

TITLE OF REPORT: Strategic Review of Carers Services

Purpose of the Report

1. To inform the Health & Wellbeing Board on the current position of the strategic review of services in Gateshead for unpaid Carers.

Background

2. In response to the implementation of the Care Act 2014 Gateshead Integrated Commissioning Group agreed for Gateshead Council to take the lead on the review of Carers services in Gateshead.
3. The review provides an exciting opportunity for both Gateshead Council and Newcastle Gateshead Clinical Commissioning Group in taking an innovative approach to the integrated commissioning of carers services across Gateshead.
4. We are moving from jointly commissioned services to an integrated commissioned service between the Clinical Commissioning Group and Local Authority. We hope the learning from this work will support other areas and act as an exemplar as we move forward on our integration agenda.

Current Position

5. On 17 October 2017, Gateshead Council's Cabinet gave approval for the Council to jointly procure, with Newcastle Gateshead CCG (NGCCG), an all age carers' service in Gateshead. This approval enables us to move towards our procurement activity and produce relevant documentation for our future tender.
6. The preferred option is to go out to tender with one overarching contract for Carers with service requirements divided into 3 separate LOT's as follows;
 - LOT 1 Young carers (aged 0 – 18 years)
 - LOT 2 Adult Carers (aged 18 years and over)
 - LOT 3 Carer Relief
7. Each of the above mentioned LOT's will have their own service specification which will focus on the key objectives identified during engagement activity. This will include; keeping carers informed, supporting carers to look after their health and wellbeing, offering carers a break from caring and raising awareness of the role of carers.
8. Current commissioned Providers have been asked to submit details relating to staff that could potentially be transferring under TUPE to the new service.
9. We are meeting with current commissioned Provider's week commencing 20 November to discuss with them how best to collect information relating to individual

carers who are actively being supported, the interventions delivered and frequency of such.

10. This information will be used to inform potential bidders of the number of carers they will need to be supporting with effect from the date of commencement of the new service to ensure consistent delivery of carer support to avoid any potential breakdown in the caring role.
11. We are also asking our Providers to help us identify the best way to communicate with carers to ensure we keep them informed of the process of the review.
12. A contract value has been formalised between Gateshead Council and Newcastle Gateshead CCG which will be shared at the point the tender is released.

Proposed Next Steps

13. We are working to our project plan and key timelines include:

Tender advertised on NEPO portal	4 January 18
Intended contract award date	3 April 18
Service commencement	July 2018

14. We will be implementing a transition period during April to June 2018. This will provide opportunities for the incoming Providers to develop a transition plan which incorporates goals, priorities and strategies to ensure a smooth transition of support for carers.

Contact: Jon Tomlinson, Interim Service Director, Commissioning and Quality Assurance 0191 433 2352

Jane Mulholland, Director of Operations and Delivery, Newcastle Gateshead Clinical Commissioning Group 0191 2172982