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| Devon Procurement Services |
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| 26 November 2020 |

Dear Provider

**RE: Commissioning Proposal: Short-term Block Volume Personal Care Contracts**

Devon County Council is interested in exploring the use of a number of small block contract arrangements for Personal Care in particular locations with Devon. These packages of care are typically required in rural locations and / or require double-handed care.

In the absence of a Provider Market Response, there are currently 116 c. 1260 hours of activity per week being held by our Urgent Care & Response / Social Care Reablement Services or being supported by temporary agency provision.

To assist the market in being able to respond to these unmet demands, the Council proposes to commission small volume block contracts as short-term intervention to ‘seed’ capacity in the local market.

Current unsourced packages of care across Devon have been modelled to help identify where the proposed areas and required hours are. The table below highlights these areas, with a sharper focus on electoral wards including run groupings.

Providers should note that the table below is snapshot of backfilled demand by market town and will be subject to change.

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| **Devon Town** | **Run Grouping** |
| Exeter | * Alphington, St Thomas, Exwick, Kenn Valley (64hrs) * St Loyes, St Davids, Priory, Duryard & St James, Heavitree, Pennsylvania, Pinhoe, Mincinglake & Whipton (133.37hrs) |
| Barnstaple | * Barnstaple central, Barnstaple with Pilton, Barnstaple with Westacott (91.75hrs) * Bickington, Fremington (71.25hrs) * Landkey, Chittlehampton (105.25hrs) |
| Okehampton | * Okehampton North, Okehampton South (58hrs) |
| Newton Abbot | * Bovey Ward (109.5hrs) * Chudleigh ward (75.25hrs) |
| Seaton | * Seaton ward (160 hrs) |
| Dawlish | * Dawlish North East Ward and Kenton & Starcross (98hrs) * Dawlish South West Ward and Teignmouth East (72hrs) |

The proposed block contracts will have the following features:

• To provide the regulated activity ‘personal care’ in the individuals own home. This will include double handed care packages.

• Small commissioned volumes c. 50 – 150 hrs per block, in defined areas.

• The block volume will be paid at DCC’s existing banded rates of £21.32 or £24.32 depending on the area the block covers.

• Agreed rates for voids.

• The block volumes will represent additional commissioning. Providers will not be permitted to incorporate existing business into short-term block volume arrangements under the terms of this contract.

• The contract start date will be at the point that the provider has demonstrated that they have recruited enough staff to mobilise and provide the full block hours contracted.

• Each individual contract will run for three months from the date of its agreed start date.

• It is expected that packages of care commissioned through the short-term block contract vehicle will pass to a provider’s core-business on the personal care standard banded rate contract upon termination of the block contract arrangement.

**Not in scope**

Night sleep & waking night support is not in scope of this contract.

**Procurement Process**

DCC is seeking to undertake a tender process which will include a selection criteria questionnaire and the completion of a quality (award) questionnaire as set out in the tender documents to be published.

As a Key quality requirement, the Provider MUST have an overall CQC quality rating of Requires Improvement or above. Providers with any key line of enquiry currently rated as Inadequate by the CQC will not be eligible.

It is envisaged that this opportunity to tender will be published by **7 December 2020**.

Your Sincerely

Devon Procurement Services