



Cabinet

Date:	19 October 2021
Reference number:	TBC
Title:	Support to the provider market as a result of Covid 19
Relevant councillor(s):	Angela Macpherson, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing
Author and/or contact officer:	Gillian Quinton, Corporate Director Adults & Health
Ward(s) affected:	None
Recommendations:	<p>(1) To note the update on the provider market, as detailed in the confidential report and appendix, and to authorise the Corporate Director and Adults and Health to continue to negotiate with a provider on appropriate contract variations.</p> <p>(2) To approve the funding request in 2021/22, as detailed in the confidential report and appendix, for immediate project resource and to be met from the General Contingency budget – Economic Uncertainty.</p> <p>(3) To note that a request for additional ASC contingency, as detailed in the confidential report and appendix, to mitigate the potential wider financial impacts in 2022/23-2025-26 will be considered as part of the overall Medium Term Financial Planning process.</p>
Reason for decision:	To ensure the council provides continuity of care in line with its statutory obligations under the Care Act 2014 and to enable the future re-commissioning of services.

There are confidential appendices to this report which are exempt by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 because they contain

information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)

1. Executive summary

- 1.1 In March 2021 a report relating to this matter was presented and approved by Cabinet, which resulted in a package of financial support and a commitment to return to Cabinet with the viable options for the commissioning of services making note of the key commercial considerations.
- 1.2 The confidential report provides an update on the current position and outlines the options for next steps. The approaches proposed aim to provide the best foundation for managing the current care market whilst preparing for the future delivery of care and support for older people. Core to the proposals are the ensuring the delivery of good quality care, value for money and ensuring market stability in line with our obligations under the Care Act 2014 which are listed below:
- To promote the efficient and effective operation of a market in services for meeting care and support needs;
 - Ensuring the sustainability of the market (in circumstances where it is operating effectively as well as in circumstances where it is not); and
 - In the event of provider failure, to ensure continuity of care and support so that all clients (including self-funders) continue to receive services that keep them safe and well.
- 1.3 The options for next steps will be considered in a confidential session as it contains information relating to financial or business affairs which are commercially confidential.

2. Other options considered

- 2.1 The options considered are set out in a confidential report. The proposals offer the best way to ensure; continuity of care and support; robust contract and quality monitoring to ensure effective risk management whilst demonstrating value for money.

3. Legal and financial implications

- 3.1 The legal and financial implications of the proposal are outlined within the confidential report.

4. Corporate implications

- 4.1 This proposal is in line with the corporate aim to protect the vulnerable and supports our ambitions as outlined in the Better Lives strategy.

5. Local councillors & community boards consultation & views

- 5.1 None

6. Communication, engagement & further consultation

- 6.1 Details are provided within the confidential report.

7. Next steps and review

- 7.1 If approved this proposal will be monitored by the Adults and Health Board, including a regular review of market challenges to ensure the delivery of a good quality, sustainable care market for Buckinghamshire.

8. Background papers

- 8.1 None

9. Your questions and views (for key decisions)

- 9.1 If you have any questions about the matters contained in this report please get in touch with the author of this report. If you have any views that you would like the cabinet member to consider please inform the democratic services team. This can be done by telephone 01296 382 343 or email democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk