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CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWING THE COMMITTEE MEETING

Committee COMMUNITY & ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date and Time of Meeting WEDNESDAY, 17 JANUARY 2018, 4.30 PM

Please find below correspondence send by the Committee Chair following the meeting, together with any responses received.

For any further details, please contact scrutinyviewpoints@cardiff.gov.uk

7 **Correspondence Following the Committee Meeting** (Pages 1 - 4)

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My Ref: Scrutiny/Correspondence/Cllr McGarry

18 January 2018

Councillor Susan Elsmore
Cabinet Member
c/o Room 520
County Hall
Cardiff
CF10 4UW



Dear Susan

Community & Adult Services Scrutiny Committee – 17 January 2018

On behalf of the Members of the Community & Adult Services Scrutiny Committee, I would like to thank you and officers for attending for pre-decision scrutiny of the Cabinet Report entitled 'Procurement of Domiciliary Care'.

Overall, Members support the recommendations detailed in the report to Cabinet. It is clear, from the report and the answers provided to our questions at the meeting, that the current approach to commissioning and procuring domiciliary care has had time to bed in and is delivering key benefits to service users and to the Council, for example in terms of strengthening quality of provision, increasing the numbers of providers and boosting competition, resulting in stabilisation and reduction in hourly rates paid to providers.

However, Members are disappointed with the level of evidence provided in the report to Cabinet. Members are pleased to hear that the project group has undertaken a full Options Appraisal and note statements at Committee, which indicate that options have been considered (*for example the statement regarding the adoption of a framework approach by Rhondda Cynon Taf Council and the assertion that re-instating in-house provision has been assessed as being too costly*). Still, Members feel that the full Options Appraisal should have been included in the report to Cabinet and are disappointed that it was not.

Given the above, Members would like to receive a copy of the Options Appraisal and request that this be sent as part of your response to this letter; Members are content to be bound by the Members Code of Conduct if the information in the Options Appraisal is confidential.

As discussed at the meeting, Members were initially concerned that the timescales for commissioning and procuring new domiciliary care arrangements were tight. We are reassured by your comments and the comments of officers that there is ample time, given that the project group has undertaken background work over the last twelve months and has sought to identify potential hurdles and mitigate these.

Members note the following points made during our meeting:

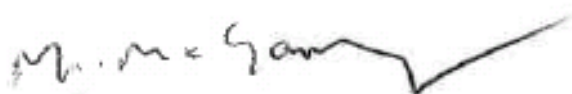
- That there is the potential to reduce the cost of the IT software.

- That there is a robust process in place to monitor and manage contracts, including spot and arranged visits and an 'escalating concerns' procedure.
- That the reference to 20% of care packages not being filled first time is based on historic data and that, currently, the market is buoyant and the vast majority of care packages are now filled first time
- That the buoyant market and increase in providers has had a positive impact on Delayed Transfer of Care performance
- That the reduction in hourly rates of pay is met by providers and not passed on to staff and does not affect the quality of care received by service users.
- That it is currently proposed to procure contracts on a 4 year plus one year plus one year basis.

Finally, Members thank you for the offer to attend scrutiny in three to six months' time for scrutiny of the qualitative aspects of the commissioning and procurement proposals. We welcome this and ask that officers liaise with Scrutiny Services to ensure this is scheduled appropriately.

Thank you again for attending Committee for pre-decision scrutiny of this item.

Yours sincerely,



COUNTY COUNCILLOR MARY M^CGARRY
Chairperson - Community & Adult Services Scrutiny Committee

Cc:	Tony Young	Director of Social Services
	Amanda Phillips	Assistant Director of Adult Social Services
	Leon Goddard	Project Officer
	Paula Angel	Personal Assistant
	Naomi Evans	Cabinet Office

My Ref: Scrutiny/Correspondence/Cllr McGarry

17 January 2018

Councillor Lynda Thorne
Cabinet Member for Housing & Communities
County Hall
Cardiff
CF10 4UW



Dear Lynda,

**COMMUNITY & ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 17 JANUARY 2018
SUPPORTING PEOPLE LOCAL DELIVERY PLAN – DRAFT CABINET REPORT**

As Chair of the Community & Adult Services Scrutiny Committee, I wish to thank you and officers for attending Committee and providing Members with an opportunity to consider the draft Supporting People Local Delivery Plan prior to its consideration by Cabinet on the 18th January 2018. Members of the Committee have requested that I feed back the following comments and observations to you.

The Committee fully supports the draft Local Delivery Plan and commends the report to Cabinet.

Members were pleased with the content of the report together with the indication that the funding would continue next year. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the officers for all their work in ensuring that vulnerable people in Cardiff are supported.

During the way forward discussions the Committee made a number of comments, which they felt I should include in this letter, so that they can be considered by you at Cabinet prior to the reports approval.

The Committee expressed concern that the Directorate was proposing to reduce the number of contracts from 17 to two providers, they felt that they would like to see some flexibility and consider the Directorate should be open to appointing more than two, if providers put a business case forward and that the appropriate savings are still made.

The Committee also expressed concern that the recommissioning of services for male victims of domestic abuse is delayed. Members noted that the current provision will continue,

and were reassured that work has started to look at this regionally and that the timescales may be brought forward.

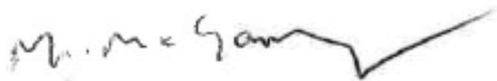
In respect of the contents of the Cabinet Report the Committee recommended that the following clarifications be included in the report:

- With regards to the proposed contracts, (paragraph 42), to include that the contact will be extended annually and not to exceed seven years.
- That it should be made clear that the Homelessness Prevention Projects also include Substance Misuse Intensive Support Services (paragraph 15).

Finally the Committee noted that further reports would be presented to Cabinet, including the recommissioning of the several projects which have been extended for a further 12 months, Members requested that all these reports must be presented to this Committee prior to their consideration at Cabinet.

Thank you again to you and officers for attending. The Committee wishes you well in progressing this set of proposals.

Yours sincerely,



COUNTY COUNCILLOR MARY M^CGARRY
Chairperson - Community & Adult Services Scrutiny Committee

Cc: Sarah McGill, Director of Communities, Housing and Customer Services
Jane Thomas, Assistant Director Housing and Communities
Cabinet Support Office