ABSTRACT

The development of supported accommodation promotes independence for individuals and reduces the need for care home provision. There are several supported accommodation projects where, to address improvements in efficiency and effectiveness of the contracting arrangements, new contract arrangements are to be established. Initially these contracts will be implemented in services for people with learning disability following the successful development of core and cluster arrangements with Ark Housing.

1 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Social Work and Health Committee:-

i) notes the contents of this report;
ii) approves the development of a core and cluster contract with Ark Housing in relation to Windmill Brae supported accommodation in Forfar;
iii) approves the development of a core and cluster contract with Gowrie Care Ltd in relation to River Street supported accommodation, Brechin;
iv) approves the development of a core and cluster contract with Gowrie Care Ltd in relation to Doocot Park supported accommodation, Arbroath;
v) directs the Director of Social Work and Health to identify further opportunities for the implementation of core and cluster contracts in supported accommodation;
vi) delegates authority to the Director of Social Work and Health to move to core and cluster contracts with existing providers to bring them in line with the new contracting timescales provided they can be funded from within existing resources;
vii) approves a budget virement of £197,184 from staff costs in learning disabilities to third party payments to fund the Burnside Drive tenancies which have transferred from residential places. Report 360/10 refers.

2 INTRODUCTION

Committee report 271/09 identified a range of proposals for social work and health learning disability services that aimed to shift the balance of care towards community based services and promote the integration of people with disabilities into the wider Angus community. This included more supported accommodation including core and cluster accommodation and a reduction in care home places. The development of committee report 360/10 introduced the first core and cluster supported accommodation arrangements. The focus of the new contract arrangements is to promote better outcomes for service users through achieving greater independence whilst continuing to meet assessed need. Core services are accessible to a wider
group of service users based in the community in addition to those who hold tenancies in supported accommodation. This provides a longer term support structure for individuals with varying levels of need. Providers are required to work with the department to ensure Best Value is obtained.

Further, work has progressed with a care home provider (Gowrie Care Ltd) to redevelop care arrangements and change registration at the former care homes at Doocot Park, Arbroath and River Street, Brechin. The newly developed supported accommodation at these locations require to be brought into similar contracting arrangements used for other supported accommodation. The registration status of these services changed on 1 February 2011.

3 PROPOSAL

It is proposed to progressively implement the core and cluster model across supported accommodation where care and support services are currently commissioned by Angus Council. Initially current service providers will be awarded contracts for the core and cluster model for a period of up to 5 years to provide continuity for tenants and others receiving floating support from the same organisation in the locality. These services have not previously been tendered. Tender exercises for these services will be undertaken and after expiry of the contracts awarded to existing providers the services will be provided by those organisations who have won the tenders.

The development of future tendering arrangements for services not previously tendered will ensure that Angus Council complies with the principle of equal treatment of all potential suppliers embodied in European and Scottish directives. Also, addressing the regulations governing public procurement and to ensure Best Value is achieved in the procurement of these services it is now proposed that they are made subject to a competitive tendering process.

4 PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY

Sourcing Strategy
The Director of Social Work and Health considers that the provision of care at home is an essential requirement to deliver social work services in this area. No alternative delivery to procurement of the required supply is appropriate here because the aim is to provide continuity and consistency of care for individuals whose care and support service arrangements are transitioning from care home to care at home or from supported accommodation to core and cluster care at home.

The following Angus Council policies support and are relevant to this procurement:

- The Learning Disability redesign which aims to shift the balance of care to more community based models of care.

The supply market has been analysed and it is considered that in the longer term the market for this supply is reasonably competitive. A competitive tender approach to the procurement is therefore considered to be likely to deliver best value to the council for the provision of care at home within the context of the procurement of social care services.

Key Terms Proposed
Due to changes in registration status the contracts commenced on the dates detailed below for a three year period with an option to extend for up to a further two years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doocot Park</td>
<td>1 February 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>River Street</td>
<td>1 February 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burnside Drive</td>
<td>9 May 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windmill Brae</td>
<td>1 November 2011</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The value of the supply is detailed in the financial implications section of this report.

These contracts will be tendered, in line with Council requirements, to establish new arrangements in time for the expiry of the contract term.

**Procurement Risks**
A risk assessment has been undertaken for this tender and, other than the normal risks inherent in any contract, no significant risks have been identified.

**5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

It is anticipated that the move to core and cluster arrangements will result in efficiencies in the longer term. It is not possible to quantify potential saving at this point but the impact of the cluster arrangements will be closely monitored.

Based on the specific contracts included in this report, the gross costs of the different models is as follows:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Existing Costs £000’s</th>
<th>Proposed Costs £000’s</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doocot Park</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>River Street</td>
<td>358</td>
<td>315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burnside Drive*</td>
<td>376</td>
<td>312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windmill Brae</td>
<td>366</td>
<td>366</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Gross Cost</strong></td>
<td><strong>1354</strong></td>
<td><strong>1274</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Saving</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>80</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Please note that at present the funding for the transfer of Burnside Drive from residential to supported housing £197,184 is held within the staff costs held for the redesign of learning disabilities. It is recommended that committee approve a virement of this amount into third party payments to fund this contract.

The saving identified above will be utilised within the continuing re-design of learning disabilities services per committee report 271/09.

**6 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS**

There are no Human Rights implications arising as a result of the recommendations contained in this report.

**7 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

The issues dealt with in this report have been the subject of consideration from an equalities perspective. An equalities impact assessment is not required.

**8 SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT**

This report contributes to the following local outcomes contained within the Single Outcome Agreement for Angus:

**Outcome 7** We have tackled the significant inequalities in Scottish Society.
- Services are aimed at supporting people to overcome the social, educational, physical, environmental and economic barriers that create inequality.

**Outcome 10** We live in well designed, sustainable places where we are able to access the amenities and services we need.
• Services are designed to support people with disabilities to access local services and amenities.
• Appropriate and well designed housing is developed to meet the needs of people with learning disability.

Outcome 11  We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.

• People with disabilities are involved in community life.

Outcome 15  Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local peoples needs.

• Service are provided that better meet the needs of people with a disability in Angus.
• People with a disability are enabled to be independent within their community.

9  CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, the Director of Corporate Services, the Head of Finance, and the Head of Law and Administration have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

10  CONCLUSION

Tendering of support services not previously tendered for but provided on behalf of Angus Council by external providers will ensure Best Value is achieved in the procurement of these services and that Angus Council acts in accordance with the principle of equal treatment of all potential suppliers embodied in European and Scottish directives and regulations governing public procurement.

R Peat
Director of Social Work and Health

NOTE: No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.

SW&H/RP/VD