

**CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.**

**Audit Committee  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July**

**REPORT AUTHOR:** David Powell  
Strategic Director Resources

**SUBJECT:** WAO Review of letting of a Domiciliary Care contract to Alpha Care

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**REPORT FOR:** Information

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**Summary**

The report informs Audit Committee of a Wales Audit Office (WAO) forthcoming review of the letting of a domiciliary care contract to Alpha Care.

**Proposal**

At Audit Committee on 29<sup>th</sup> June it was noted that WAO will be carrying out an audit of the letting of the domiciliary care contract to Alpha Care.

The review will look at how the council managed risks relating to the contract and therefore cover:

- Compliance with the authority's internal contract letting processes.
- The appropriateness and timeliness of the authority's response to the emerging difficulties with the Alpha Care contract
- The authority's arrangements to manage potential conflicts of interest
- The decisions to advance £50,000 to the company and the arrangements made to ensure the recoverability of the advance; and
- The controls established by the authority to mitigate the risk of contravening EU state aid rules

The work will commence with a document review and there will then be a series of meetings with key staff.

In order to support the review a member of staff will make all necessary arrangements and act as the single point of contact for information requests.

Audit Committee will be aware the Authority has already taken a proactive approach to the issue of the reviewing of commissioning of domiciliary care in

Powys. As a result of this approach a report was delivered by the Institute of Public Care (IPC) at Oxford Brookes University. The work undertaken by IPC was requested by the Social Services Improvement Agency for Wales (SSIA) and the Council. This piece of work looked at specific aspects of the commissioning and procurement of domiciliary care services by Powys prior to a transfer of services in April and May 2014.

The work to be undertaken by WAO will result in additional costs. These costs, under legislation, must be met by Powys. WAO estimate that this will be £10,000 but the final sum will depend on the level and nature of the work required.

**One Powys Plan**

Not Applicable.

**Options Considered/Available**

Not Applicable.

**Preferred Choice and Reasons**

Not Applicable.

**Sustainability and Environmental Issues/Equalities/Crime and Disorder,/Welsh Language/Other Policies etc**

Not Applicable.

**Children and Young People's Impact Statement - Safeguarding and Wellbeing**

Not Applicable.

**Local Member(s)**

Not Applicable.

**Other Front Line Services**

Not Applicable.

**Support Services (Legal, Finance, Corporate Property, HR, ICT, Business Services)**

The additional cost will be met from the central contingency budget.

**Local Service Board/Partnerships/Stakeholders etc**

Not Applicable.

**Corporate Communications**

Not Applicable.

**Statutory Officers**

The Strategic Director Resources (Section 151 Officer) will act as the lead contact officer with WAO and work with the Strategic Director People in order to provide information to the WAO.

<b>Recommendation:</b>	<b>Reason for Recommendation:</b>
<b>That Audit Committee note the content of the report</b>	<b>To ensure Committee is aware of the review.</b>

<b>Relevant Policy (ies):</b>			
<b>Within Policy:</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Within Budget:</b>	<b>Y</b>

<b>Relevant Local Member(s):</b>	<b>N/A</b>
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<b>Person(s) To Implement Decision:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:</b>	<b>N/A</b>

<b>Contact Officer Name:</b>	<b>Tel:</b>	<b>Fax:</b>	<b>Email:</b>
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