

**TO: DIRECTOR OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH AND HOUSING
29 APRIL 2016**

**FALLS PREVENTION ADVISORY SERVICE
Consultant in Public Health**

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval to award a new contract for the Falls Prevention Advisory Service.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **That the Falls Prevention Advisory Service, commencing on 13th July 2016, is awarded to tenderer B.**

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 To ensure that Bracknell Forest residents aged 65 and over can access an upstream, preventative falls service that can be individually tailored to the needs of the person in order to achieve the best outcomes (reduced future risk of harm, reduced future risk of hospital admission, reduced future need for specialist support).

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 The alternative option that has been considered is to not commission a service once the current pilot has ended (12th July 2016). This is not considered a suitable option for two reasons; the pilot has evidenced the value of having a preventative service operating within the falls pathway and falls prevention has been highlighted as a key Public Health priority in the Bracknell Forest Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

5.1 Evidence for falls prevention

- 5.1.1 Nationally 1 in 3 people aged 65 and over fall each year and 1 in 2 people aged 80 and over fall each year.
- 5.1.2 Preventing falls among older people has been identified as a key priority in the Bracknell Forest Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.
- 5.1.3 As part of the Better Care Fund, data from the Central Support Unit shows us that in June 2015 hospital admissions for falls related injuries in Bracknell Forest were the lowest they have been in the reporting period (Q1 2013/14 to Q1 2015/16), with 18 residents admitted. This is a reduction of 7 people between June 2014 and June 2015.
- 5.1.4 The highest recorded number of hospital admissions for falls related injuries in the whole reporting period was in December 2014, with 56 admissions. Since then hospital admissions have been decreasing, which may be influenced by the

Unrestricted

development of the falls advisory service which was commissioned from January 2015.

- 5.1.5 Data also enables us to undertake targeted prevention based on gender, age, ward and GP practice. According to Better Care Fund metrics, admissions for falls related injuries are approximately twice as high for females as they are for males. In addition admissions were highest for people aged between 80 and 94. This highlights the importance of falls prevention from an earlier age in order to reduce serious injury and resultant admissions at a later stage.

5.2 Aims

- 5.2.1 To reduce the number of Bracknell Forest residents aged 65 and over who fall each year, and consequently injuries due to falls and hospital admissions for falls.
- 5.2.2 To commission a Falls Prevention Advisory service that is available to all older residents in Bracknell Forest. The advisers will be trained professionals able to carry out a detailed assessment of falls risk with a view to designing (in collaboration with individuals and families) a package of community based support. The service will be beneficial for any individual who is assessed at a medium risk of falling as defined by the outcome of a standardised screening tool based on the Falls Risk Assessment Tool (FRAT).
- 5.2.3 To commission a programme of strength and balance classes that is available to any older Bracknell Forest residents who has undertaken a full in-depth risk assessment via the falls prevention advisory service and would benefit from an intervention to improve mobility.

5.3 Procurement process

- 5.3.1 The tender process was a single stage process with entry level questions. The opportunity was advertised on the South East Business Portal. As the contract value was below the threshold it was not necessary to advertise in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU).
- 5.3.2 14 organisations expressed an interest in the tender on the South East Business Portal, although only 2 submitted a tender.
- 5.3.3 The Tenders received were evaluated by the Project Team, details of which are set out in the confidential annexe. The evaluation criteria had been agreed by the panel prior to the tender invitations. Evaluation was finalised on Friday 12th February 2016 without the need for presentations. As a result tenderer B received the highest evaluated score (based upon Quality and Price on a 50:50 ratio).
- 5.3.4 The following checks were undertaken in order to ascertain, as far as reasonably possible, the suitability and viability of the three tenderers; relevant references were obtained and credit checks undertaken.
- 5.3.5 The contract is due to be awarded at the end of April 2016 and is due to start on 13th July 2016. The contract will be a 2 year contract with an optional 1 year extension (2+1).

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

- 6.1 The proposed contract has been procured in accordance with the Council's Contract Standing Orders, and no significant legal issues arise.

Borough Treasurer

- 6.2 The financial details are included in the confidential annex.

Equalities Impact Assessment

- 6.3 The Equalities Impact Assessment was considered at all stages of the procurement process.

Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 6.4 Detailed risk management, monitoring and contingency criteria were included in the Invitation to Tender and taken into consideration during the evaluation of the bid. Performance and progress can be measured against the criteria.

7 CONSULTATION

Principal Groups Consulted

- 7.1 Not applicable

Method of Consultation

- 7.2 Not applicable

Representations Received

- 7.3 Not applicable

Background Papers

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