Limited
Eden Brown Limited (Trading As Eden Brown Synergy)
Liquid Personnel
Badenoch and Clark
iPeople Solutions Limited
Maxxima Limited

Lot 2: Children's Residential Workers
BS Social Care

Lot 3 Social Care Specialists and Children's Residential Workers
Cardea Resourcing Limited
Caritas Recruitment Limited
Service Care Solutions Limited
Medacs Healthcare Plc

Concurrently, in 2016 a procurement was also conducted for the Council's supply of all non-social care temporary agency workers which concluded in the award of a Contract to Reed Specialist Recruitment for the provision of Non-Social Care Temporary Agency Workers for a period of 3 years with the option to extend for a further 1 year period. Temporary Agency

Workers have been provided through this Publicly Procured Framework - Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation (ESPO) which is titled Managed Services for Temporary Agency Resources (MSTAR2).

Both of these frameworks require extending in the short term, whilst long term options are considered. Due to a number of factors, including the Council's reduced spend on temporary agency workers and increased shared working with Cambridgeshire County Council, the Council now wishes to explore the most effective way of supplying agency workers to the Council in the long term. Whilst this piece of work is undertaken by the service areas and procurement team, the current requirement for agency workers shall be provided by way of interim extension with those currently supplying the Council with agency workers under the existing frameworks and call-off contract.

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 Consultation between Procurement, Finance, Legal and HR.

5. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

5.1 Interim extension of the Council's framework agreements for the supply of social care temporary agency workers, and an extension to the call-off contract with Reed Specialist Recruitment for the supply of non-social care temporary agency worker roles. These interim extensions shall be in place whilst the longer term solution is procured and mobilised for commencement by 1 April 2021.

6. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

6.1 Whilst the Council's annual spend on temporary agency workers, both social care and non-social care has reduced since 2016, there is still a requirement for provision of a temporary agency worker solution within both social care and non-social care roles. Due to a number of factors, including the Council's reduced spend on temporary agency workers, and increased shared working with Cambridgeshire County Council, the Council has been exploring the most effective way of supplying agency workers to the Council in the long term. In the interim, the most effective solution is to extend those frameworks and call-off contracts to ensure continuity of service provision whilst the long term solution is procured and mobilised.

7. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

7.1 Alternative options included consideration of an open procurement, OPUS People Solutions and ESPO MyStar3 Framework. Whilst these options are viable long term options they were dismissed as a short term solution. The Council will continue to explore all long term viable options to ensure a compliant, robust, efficient and cost effective model is in place with effect from 1 April 2021, that is suitable for the future requirements of the Council.

To do nothing was not an option in this case

8. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

8.1 Social care agency worker spend approximately £320,000 per month.
Non-social care agency worker spend approximately £110,000 per month.

Legal Implications

8.2 Contract extension paperwork to be issued to all agencies extended on the framework for the interim period.

Procurement of the future agency worker solution undertaken in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

Equalities Implications

8.3 *None*

Carbon Impact Assessment

8.4 *No impact.*

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.

10.1 *None*

11. APPENDICES

11.1 *None*