

By: Anna Taylor, Scrutiny Research Officer

To: Scrutiny Committee, 28 February 2024

Subject: Adult Social Care Contract Extensions

Summary: As requested by Mr Streatfeild and agreed by the Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee, the Committee is invited to discuss the recent Adult Social Care Contract extension decisions.

1. Introduction

a) On 18 January 2024 the following decisions were discussed by the Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee, and the decisions were subsequently taken by the Cabinet Member on 9 February 2024:

- a. [24/00002 - SS14142 Older Persons Residential and Nursing Contract Extension](#)
- b. [24/00003 - Care and Support in the Home Contract Extension](#)
- c. [24/00004 - Learning Disability, Physical Disability and Mental Health Residential Care Home Services - Contract Extension](#)
- d. [24/00005 - Supported Living - Contract Extension](#)
- e. [24/00006 - Expansion of Kent Enablement at Home Service](#)

b) There was extensive discussion about these decisions at the Cabinet Committee, which included criticism and challenge, from some members, of the situation regarding these contract extensions.

c) Following a request from Mr Streatfeild, endorsed by the Chairman, these decisions have been placed on the Scrutiny Committee agenda for further exploration and discussion. This is in line with paragraph 17.54 of the [Constitution](#), which states the following:

17.54 Any Member of the Council who is not a member of the Scrutiny Committee is entitled to give notice to the proper Officer that they wish an item relevant to the functions of the Committee or Sub-Committee (which is not an excluded matter as set out in 17.55) to be included on the agenda for the next available meeting. On receipt of such a request the proper Officer will ensure that it is included on the next available agenda. The Member concerned is entitled to address the Committee or sub-committee.

d) The Record of Decision and Decision Report for each decision has been included within the agenda pack. The links above include further information about the decisions. The Cabinet Member and Corporate Director will be in attendance at the meeting to answer Members' questions.

- e) During the discussion, Members may wish to explore the following areas:
- a. Exploration of alternative options considered.
 - b. The timeline running up to March 2024 when the contracts will be extended.
 - c. How these contract extensions align with the values in Securing Kent's Future.
 - d. How future cost pressures within these contracts will be managed.
 - e. What lessons are being learned to ensure that the Council has appropriate time and resources to better handle contract renewals/extensions in the future?
 - f. How these contracts will be monitored and reported back on in the future?

2. Attached documents

The Record of Decision and Decision Report for each decision is attached.

3. Recommendation

The Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider the information provided at the meeting in response to Members' questions on the Adult Social Care Contract Extensions.

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