

Report to:	Cabinet	Date of Meeting:	2 nd December 2021
Subject:	Domiciliary Care Contract Novation		
Report of:	Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Health	Wards Affected:	Norwood; Meols; Kew; Birkdale; Cambridge; Dukes; Ainsdale
Portfolio:	Cabinet Member Adult Social Care		
Is this a Key Decision:	Yes	Included in Forward Plan:	Yes
Exempt Confidential Report:	/ No		

Summary:

Due to structural company changes aligned to the Castlerock Recruitment Group approval is sought to novate current contracts held in relation to Domiciliary care provision in Sefton.

Recommendation(s):

- (1) To approve the novation of current contracts with Castlerock Recruitment Group Ltd / Health Care Resourcing Group to CRG Homecare Ltd who are a subsidiary company within the Group with effect from the 23rd September 2021.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

This option is recommended as CRG Homecare Ltd are a subsidiary of Castlerock Recruitment Group Ltd / Health Care Resourcing Group and so this novation would ensure that delivery of current services would remain with no disruption.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

Consideration of seeking either new provision for individual packages or undertaking a full procurement exercise was rejected on the basis of the impact on current service users and limited capacity in the market to secure alternative provision.

Services are provided through an agreed purchasing system whereby costs are set, and quality outlined within the specification and so there would be no advantage in undertaking a new procurement exercise. Services previously registered under Castlerock Recruitment Ltd were rated as good by the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

CRG Homecare Ltd are a subsidiary of Castlerock Recruitment Ltd and so the staff employed to provide the service would remain the same with no change and would offer the least disruptive approach for services users and stability of the provision.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

There are no additional revenue costs associated with this report. The costs of the novated contracts can be contained within the existing Adult Social Care budget.

(B) Capital Costs

There are no capital costs associated with this report.

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets):	
There are no resource implications arising from this report at this stage.	
Legal Implications:	
Care Act 2014	
Equality Implications:	
There are no equality implications arising from this report at this stage.	
Climate Emergency Implications:	
The recommendations within this report will	
Have a positive impact	
Have a neutral impact	Y
Have a negative impact	
The Author has undertaken the Climate Emergency training for report authors	Y

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable:
<i>The novation would best ensure that vulnerable service users currently receiving care from Castlerock Recruitment Group Ltd / Health Care Resourcing Group continue to have their needs met.</i>
Facilitate confident and resilient communities:
<i>Approving the novation is most likely to ensure the current Service Users of Castlerock Recruitment Group Ltd / Health Care Resourcing Group have continuity of care and thus support Service Users to remain as independent as they are. Furthermore, this</i>

<i>option avoids any potential break in care whilst another Provider is sourced. Such disruption could lead to a deterioration in health and undue stress.</i>
Commission, broker and provide core services: <i>The novation best ensures that the Council is providing core services to current Castlerock Recruitment Group Ltd / Health Care Resourcing Group Service Users.</i>
Place – leadership and influencer: N/A
Drivers of change and reform: N/A
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: N/A
Greater income for social investment: N/A
Cleaner Greener N/A

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services (FD6610/21) and the Chief Legal & Democratic Officer (LD4811/21) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

(B) External Consultations

As there will be no actual change to the service delivered to service users or to staff, no external consultations have taken place.

Implementation Date for the Decision

Following the expiry of the “call-in” period for the Cabinet Member decision

Contact Officer:	Pippa McHaffie
Telephone Number:	Tel: 0151 934 3142

Email Address:	Pippa.McHaffie@sefton.gov.uk
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Appendices:

There are no appendices associated with this report.

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

1. Introduction/Background

- 1.1. Castlerock Recruitment Group Ltd is a current Lead Provider operating in Southport. The Provider currently delivers care to approximately 60 people for a total of 780 weekly hours.
- 1.2. As part of internal company restructures, in June 2018, Castlerock Recruitment Group Ltd changed their name to Health Care Resourcing Group Ltd. As a result of these changes and further restructures within the group implemented in June 2021 Castlerock Recruitment Ltd transferred its domiciliary provision to its subsidiary company CRG Homecare Ltd and requested a novation of their contract.
- 1.3. CRG Homecare Ltd has had 100% of its share capital purchased by Cera Care from Castlerock Recruitment Group Ltd / Health Care Resourcing Group Limited. The company number for CRG Homecare Ltd remains the same, as does their VAT position as a zero-rated VAT organisation.
- 1.4. There are therefore no fundamental changes to the local management or arrangements for provision in Sefton with the Responsible Person and Registered Manager being the same individual however registered with The Care Quality Commission (CQC) as CRG Homecare Ltd. Under the previous CQC registration services were rated as good.

2. Conclusion & Recommendations

- 2.1. This paper recommends that a novation agreement be signed with Castlerock Recruitment Group Ltd / Health Care Resourcing Group to novate their current contracts with Sefton Council to CRG Homecare Ltd. This option will provide service users with continued care to meet their needs and ensure stability of the current provision.