

**OFFICER DELEGATION SCHEME  
RECORD OF DECISION**

**TO BE UPLOADED TO THE INTERNET BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

<b>Date:</b> 8 November 2023	<b>Ref No:</b> 2165
<b>Responsible Officer:</b> Stephanie Boyd (Integrated Commissioning Officer for Older People and Ageing Well)	
<b>Type of Decision (please refer to MO Guidance):</b>	
<b>Key</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Non-Key</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Freedom of Information Status:</b> <i>(can the report go in the public domain)</i> Yes	
<b>Title/Subject matter:</b>  Bury Older People's Network Contract	
<b>Budget/Strategy/Policy/Compliance:</b>	
(i) Is the decision within an Approved Budget?	Yes
(ii) Is the decision in conflict with the council's policies, strategies or relevant service plans?	No
(iii) Does the decision amend existing or raise new policy issues?	No
(iv) Is the decision significant and/or does it meet the £100,000 threshold for recording?	No
<b>Equality Impact Assessment</b> [Does this decision change policy, procedure or working practice or negatively impact on a group of people? <b>If yes</b> – complete EIA and summarise issues identified and recommendations – forward EIA to Corporate HR]	No

## **Summary:**

### **Items for Decision:**

Extend the Bury Older People's Network contract with Bury VCFA for a third year using the existing budget from the Grace Rigby Fund (STAR procurement have confirmed we can do this within existing contract procedure rules). At present, the spend across the 2 years has been £8,345.64 (out of £20,000) leaving £11,654.36 to fund a third year up until 31 August 2024.

### **Background:**

The Bury Older People's Network is an engagement mechanism for older people to have their voices heard on things that matter to them and to influence the way that services are designed, commissioned, and delivered. The ultimate aim is to create better outcomes for the ageing population.

A quote from the group:

**"To provide a voice for older people within the local community, empowering them to share what matters and enabling them to enjoy life".**

The Network currently has a volunteer chair, a volunteer minute-taker, and a small group of core members. The group meets 10 times per year, including a larger annual event. The event in June 2023 was attended by 100 people who were able to find out about opportunities in their local area, share their opinions on things that mattered to them, along with a valuable chance for social connections.

Themed meetings take place throughout the year with the expectation that actions will be generated from the discussions and tie into an action plan that is currently being developed.

Bury VCFA (as the facilitator), members of the group, and commissioners have been working in partnership for the past two years to develop the Network and are keen for it to grow into a diverse group of people from different communities across the borough. Members are eager for the creation of a sub-group that will focus on making the Network as inclusive as possible.

Key partners have acknowledged that the Network is still in its infancy stage, and it will take time to become a fully established, well-known, inclusive, and respected group within the borough. This is a journey that is likely to take many years and it is crucial to continue with the development of existing and new relationships and partnerships within the group.

### **Cost:**

The contract for the Bury Older People's Network with Bury VCFA commenced on 01 September 2021 for a period of 2 years at the value of £10,000 per year (£20,000 in total from the Grace Rigby Fund).

At present, the spend across the 2 years has been £8,345.64 leaving £11,654.36 to fund a third year.

The spend has increased slightly in year 2 and is expected to increase further in year 3 as we start to consider the recognition of volunteers and the time they give (further discussions needed around travel expenses, training, mentoring and so on).

**Recommendation:**

Extend the Bury Older People's Network contract with Bury VCFA for a third year using the existing budget from the Grace Rigby Fund (STAR procurement have confirmed we can do this within existing contract procedure rules). At present, the spend across the 2 years has been £8,345.64 (out of £20,000) leaving £11,654.36 to fund a third year up until 31 August 2024.

**Next Steps:**

- Extend the existing contract for a third year from 01 September 2023 to 31 August 2024, using the current underspend from the Grace Rigby Fund. STAR procurement has confirmed we can do this within existing contract procedure rules.

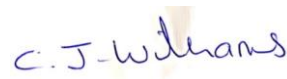
**Wards affected:** N/A


**Consultations:** N/A

**Scrutiny & Review Committee Interest:**

**Options considered:**

**Decision** *[with reasons]*

<b>Decision made by:</b>	<b>Signature:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
Executive Director – Health and Adult Care		13 November 2023
Section 151 Officer		16.11.23

<b>Members Consulted [see note 1 below]</b>		
Cabinet Member		13 December 2023
Opposition Spokesperson	NA	

**Notes**

1. Where, in accordance with the requirements of the Officer Delegation Scheme, a Chief Officer consults with the appropriate Cabinet Member they must sign the form so as to confirm that they have been consulted and that they agree with the proposed action. The signature of the Opposition Spokesperson should be obtained if required, to confirm that he/she has been consulted. Please refer to the MO Guidance.
2. **This form must not be used for urgent decisions.**
3. Where there is any doubt, Corporate Directors should err on the side of caution and seek advice from the Council's Monitoring Officer.