**Cardiff Council Commissioning Statement regarding the Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) for Domiciliary Care in Cardiff for Adults**

**Notification of Pause on the Evaluation of New Applications and Resubmissions as part of the Accreditation and Enrolment to the DPS.**

**This statement relates to Adults provision only within the current DPS arrangement and is not reflective of current Childrens provision.**

The DPS for Domiciliary Care for Adults was launched in November 2014. The decision to implement the DPS was based on the lack of capacity in the market at that time and the existing Framework Agreement was not delivering the volume of care required by the Council to support its citizens in their own homes. After robust consideration, a DPS was found to be a suitable arrangement moving forward to address these concerns whilst ensuring that a fair, equitable and transparent approach was implemented and that an open market could be maintained.

The introduction of the DPS has been successful in increasing the numbers of providers who wish to deliver domiciliary care services within Cardiff and as a result, citizens of Cardiff now receive timely services due to the current capacity available.

However, given the influx of interest in enrolling on the DPS, coupled with the success in recruitment strategies for pre-existing providers, there is currently a significant excess of capacity within the market. This is resulting in a **highly competitive environment** with individual business sustainability being of concern to the Council for both existing and new providers to the DPS.

As you may be aware from discussions with Council officers prior to commencing the onboarding process, Cardiff's domiciliary care market is currently saturated. We have an excess of capacity that exceeds the current demand. At present, we have 74 providers enrolled on the DPS for adults’ services, and some providers have told us that they are struggling to secure sufficient work to remain sustainable.

Taking into account the above, we previously advised that potential new entrants to the market should **strongly consider** prior to applying to the DPS the viability of entrance to the market given the **considerable potential for sustainability concerns.**

However, despite working closely with Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) to ensure that prospective providers are aware of current market pressures in the Cardiff area prior to registration we continue to experience a vast continual influx of new applications to onboard the DPS to provide care within an Adult Services setting.

Considering this situation and the exceptional risks it poses to Cardiff’s domiciliary care market; Adult Services is currently putting on hold the evaluation of any new applications or resubmissions for the DPS. This pause, which will take immediate effect and will allow us to review the current position and consider the necessary actions to address these risks.

One of the options we are considering is whether to take the unprecedented decision to close the DPS to all new entrants for the duration of its current term which ends on 3rd November 2027. This notice will be updated to inform of the outcome of the review when it has concluded, and a formal decision has been made regarding future arrangements for DPS onboarding.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause and hope you understand that due to the significant risks we are currently managing across the domiciliary care market for adults, we feel the need to take decisive action. **However, we would wish to confirm that if you have applied or intend to apply to join the DPS to deliver services to children and young people** only, your application will not be affected, and the evaluation will proceed as expected. If you are in the process of applying to onboard for both services to children and young people and adults, your onboarding will be put on hold, and you will need to resubmit on a children and young people only basis.

Please contact the Contracts and Service Development Team at: ascsdt@cardiff.gov.ukif you require further information about current market conditions in Cardiff.