

## WRITTEN STATEMENT OF A KEY DECISION CABINET MEMBER HEALTH & WELLBEING

<b>ITEM:</b>	<b>HOUSING RELATED SUPPORT SERVICE (ACCOMMODATION BASED SUPPORT &amp; FLOATING SUPPORT)</b>
Date of Decision:	10 December 2014
Exempt:	No
Confidential	No
<p>This is a key decision because</p> <p>It is likely to result in the Council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the Council's budget for the service or function concerned. A threshold of £500,000 is regarded as significant.</p>	
<p>A notice was served in accordance with Part 3, Section 9 (Publicity in connection with key decisions) of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.</p>	
Urgency/Special Urgency: (As defined in Constitution)	No
Purpose:	To seek approval on the recommendations for three housing related support service contracts, currently delivered by Home Group (Stonham), to be re-commissioned by tender.
<b>Decision:</b>	<p><b>THAT:</b></p> <p>(a) the two accommodation based housing related support contracts (for homeless individuals and for ex-offenders), currently delivered by Home Group (Stonham), are amalgamated and re-commissioned by tender as one contract for a three year period, with built-in year on year reduction after the first year;</p> <p>(b) the housing related floating support contract, currently delivered by Home Group (Stonham) is re-commissioned by tender for a three year contract period, at a reduced cost and built in year on year reduction thereafter;</p> <p>(c) authority is delegated to Officer Decision for contract award within a maximum budget of £920,316;</p>
Reasons for the Decision:	<p>1. The three contracts have been individually reviewed. The services provide accommodation based and floating housing related support to vulnerable people who are homeless or at risk of homeless to enable them to secure, maintain and sustain tenancies/accommodation, live independently and develop skills to prevent them</p>

	<p>from re-entering the services.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. The services provide positive outcome for individuals by reduce demand on temporary accommodation and the need for B&amp;B, whilst working towards sustaining and maintaining tenancies/accommodation and to prevent homelessness where possible, in line with corporate aims and objectives.</li> <li>3. There is a continued need for the services, which form an integral part of the Single Person Homeless Pathway, supported by the Governments “No Second Night Out” policy.<sup>1</sup>.</li> <li>4. Without the services being provided, there would be a high need to provide B&amp;B which would place a burden upon revenue budgets. Clients can only be placed into B&amp;B for a maximum of 6 weeks, after which point they could need to be placed into temporary accommodation, which is very limited and disruptive to the vulnerable client group.</li> <li>5. There would be an increase in the number of rough sleepers without the services being available, which does not meet the “No Second Night Out” policy Herefordshire Council have signed to.</li> <li>6. There are also wider community considerations and resource savings such as reductions in re-offending (Police and Probation), reductions in hospital admissions and incidents of anti-social behaviour.</li> </ol>
Options Considered:	<p>The services are decommissioned; this option is not recommended as the services are supporting vulnerable people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness with substance and/or alcohol misuse, offending behaviour and/or mental health issues. The impact of not providing the housing related support service will be an increase in rough sleepers and homeless application, increase in demand for temporary accommodation or B&amp;B, potential increase in offending, hospital admissions and antisocial behaviour. This will create a pressure on resource within the Housing Solutions Team, increase demand on Probation services, Police, hospitals, creates a financial burden on budgets and wider community impact.</p> <p>The accommodation based support services could again, be re-commissioned separately; this option is not recommended as there have been notable benefits from both the accommodation based support being delivered by the same provider. There are very strong links between the client groups which has enabled</p>

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/vision-to-end-rough-sleeping>

	movement between the accommodation, to access the service sooner, reducing the waiting list and the demand on temporary accommodation as well as providing continuity of service.
Conflict of Interest ■ (See below):	
Date the key decision is due to take effect:	16 December 2014

<p><b>COUNCILLOR GJ POWELL</b> .....Date: 10 December 2014  <b>Cabinet Member Health &amp; Wellbeing</b></p>
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- a record of any conflict of interest declared by any executive member who is consulted by the member which relates to the decision;

And

- in respect of any declared conflict of interest, a note of dispensation granted by the relevant local authority's head of paid service.