

Finance and Resources

10am, Thursday, 03 March 2021

Health and Social Care Contract Extension Report

Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

1. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Finance and Resources Committee:

- 1.1 Approve the extension of the Health and Social Care contracts outlined in 4.1.
- 1.2 Delegate authority to the Chief Officer of the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership to approve the award of a new contract for Aids for Daily Living.

Judith Proctor

Chief Officer, Edinburgh Integration Joint Board

Contact: Emma Gunter, Interim Contracts Manager, Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership

E-mail: emma.gunter@edinburgh.gov.uk

Health and Social Care Contract Extension Report

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report sets out the current Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (“EH&SCP”) commissioning activity and how this impacts on contractual arrangements including the requirement to waive the requirement of Contract Standing Orders to allow contracts to be extended at the expiry of the current contract duration.

3. Background

- 3.1 In line with the strategic plan and direction from the Edinburgh Integration Joint Board, the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership (the Partnership) was actively procuring a range of services when the COVID-19 pandemic struck. This has impacted both on the ability of the partnership to progress the planned procurement activity according to initial timescales and the increased need has impacted on the resources providers have available to engage in coproduction and procurement exercises while continuing to provide services in line with service specifications.
- 3.2 On 6 December 2021 the Scottish Government published “Preparing to Transition Towards a National Care Service for Scotland: SPPN 7/2021”. This Scottish Procurement Policy Note advises public bodies involved in the commissioning of social care services of the actions they can and should take in preparation for the transition to a National Care Service in Scotland. Councils are asked to review strategic commissioning plans and to consider the impact of decisions on resources and the social care market and consider the use of contract modifications or extensions where feasible to enable the collective focus to be on implementation. This review is now in progress and a number of contractual arrangements have been recommended, following consideration by the Health and Social Care Partnership Procurement Board, for extension.

This paper sets out, on a service by service basis, the proposed contractual arrangements and recommended extensions with supporting rationale.

4. Main report

- 4.1 The contractual arrangements covered by this paper, annual values, contract end dates and recommendations are summarised in the table below:

Contract	Value 2022/23 (£m)	Value 2023/24 (£m)	Contract End Date	Recommendation - contracts to be extended until
Independent Advocacy Service	0.96		31st July 22	31st March 2023
Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council (EVOC)	0.2		31st March 2022	31st March 2023
Alzheimer Scotland Dementia Post-Diagnostic Support	0.25	0.5	31st March 2023	31st March 2024
EADP Hubs - Turning point Scotland	0.5	0.5	30th September 2023	30th September 2024
EADP Hubs - Change Grow Live	1.0	1.0	30th September 2023	30th September 2024
EADP – Circle - CAPSU	0.17		31st March 2022	31st March 2023

- 4.2 These are discussed individually in paragraphs 4.3 to 4.21 below

Independent Advocacy – Contract Extension

- 4.3 The City of Edinburgh Council, through the Edinburgh H&SCP has a requirement to meet its statutory duty to provide Independent Advocacy services to a range of people across different care groups who are in receipt of health and social care services, or who would benefit from the receipt of such services. Independent advocacy allows the views of people to be heard and is integral to the strategic planning and delivery of services. Independent Advocacy supports the safeguarding of individuals who are at risk and in situations where they are vulnerable, as well as empowering and speaking up for and with individuals who are not being heard to allow them to express their views and make their own decisions. There has been an increase in people seeking and requiring advocacy support, as a result of a combination of their vulnerability, mental health, disabilities or being an unpaid carer.
- 4.4 The current advocacy contracts, including extension periods run to 31st July 2022. A further 8 month extension is being requested to 31st March 23 to align with a planned procurement process with an intended start date for new contracts of 1st April 2023. The proposed procurement process will take account of the recommendations in the SPPN through co-production with potential providers. The budget for Independent Advocacy Contracts is £863,694 per annum. The current Independent Advocacy contracts are provided by Partners in Advocacy (£263,931 pa) delivered in partnership with People First Scotland and Advocard (£601,763 pa) delivered in partnership with both Edinburgh Carers Council and Royal Edinburgh Hospital Patients Council.

- 4.5 As part of the Edinburgh Joint Carers' Strategy it was recognised that there was a growing demand for advocacy support for unpaid carers. In December 2021 additional monies were made available to invest in this service and that an additional carer specific advocacy funding element would be incorporated into the Independent Advocacy contracts to meet current demand. A recurring investment of £100k full year effect is being made for advocacy for unpaid carers which will align with the proposed new extension period of Independent Advocacy Contracts and with future procured contracts from 1st April 23.
- 4.6 Extension of current contracts to 31st March 23 will provide continuity of provision and will allow the delivery of an outcomes-based commissioning approach with a view to new Independent Advocacy contracts commencing on 1st April 23.

Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council (EVOC) – Contract Extension

- 4.7 The EVOC contract requires to be extended from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 to further support the Transition Team and the development of the Edinburgh Pact and Community Mobilisation work which itself was granted a further year (up until March 2023) by the EIJB. A standstill budget of £223,460 is recommended for the EVOC contract in 2022-23.
- 4.8 EVOC has been identified as the key delivery partner to help build collaborative approaches and consensus between the EIJB and the third sector. The role of EVOC in this work is to represent voluntary organisations during the exploration of alternative community commissioning approaches and identify new support needs for effective community commissioning in the city. The timescale for this work has been extended to March 2023 and will require the involvement of EVOC as the Edinburgh Third Sector Strategic Interface (TSI) to complete this work. Currently there are no alternative providers offering a similar, or like-for-like, service in Edinburgh.

Alzheimer Scotland Dementia Post-Diagnostic Support - Contract Extension and Expansion

- 4.9 The Edinburgh Dementia Post Diagnostic Support Service (the Service) supports around 330 people newly diagnosed with dementia for a period of up to one year. This is delivered through the contract with Alzheimer Scotland which is due to expire on 31 March 2023 and will conclude the 5 years contract period as agreed by Finance and Resource Committee in January 2018 (initial 3 years plus 2 years extension option).
- 4.10 The Service is a co-production partnership development between EH&SCP and Alzheimer Scotland in response to Scotland's National Dementia Strategy 2017 – 2020 and an associated Scottish Government Local Delivery Plan target.

- 4.11 The Commercial and Procurement Service published a Contract Notice on Public Contracts Scotland and the Official Journal of the European Union on 23 October 2017. Only one bid was received from the incumbent provider Alzheimer Scotland.
- 4.12 There is a need to extend and expand this contract to provide continuity and meet a significant demand for post-diagnostic support resulting from diagnostic waiting list pressures due to Covid. This has been acknowledged by Scottish Government in the Dementia and Covid-19 – ‘*National Action Plan To Continue To Support Recovery For People With Dementia And Their Carers*’, published in December 2020. The Action Plan highlighted the disproportionate impact on people with dementia, increased carer stress with challenges on access to timely diagnosis, and availability of care and support. Consequently, Scottish Government Programme for funding 2021-2022 outlined a commitment to “Provide additional funding for dementia post diagnostic support, to expand access to front line services and to strengthen wider support which benefits people with dementia and their families after a diagnosis”. The funding allocation was confirmed on 3 November 2021 to all IJB chief officers and chief finance officers as part of the Scottish Government’s Mental Health Recovery and Renewal Fund Phase 2 allocations.
- 4.13 Award of this contract extension and expansion will meet current and projected future need. The expansion element will utilise Scottish Government’s allocation of additional funding. On this basis, the Committee are recommended to directly award Alzheimer Scotland:
- 1-year extension of the existing contract for period of 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024
 - Support further contract expansion between 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2024 -with assurance that the contract will be flexible and appropriately aligned to the increased demand as required. This will assist to support the timely delivery of positive outcomes for people newly diagnosed with dementia.
 - The total value of this additional request is £761,871 (see financial plan below)

	2021/2022	2022/23	2023/24
Current Alzheimer Scotland contract value - Post diagnostic support	£244,711	£252,296	£257,847
Contract expansion - utilising Scottish Government allocation		£249,270	£254,754
Total		£501,566	£512,601

■ - Approved Finance and Resources Committee January 2018

■ - Seeking approval for additional funding

Edinburgh Alcohol and Drug Partnership – Hubs Contract Extension

- 4.14 The EADP Hub contracts are the core voluntary sector services offering support to adults with problematic Drug and alcohol use.

Current provider	Brief Contract Description	Annual value	Value of extension
Turning point Scotland	Adult Community Treatment Service (NE hub)	£ 521,520	£1,043,040
Change Grow Live	Adult Community Treatment Service (NW, SE and SW hubs)	£1,023,759	£2,047,518

- 4.15 Contracts were awarded following a competitive tendering process in April 2015. The contract duration was three years with a possible extension of two further years. This extension was exercised after a very positive review of delivery (based on widespread consultation, case file audit and review of performance data) in 2018. The contracts were further extended from 1 April 2021 to up to 30th September 2022 as a result of COVID. The providers have responded to additional needs within the contract (developing assertive outreach and in reach services in homeless settings, for instance) and evaluation of the service delivery is positive
- 4.16 A further extension from October 2022 to September 2024 is recommended to enable systems changes which will inform the final specification. The current requirements for drug and alcohol services are driven by the national mission to reduce drug related deaths. A key component of these is the Medication Assisted treatment standards which entail a transformation of care provision, particularly the community clinical teams to which the hubs teams are attached. Requirements include development of same day prescribing interventions (with associated psychosocial care) and outreach treatment provision. The clinical teams are being reconfigured and expanded to enable these and are expected to move from 4 teams to 5 (with a central team to provide rapid access) and new roles around assertive outreach and delivery alongside intermediate care and primary care. The main changes expected to take place do not require innovation to be driven by the voluntary sector providers (we are not seeking new models from external contractors, we are planning redesign mostly in NHS services, but with support from the voluntary sector), but undertaking a competitive process for the voluntary sector contracts while the community services are in this state of flux in creates risks as highlighted below:
- The structure required for the long-term contracts is not currently clear: until the new statutory sector arrangements are established and embedded, the requirements of the voluntary sector can't be fully specified. Fixing the contract in its current form would create the risk of needing major amendments after award.

- The disruption created by procurement, even when mitigated as well as possible, will be significant and impacts on frontline staff and thence their clients. Adding this to the inevitable pressures of change in system of care risks
- Officer time which is required for the planning of the service changes will be displaced into the procurement process.

Edinburgh Alcohol and Drug Partnership – Circle - CAPSU Extension

- 4.17 This service is jointly funded by Education and Children’s Services and EADP and is currently on a 1-year waiver extension ending 31st March 2022. Commissioning Officers from Communities and Families and EADP have been meeting to evaluate the service and develop a new specification for possible re-tendering. The service has consistently met the targets in the original specification. A Whole Family Approach framework was published by Scottish Government in December 2021 which provides guidance on specific work with children affected by drug and/or alcohol use.
- 4.18 The total annual value for this contract is £419,365, with £176,835 funded by EADP and £242,530 funded by Communities and Families.
- 4.19 Continued funding from EADP is available for this service and approval to extend the contract until March 2023 is being sought to allow for joint work with Education and Children’s Services to develop and agree a new specification.

Aids for Daily Living contracts – Delegated Authority Sought

- 4.20 The current Aids for Daily Living contracts for the supply and maintenance of health and social care equipment is due to end on 31 May 2022. Delegated authority is sought from the Finance and Resources Committee to allow the Chief Officer of the Edinburgh Health & Social Care Partnership to approve the award of the subsequent contract which will commence on 01 June 2022.
- 4.21 The new contract will:
- combine the Aids for Daily Living Supply of Equipment contract and the Aids for Daily Living Equipment Servicing contract into one;
 - be awarded by way of National Framework Call Off (a route to market compliant with Procurement Legislation);
 - be for a period of 1 year with an optional extension of up to 12 months; and
 - have an estimated annual value of £6.7m p.a. (£13.4m for the full contract period including optional extension).

This proposed direction was subject to an options appraisal which has subsequently been approved by the EH&SCP Procurement Board on the basis that, due to

unprecedented global market volatility, it is not the right time to tender on the open market and/or commit to a long term contract. In addition, in relation to this contract, the potential effect of plans to introduce a National Care Service is as yet unknown.

5. Next Steps

If the recommendations in this paper are accepted Officers from the Partnership will work with colleagues in Commercial and Procurement Services to make the appropriate contractual arrangements which take account of the recommendations in the Scottish Government's SPPN.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 The total value of the contracts detailed in this report is £3.08m in financial year 2022/23.
- 6.2 Funding associated with the extension of the contracts will be delegated by EIJB to the Council.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 Each of the ongoing procurement exercises has been co-produced with service users, providers and other relevant stakeholders.

8. Background reading/external references

Finance and Resources Committee 23rd January, 2018 – Item 8.8 – Contract for Dementia Post Diagnostic Support Service [Item 8.8 – Contract for Dementia Post Diagnostic Support Service](#)

Scottish Government, COSLA (Dec 2020) [Dementia And Covid-19 – National Action Plan To Continue To Support Recovery For People With Dementia And Their Carers](#)

Finance and Resources Committee 04 March 2021 – Item 7.20 - [Contract Extensions for Alcohol and Drug Service Contracts](#)

Scottish Government (Dec 2021) - [Drug and Alcohol Services - Improving holistic family support](#)

[Preparing to Transition towards a National Care Service for Scotland SPPN 7/2021](#)

9. Appendices

Appendix 1 Health and Social Care - Recommended Contract Extensions

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE – RECOMMENDED CONTRACT EXTENSIONS

Contract Register Unique Key	Contract Reference	Contract Name	Supplier Name	Recommended Contract End Date	Contract Value	Annual Value
100009167	1194	Independent Advocacy Services - Lot 1	Advocard	31/03/2023	£2,650,000	£530,000
100009168	CT0173 Lot 2	Independent Advocacy Services - Lot 2	Partners in Advocacy	31/03/2023	£1,250,000	£250,000
	39	Third Sector Infrastructure Support Services	Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council (EVOC)	31/03/2024	£223,460.63	£223,460.63
100009990	CT2310	Edinburgh Dementia Post Diagnostic Support Service	Alzheimer Scotland-Action on Dementia	31/03/2024	£1,125,000	£225,000
100015391	HS0134	EADP Hubs	Change, Grow, Live	30/09/2024	£95,000	£95,000
100015392	HS0135	EADP Hubs	Turning Point Scotland Services Ltd	30/09/2024	£95,000	£95,000
100007567	CT9709	Support for Families where Children and Young People are Affected by Parental Substance Use	Circle	31/03/2023	£2,273,660	£378,943