

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING:	Children, Adult, Health and Wellbeing Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel	
MEETING DATE:	9th November 2021	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
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TITLE:	Virgin Care Contract – Options Appraisal	
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
<p>List of attachments to this report: Cabinet report pack - the suite of Cabinet papers will form the basis for this Panel's discussions and include:</p> <p>A report, with the following attachments:</p> <p>Attachment 1: Options Appraisal – main report including appendices</p> <p>Attachment 2: Dashboard – performance and activity</p> <p>Attachment 3: Executive summary</p> <p>Attachment 4: Presentation</p>		

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 This Panel has received a number of reports on the Virgin Care Contract, the most recent report provided details of service user/patient experience and workforce planning.
- 1.2 Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group (BSWCCG) and B&NES Council, as joint commissioners of community services provided by Virgin Care, have requested a report setting out an options appraisal to help inform a decision on the future of the Virgin Care contract.
- 1.2 This is a seven year contract from 2017/18 to 2023/2024 with the option for BSWCCG and B&NES Council to extend the contract term by three years, taking the contract term to 2026/2027. Virgin Care would need to be notified of the decision to extend or not to extend the contract by no later than the end of March 2022.

- 1.3 The original contract expiration date is the end of contract year seven and this point is deemed to be an ordinary exit date with the option to extend for a further three years.
- 1.4 An extra-ordinary B&NES, Swindon and Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group (BSWCCG) Governing Body meeting has been convened for a decision to be taken on 11th November 2021, to ensure a joint decision is taken in public on the same day.

2. RECOMMENDATION

Scrutiny Panel is asked to;

- 2.1 Consider the content of the Cabinet Report and appendices to help inform understanding and context.
- 2.2 The Panel is invited to feedback on and reflect the views of the community on the services delivered through the contract and;
- 2.3 Feedback on the officer recommendation and consider the focus for performance improvements/delivery.

3 THE REPORT

- 3.1 The Cabinet papers provide details of the options appraisal and background information to help inform a decision. There is a comprehensive overview of the performance of Virgin Care since being awarded the prime provider contract for the delivery of integrated health care, social care and public health services for the B&NES locality (since April 2017).
- 3.2 The full report gives information on the original decision to award the contract to Virgin Care, services that make up the contract, financial value and performance, service performance over the lifetime of the contract, services identified for development, quality and service user experience, priorities against Your Care Your Way, contracting and governance, legal position, response to COVID-19, horizon scanning, options appraisal and recommendation. The papers include a slide deck on performance and areas for development (section 6 of the main report).
- 3.3 In addition to the full report there are two presentations (1 presentation for the full report and the other as an overview) and a supporting executive summary to provide a concise overview of the main points to be considered and rationale for the recommended option.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 The original Your Care Your Way Full Business Case November 2016 sets out how the procurement and decision making process for contract award to Virgin Care met legal and statutory duties.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

- 5.1 The full options appraisal with associated disbenefits and benefits is contained in section 13 of the main report.
- 5.2 Please refer to the Cabinet report and appendices for information on the finances relating to both the contract and options to be considered.
- 5.3 The employers National Insurance increase of 1.25% to fund the Government pledge of £36bn investment into Health and Social Care will have a financial impact on the contract. For the NHS element of the contract this increase will be fully funded as inflationary uplift will be passed down the NHS funding line from the department to the provider. For the Council element of the contract this is being planned for as a potential cost pressure as it constitutes a nationally mandated pay inflation change. We are awaiting further clarity on the implications for social care and public health.

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 6.1 A risk assessment has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.
- 6.2 The full options appraisal with associated disbenefits and benefits is in section 13. Contained in the disbenefits and benefits of each option are the identified risks of each option.
- 6.3 The rationale for the CCG and Council jointly recommended option clearly outlines the consideration of associated risks and current operating context.

7 EQUALITIES

- 7.1 As with all contracts Virgin Care are monitored in terms of their compliance with equalities requirements. Further details can be provided if required.
- 7.2 The original Your Care Your Way Full Business Case November 2016 sets out how the procurement and decision making process for contract award to Virgin Care met legal and statutory duties.

8 CLIMATE CHANGE

- 8.1 The Council has declared a climate emergency and has resolved to enable carbon neutrality in B&NES by 2030. Virgin Care as part of the transformation of the service are putting in place mechanisms to reduce the impact of climate change such as mobile working, the integrated care record, multi-disciplinary teams and also multi-agency hubs; the Community Wellbeing Hub is a clear example of this.

9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9.1 The full options appraisal with associated disbenefits and benefits is contained in section 13. This sets out the 3 options to be considered and a supporting rationale for the recommended option to Cabinet.

10 CONSULTATION

10.1 As a joint report between B&NES Council and BSWCCG there has been extensive consultation and development of the options appraisal between the organisations as joint commissioners to produce the full report with supporting appendices and attachments to the main report.

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Background papers	<i>Cabinet Papers of 11 November 2021</i>
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	