

DECISION TITLE: Two month 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
April 2021

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/12APR21/03
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

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Cabinet Member is recommended to authorise an interim extension between 1 April 2021 and 30 May 2021 to the following temporary agency resource providers:

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 30 May 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 30 May 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

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 CMDN FEB21/CMDN/77 authorised an extension to (i) the Council's corporate social care framework agreement; and (ii) non-social care call-off from MSTAR framework agreement until 31 March 2021 whilst the new solution for the Council's temporary agency resource was procured. The Council has procured and awarded the supply of temporary agency resource to Opus People Solutions via the YPO Framework for Managing Temporary and Permanent Recruitment (Reference 942) Lot 1 – Managing Temporary Recruitment for Local Authorities, and whilst this new solution mobilises, a two month extension is requested to the current provision.

Current provision of temporary agency resource.

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).

It is each of the above contracts that require an interim extension between 1 April 2021 and 30 May 2021.

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 Consultation between Procurement, Finance, Legal and HR.

5. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

5.1 Interim two month 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 mobilised for commencement by 31 May 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 the current frameworks and call-off contracts to ensure continuity of service provision whilst the newly procured long term solution is mobilised and commenced on 31 May 2021.

7. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

7.1 To not extend for the 2 month period and have a gap in the supply of a temporary agency resource. Given the requirement for temporary agency resource within social care and non-social care roles, this was not an option.

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*