

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by Executive Director of Social Work and Health

Tendering Committee: 28th July 2009

Subject: Provision of Residential Respite Services for Adults with Learning Disabilities

1. Purpose

- 1.1** To seek Committee's approval to invite tenders for the provision of residential respite services for adults with Learning Disabilities.

2. Background

- 2.1** Since 2006 respite services in west Dunbartonshire have been provided by a mainstream provider in a dual housing support/respite facility. This has had limited effectiveness and has restricted the amount of respite provided. There has been no specialist respite service for adults with Learning Disabilities based in West Dunbartonshire during this time.
- 2.2** In November 2006 the tendering committee approved a restricted tender for the provision of a service to be located in a new purpose built facility developed by Knowes Housing Association at Dunn Street in Duntocher.
- 2.3** This tender exercise produced four expressions of interest from providers which were evaluated and resulted in preparations being made to invite three of those organisations to tender.
- 2.4** At this time, significant delays in the development of the building were encountered, which have been resolved over the past six months, and with the construction of the building now started and scheduled for completion in December 2009 we are only now in a position to provide potential service providers with the certainty they require in order to construct their bids.

3. Main Issues

- 3.1** The Social Work and Health Department now wish to invite tenders for the provision of this service with the successful tender being the Organisation which submits the most economically advantageous tender
- 3.2** Given the time that has elapsed since expressions of interest were originally sought, the Department would wish to give an opportunity to the widest group of potential providers to tender for the provision of the service by conducting an open tender.

- 3.3** Before the tender is advertised the Department will write to the four organisations who originally expressed an interest to inform them of this new tendering opportunity.

4. Personnel Issues

- 4.1** There are no personnel issues in this tender.

5. Financial Implication

- 5.1** Finance for this service is in place through the budget process – as the provision of temporary alternative services has had to be provided since the closure of Marelen House. Failure to progress this tender will result in additional costs to meet existing commitments.

6. Risk Analysis

- 6.1** If there is a delay in the commencement and letting of the contract there is a significant risk of damage to the Council's reputation as the new build facility will lie empty and incur costs. There is also the certainty that any delay will impact adversely on the development of a much needed and anticipated facility.
- 6.2** Failure to develop this service will have an adverse effect on the councils performance reporting to the Scottish government

7. Conclusions and Recommendation

- (i) The appointment of a suitable provider for this service will be an important and significant stage in the development of a new fit for purpose residential respite service in West Dunbartonshire.
 - (ii) It is crucial that the appointment of a successful tenderer coincides with the time frame for the development of the building in order for the provider to be involved in the final stages of the commissioning of this new service
 - (ii) The committee is asked to approve the tender to seek a service provider for this service.
- 7.1** A further report will be presented to the Social Work and Health Improvement Committee to note the recommencement of the previously agreed tender process and in due course a further report seeking approval to appoint a successful tenderer will be submitted to this committee.

William W Clark
Executive Director of Social Work and Health

Wards Affected: All

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Appendices: None

Background Papers: Provision of Residential Respite Services for Adults with Learning Disabilities - Tendering Committee: 15 November 2006

Proposed Closure of Marelen House – Social Justice Committee 14th June 2006