

To: Health & Social Care Scrutiny Panel

Date of meeting: 21st June, 2017

Notes of: Committee Administrator

IMPROVING STANDARDS OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE – RECOMMISSIONING OF HOMECARE SERVICES

Background

1. The Health and Social Care Scrutiny Panel first heard of Lancashire County Council's (LCC's) proposals to re-commission homecare services for older adults and people with a physical disability in September 2014.
2. This had included a proposal to reduce the number of homecare providers with LCC contracts from over 130 to less than 30 and at that time would have affected 5,800 homecare customers.
3. The Panel was keen to monitor progress with the proposals and, due to a number of delays this continued throughout 2015 and 2016.
4. In September 2015 Members heard that the procurement of new homecare contracts was running to schedule and the new contracts were expected to commence from November, 2015.
5. However, in November 2015 the Panel learnt that the process used could have been vulnerable to challenge and therefore all re-procurement activity was paused so that the position could be re-evaluated.
6. Several months later, after consultation with providers, the new framework was planned to go out to tender in August 2016.
7. An update to the Panel's December 2016 meeting showed that this timeframe had not been achieved and that the tender had been published on 9th December, 2016.
8. The Panel was advised that it was proposed to evaluate the responses between February and April 2017, with notification of the outcome taking place in May 2017.
9. This timeframe allowed for commencement of the new framework in August 2017.

Update

10. LCC advise that the timetable has slipped slightly, with the evaluation of tenders taking place in May 2017.
11. They now expect to award contracts in August and the framework to commence in November, 2017.

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