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**Market Testing –** Mental Health Day Opportunities and Floating Support

# Overview

### Camden Council is reviewing the approved provider list for mental health day opportunities and floating support. Following this review, the Council wishes to commission a strength-based, recovery focused service that complements the existing mental health pathways and services.

1. **Details of the services**

**Day opportunities** includes adverse range of workshops, activities and face-to-face or group sessions that seek to further someone’s recovery journey (e.g. through creative expression in music or art).

**Floating support** typically offers one-to-one support for people to live independently, particularly in maintaining a tenancy, managing bills and payments, becoming more socially included and pursuing recovery goals such as employment or further education.

Servies will help people achieve the following outcomes:

* I am able to take part in meaningful activities that promote wellbeing, such as education, training, volunteering and employment
* I am able to access targeted help when I need it to improve my mental and physical wellbeing and strengthen my recovery
* I know how to manage my own health better and how to get support when I need it
* Day Opportunities support reduces demand for statutory care and promotes equality for all of Camden’s communities

Day opportunities and floating support have been contracted separately in the past but the intention is to look at a flexible support model that has elements of both. What this looks like and how it works can be explored further in the questionnaire.

1. **Market testing**

The Council wishes to undertake soft market testing on this proposed commissioning process and therefore would welcome the views of providers on the questions set out below.

Interested parties will not be prejudiced by any response or failure to respond to this soft market testing and a response to this notice does not guarantee any invitation to participate in any future public procurement process that the Council may conduct.

This notice does not constitute a call for competition to procure any services for the Council and the Council is not bound to accept any proposals offered. The Council is not liable for any costs, fees or expenses incurred by any party participating in the soft market testing exercise. Any procurement of any services by the Council in due course will be carried out strictly in accordance with the provisions of the Public Contracts Regulations 2006 and the Public Contracts (Amendment) Regulations 2009 No. 2992.

Any responses provided will not be treated as commercially confidential and may be used by the Council in the final service specifications used for the contracts, but no organisation will be individually identified.

We would like to receive feedback on the following areas (see questions in section five) and any other comments that you may have. Organisations will have the opportunity to ask clarification questions on the specification once the procurement process is underway.

Following this market testing exercise the Council expects to run a commissioning exercise with the following key stages (although timescales have not been finalised as yet, so dates may change):

1. **Provisional timeframe**

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| **Stage** | **Date** |
| Review of the current model and engagement with market and residence | Nov 2017 to Feb 2018 |
| Tender advert released | March 2018 |
| Deadline for tender | May 2018 |
| Presentation and negotiation period | Early June 2018 |
| Final tender deadline | Late June 2018 |
| Contract award | August 2018 |
| Commencement Date of Contract | October 2018 |

1. **Market Questionnaire**

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| 1. What is your general level of interest in bidding for the service(s)? (Please briefly explain why below) |
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| 1. Do you have any thoughts on how a consortium or partnership approach could be used to retain diversity of provision, but encourage a more holistic, joined-up service? |
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| 1. What do you see as the key challenges and opportunities with this joint approach? What further guidance would you appreciate from commissioning? |
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| 1. Are there any models or approaches that you have experience of, or know of, that commissioners can learn from? |
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| 1. How would you combine elements of practical support (such as housing related support) and day opportunities within one flexible and recovery-focused model of support? |
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| 1. What approaches would you use to ensure people develop support networks within their communities and, where appropriate, move on to access universal offers? |
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| 1. Would you have a preference as to whether this is arranged as a block contract, activity-based or a combination of both? Please give reasons for your answers. |
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1. **General Information**

We would be grateful if responses to these questions could be submitted by email to Jonathon Horn ([Jonathon.horn@camden.gov.uk](mailto:Jonathon.horn@camden.gov.uk)) and Malgorzata Surdziel ([Malgorzata.Surdziel2@camden.gov.uk](mailto:Malgorzata.Surdziel2@camden.gov.uk)) by **noon on Friday the 8th of December 2017**.

Following this market testing exercise Camden Council will consider options for developing the provision in question.