

## **Proposal to Extend the Existing Contracts held with Care Homes in Nottinghamshire**

### **1. Purpose of the Paper**

To request that the Governing Body considers a proposal to extend the existing care home contracts across Nottinghamshire for a further two years.

### **2. Background**

Nottingham City CCG and Nottingham City Council (NCC) have held multilateral contracts with care homes across the City and County since April 2015 for residential care, nursing care, and NHS Continuing Healthcare (CHC). The contract was initially a three year contract with an option to extend for a further two years. NCC acts as the lead commissioner and Nottingham City CCG as an Associate Commissioner. During the first year of the contract it was agreed that Nottinghamshire's five County CCGs would join this arrangement also as Associate Commissioners from 1 April 2016. There are currently over 350 individual care homes in Nottinghamshire, with the majority holding a contract.

### **3. How does the Multilateral Contract work?**

- Each care home provider holds an NHS standard contract.
- The CCGs commission CHC funded placements and NCC commission social care and jointly funded placements via the contract.
- Contract management is led by NCC but all provider performance issues are discussed jointly and the CCGs participate in contract meetings as necessary.
- Quality monitoring is co-ordinated between the NHS and the two Local Authorities, with the CCGs monitoring all nursing homes and the LAs overseeing residential homes. A single tool (iCare) is used by the CCGs to monitor the quality of nursing homes.

### **4. Proposal**

NCC has recently proposed taking the option to extend the contract until 31 March 2020. The CCGs have benefited from holding a joint contract with the local authority in a number of ways, which will continue by extending the current arrangements. The benefits are:

- Supports stronger partnership working between the CCGs and NCC, and the building of positive relationships with care home providers.
- Reduces duplication of work.
- Simpler for providers having fewer contracts, single processes e.g. a single quality monitoring procedure.
- Oversight arrangements are aligned, supporting early intervention and quality improvement.
- Supports commissioners to work together to tackle poor performance.
- Enables better market management.
- The annual pricing review enables consistency across Nottinghamshire care homes for CHC prices.

There are no significant risks associated with extending the contract which might otherwise warrant going out to re-procurement. Any individual performance issues can be managed using the provisions within the contract.

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## **5. Recommendation**

It is recommended that members of the Governing Body approve the proposal to extend the current contracts with care homes until 31 March 2020.

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