



## Executive Decision Taken under Cabinet Delegated Authority

<b>Subject:</b>	ITT049 – Provision of Supported Accommodation in Sandwell for Victims of Domestic Abuse  Period - 1 May 2021 to 30 April 2022
<b>Director:</b>	Katharine Willmette – Interim Director of Adult Social Care
<b>Key Decision:</b>	Yes Original recommendations and approvals documentation from Cabinet minutes 18 October 2017 (Key Decision Ref. No. SMBC16156) are attached with this report as appendix 8.1), <i>“the Executive Director - Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing enter into a contract with the successful tenderer for three years with an option to extend for a further year on terms to be agreed by the Executive Director – Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing ”</i>
<b>Delegation Reference</b>	See above
<b>Contribution towards Vision 2030:</b>	 <p>Contracted services contribute to the Council Vision 2030 and in particular the following ambitions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ambition 2: Sandwell is a place where we live healthy lives and live them for longer, and where those of us who are vulnerable feel respected and cared for.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ambition 5: Our communities are built on mutual respect and taking care of each other, supported by all the agencies that ensure we feel safe and protected in our homes and local neighbourhoods</li> <li>• Ambition 10: Sandwell now has a national reputation for getting things done, where all local partners are focused on what really matters in people's lives and communities.</li> </ul> 
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<p>Craig Stevens  ASC Commissioner  <a href="mailto:craig_stevens@sandwell.gov.uk">craig_stevens@sandwell.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Emily Cox  Senior Independent Sector Management Officer  <a href="mailto:emily_cox@sandwell.gov.uk">emily_cox@sandwell.gov.uk</a></p>

## **1. DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the interim Director of Adult Social Care approves utilisation of the contract extension in relation to ITT049 Provision of Supported Accommodation in Sandwell for Victims of Domestic Abuse for period 1 May 2021 to 30 April 2021 as delegated in the delegated to the Executive Director of Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing in the original Cabinet Report of October 2017 which said:

“In connection with 1 above, authorise the Executive Director - Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing to enter into a contract with the successful tenderer for 3 years with an option for a further year on terms to be agreed by the Executive Director – Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing”

## **2. Reason(s) for Recommendation**

- 2.1 This paper seeks to provide an update in relation to ITT049 Provision of Supported Accommodation in Sandwell for Victims of Domestic Abuse due to expire 30 April 2021 and actions recommended.

## **3. Alternative Options considered and discounted**

- 3.1 Options concerning retendering contracts have been considered, however, previous tender exercises have resulted in very limited market interest apart from the existing provider.

## **4. Purpose of the report**

- 4.1 The contract for the Provision of Supported Accommodation in Sandwell for Victims of Domestic Abuse in relation to ITT049 are due to expire on the 30 April 2021 and have an option to extend for one further period of 12 months (see appendix 8.3 contract sign off report). This contract is currently with Black Country Women's Aid. The maximum cost of the extension period for contract is £305,979. For full breakdown of costs per annum please see 6.3 below.

- 4.2 Our intention is to enact the extension period for this contract from 1 May 2021 to 30 April 2022. A service evaluation including a needs assessment will take place in respect of this provision to inform our commissioning intentions beyond May 2022. Appropriate reports will be presented to the Commissioning Board at key milestones in this process.
- 4.3 DMT have already approved the recommendation to utilise the 12 month extension option in the existing contact on 21 January 2021. See appendix 8.4 for the report
- 4.4 There are no financial implications as expenditure for the period of the extension will come from the existing programme spend – the only implication will be in relation to the directorates ability to realise any savings from the associated budget until the new contracts in May 2022. A period of engagement and consultation to inform any review is required.
- 4.5 In terms of demonstrating value for money, the contract is block and the contract values detailed in 6.3 below represent maximum possible spend. In recent years the contract values have been revised downwards in line with expectations around achieving savings.
- 4.6 A Continuation of the existing contract would be more financially beneficial than the award of a new contract which would potentially include service set up costs.
- 4.7 To date , the contract has been delivered to a high standard standard by Black Country Women’s Aid.
- 4.8 The Cabinet Minutes show “the decision for the Executive Director - Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing enter into a contract with the successful tenderer for three years with an option to extend for a further year on terms to be agreed by the Executive Director – Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing” This post no longer exists, therefore, we are seeking approval from the Interim Director of Adult Social Care Katharine Willmette.

## 1. How does this support Vision 2030?

- 1.1 The services support Vision 2030 as they play a fundamental role in protecting victims of domestic abuse by providing quality, safe accommodation and delivering support to service users; This enables them to build resilience, live healthy, active lives, reduce their isolation, playing an active role in their communities and ensures they are rehoused safely and appropriately.

## 2. Current position/Background Details

- 2.1 On the 18 October 2017, Cabinet approved the contract for the Provision of Supported Accommodation in Sandwell for Victims of Domestic Abuse to be tendered and let. Cabinet decision and Cabinet report detailed in appendices 8.1 & 8.2
- 2.2 The Contract was awarded to Black Country Women's Aid with terms commencing on 1 May 2018 for a period of 3 years with an option to extend for a further 1-year period, (subject to the Council's need for the services). See Appendix 8.3 contract sign off report.
- 2.3 Maximum Contract Value over a maximum four-year period are in table below.

<u>Provider</u>	Year 1 2018/19	Year 2 2019/20	Year 3 2020/21	Year 4 Extension 2021/22	Total
Total Annual Cost- Black Country Women's Aid (34 Units)	303,450	305,979	305,979	305,979	1,221,387

- 2.4 Council officers have met regularly with providers to monitor and evaluate the Service throughout the contract, as well as collecting relevant performance data: Providers maintain high-quality service delivery and offer flexibility of support to meet

different and fluctuating levels of need, delivering positive service user outcomes.

- 2.5 In addition, providers undertake regular engagement activities with service users and stakeholders, which evidences they value the support they receive from the services provided.

### 3. Implications

<b>Resources:</b>	The annual revenue costs for the contracts will come from existing programme budgets and therefore there are no additional resource requirements.
<b>Legal:</b>	<p>Legal implications including regulations/law under which proposals are required/permitted</p> <p>Services were tendered under the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and in accordance with Sandwell's Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules, in relation to the procurement exercise a contract notice was published in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) and on In-tend – the Council's e-procurement portal - and on the Government's Contract Finder website.</p> <p>(Cabinet 18 April 2018 Key Decision Ref. No. SMBC16156).</p> <p>The services play a fundamental role in protecting victims of Domestic Abuse and preventing incidences of homelessness within the Sandwell Borough. This contributes to duties placed on local authorities as part of the Homeless Reduction Act 2018.</p>
<b>Equality:</b>	For the cabinet report an Equality Impact Screening document was completed beforehand and this identified that, should there be no further reductions in funding from other parts of the Council or its strategic partners then there is likely to be no adverse impact on protected groups because of these proposals.

<b>Risk:</b>	<p>The services play a fundamental role in protecting victims of Domestic Abuse and preventing incidences of homelessness within the Borough, which contributes to duties placed on local authorities as part of the Homeless Reduction Act 2017. Utilising the extension period significantly reduces the risk to victims of domestic abuse of finding themselves without safe appropriate accommodation and support.</p>
<b>Health and Wellbeing:</b>	<p>The Services help to ensure that vulnerable adults who are at risk of domestic abuse and their children are accommodated somewhere safe and with the support they need. The services deliver against several Council priorities: improved wider health and wellbeing outcomes, addressing loneliness and isolation, improving financial inclusion and building resilient and independent communities.</p> <p>These services support the Council's Social Value agenda as they support Sandwell residents to achieve their full potential: The services encourage a culture of self-help, mutual support and giving something back to the community, through peer mentoring, volunteering and employment opportunities within provider organisations.</p>
<b>Other:</b>	

In accordance with the authority delegated to Chief Officers to act on matters within the authority delegated to them under Part 3 of the Council's Constitution, I intend to take the action(s) recommended above.

I do/do not have an interest to declare in this matter



**Katharine Willmette**  
**Interim Director of Adult Social Care**  
**Date 27 May 2021**

## 4. Appendices

### 4.1 Cabinet Minutes

(18 October 2017 see ref 171/17)



Minutes of the  
Cabinet held on 18 Oc

### 4.2 Cabinet Report

(18 October 2017 ref SMBC 16156)



10 - Specialist  
Domestic Violence an

### 4.3 Contact Sign Off report



Contract Sign Off  
FINAL.pdf

### 4.4 DMT report 15 January 2021





Contract Intentions  
Report January 2021.1

## 5. Source Documents

List source documents