

**TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL**

**HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD - 23 January 2013**

**DEVELOPMENT OF A LOCAL HEALTHWATCH**

**REPORT OF – ASSISTANT DIRECTOR – SOCIAL CARE SPECIALIST**

**PART A) – SUMMARY REPORT**

**1. SUMMARY OF MAIN PROPOSALS**

1.1 As previously reported there is a requirement under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 to develop a local Healthwatch. The council who has the lead commissioning responsibility has been working with key stakeholders to develop a service specification and embarked on a procurement exercise in early October 2012. This report provides an up-dated position regarding the procurement process and the development of a local Healthwatch.

1.2 The last report to the Board (dated 12<sup>th</sup> September 2012) provided details of the procurement process and associated key milestones. Unfortunately however, the tender outcome did not result in securing a preferred provider and the decision was made to re-tender. The retender process commenced on the 18<sup>th</sup> December, with a revised closing date for tender on the 18<sup>th</sup> January 2013. The prospective tender submissions will be evaluated during January and February. It is anticipated that we will be able to notify of the outcome of this process by 20<sup>th</sup> February.

**2. RECOMENDATIONS**

2.1 Board members note the current position regarding the procurement of a local Healthwatch.

### 3. SUMMARY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

<b>COMMUNITY IMPACT</b>	Do these proposals contribute to specific Priority Plan objective(s)?	
	Yes	<p>Council's priority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve the health and well-being of our communities and address health inequalities.</li> </ul> <p>Health and Well- being priority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Vulnerable children, young people and adults are safeguarded form harm and neglect.</i></li> <li><i>Ensuring people have a positive experience of care and support</i></li> </ul>
	Will the proposals impact on specific groups of people?	
	Yes	Healthwatch will be a consumer champion for those people who use health or social care services
<b>TARGET COMPLETION/DELIVERY DATE</b>	Healthwatch is required to be in place by 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2013.	
<b>FINANCIAL/VALUE FOR MONEY IMPACT</b>	Yes/No	<p>Set up funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Start up funding (2012/13 anticipate will be available from February -£10,228)</li> <li>Transition pathfinder funding available on contract award £4,000.</li> </ul> <p>Base line budget allocation for 2013/14:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Base line budget- £114,000 current funding allocated to LINKs carried forward.</li> <li>Additional funding £53,648- to reflect additional functions of Healthwatch.</li> </ul> <p>These are the figure which has been included in the revised tender documentation.</p>
<b>LEGAL ISSUES</b>	Yes	Duty to establish a local Healthwatch is set out in the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

		Delegated authority to enter into a contract with the preferred provider following a tender process has already been approved by the Councils Cabinet ( 29 <sup>th</sup> March 2012)
<b>OTHER IMPACTS, RISKS &amp; OPPORTUNITIES</b>	Yes/No	The initial tender did not result in a successful tender award. The panel sought feedback from prospective bidders as to why they had not submitted a tender. This feedback has been considered and acted on in the revised tender. Therefore we are hopeful that the revised tender will result in a greater response. In addition a contingency plan is being developed if, despite the revisions made, a contract, award is not made. This is being developed in conjunction with the regional lead for Healthwatch.
<b>IMPACT ON SPECIFIC WARDS</b>	Yes/No	Borough-wide impact

## **PART B) – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **4. INFORMATION**

4.1 A report was presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board on the 12<sup>th</sup> September 2012. The procurement process and key milestone detailed within this report resulted in one tender submission, although there were ten interested parties who had downloaded the tender.

4.2 Following evaluation of the tender submission, the panel agreed that the bid was not sufficiently robust measured against the evaluation criteria. Detailed feedback was provided to the unsuccessful bidder to enable them to address issues in any future tender submission. More general signposting of what was considered important in any future bids was also incorporated in the revised tender. This was sent to all previous bidders and up-loaded for any new potential providers to consider.

4.3 Feedback was also sought from prospective bidders who did not submit a tender to more fully understand the reasons why bidders had not submitted a bid. One key issue was the financial liabilities associated with the TUPE transfer, in particular the director post. Subsequent negotiations have resulted in this post no longer forming part of the TUPE schedule by mutual agreement between the post holder and the council. This material change has been incorporated into a revised tender .

4.4 The revised tender milestone dates have been attached, as per Appendix 1. The revised tender was up-loaded on the 18<sup>th</sup> December, with a closing date of 18<sup>th</sup> January. Evaluation of submitted bids will be undertaken during January and February with notification of outcome by 20<sup>th</sup> February 2013. Contract negotiations to be concluded during March with a go live date of 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013.

4.5 If this tender process does not result in the appointment of an approved provider the Council would consider it has met it's competitive procurement obligations and therefore would be in a position to consider other options to move forward such as grant aid and/or working with interested parties in a supportive relationship and recognise that a fully functional local Healthwatch will develop incrementally through 2013/14. This approach is being taken by a number of Councils who are in a similar position.

### **5. PREVIOUS MINUTES**

5.1 Cabinet report- 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2011- NHS Transformation and Implications for the Council.

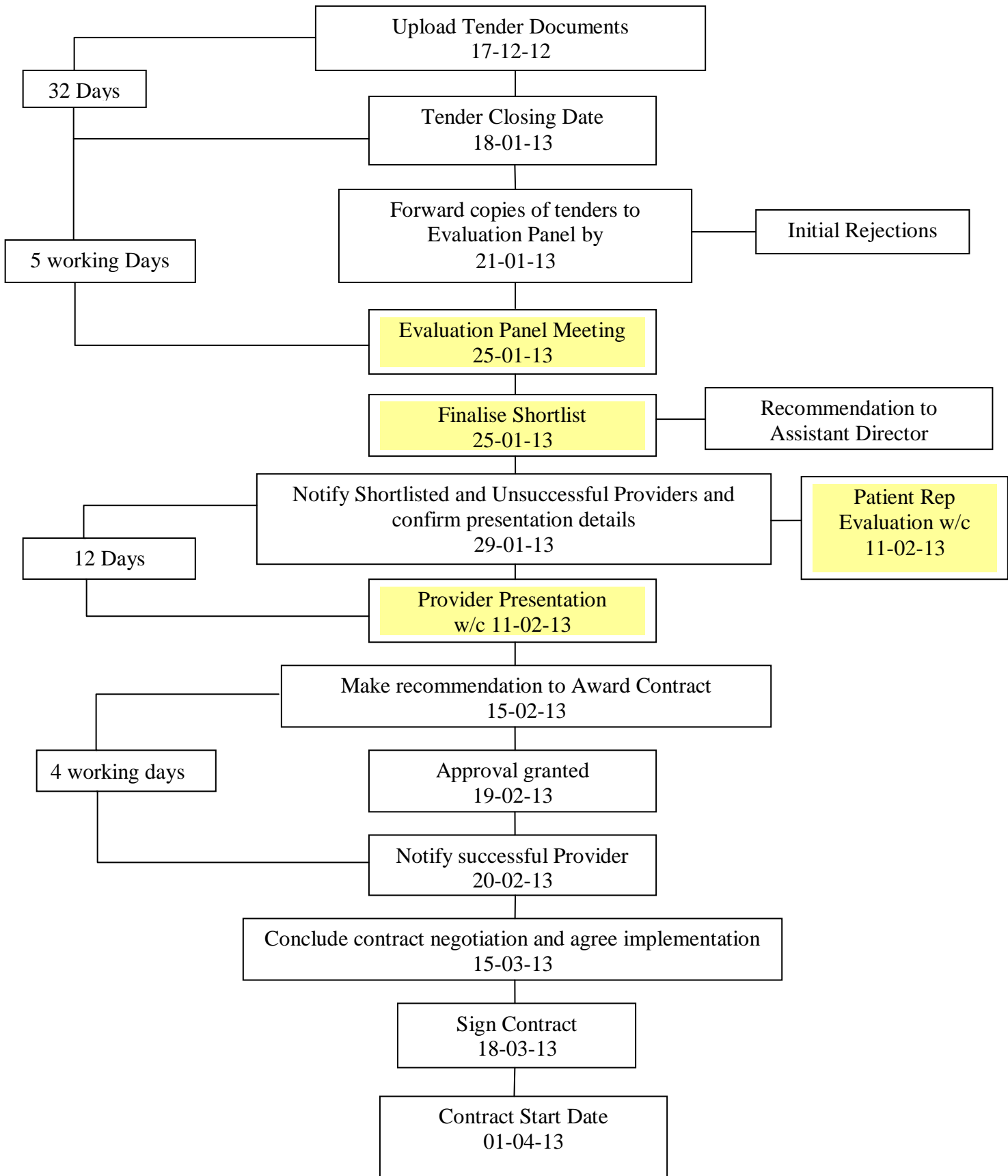
5.2 Health and Wellbeing Paper- LINK and Healthwatch transition, 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2012.

5.3 Health and Wellbeing Paper-development of local Healthwatch, 12<sup>th</sup> September 2012.

**Report prepared by  
Christine Harrison  
Service Delivery Manager  
Commissioning and Contracting  
01952 381205  
Email - [Christine.harrison@telford.gov.uk](mailto:Christine.harrison@telford.gov.uk)**

**Healthwatch Tender #2 2012**

**Appendix 1- Tender Time table for Healthwatch**



Requires Evaluation Panel Member Involvement