



**Service Delivery  
Committee**

**Tuesday, 12 March  
2024**

**Matter for Decision**

**Report Title: Extension of the Delegation and Collaboration Agreement in Relation to the Lightbulb Service**

**Report Author(s): Teresa Neal (Strategic Director)**

<b>Purpose of Report:</b>	To seek a five-year extension to the existing delegation and Collaboration Agreement in relation to the Lightbulb Service.
<b>Report Summary:</b>	This report proposes that the existing two-year Delegation and Collaboration Agreement in relation to the Lightbulb Service which currently run from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2024 be extended for a further five years for the reasons outlined in this report.
<b>Recommendation(s):</b>	<p><b>a) That the existing Delegation and Collaboration agreement in relation to the Lightbulb Service be extended by five years to the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2029;</b></p> <p><b>b) Note the funding for the Lightbulb Service; and</b></p> <p><b>c) Note the performance up to quarter three.</b></p>
<b>Senior Leadership, Head of Service, Manager, Officer and Other Contact(s):</b>	<p>Teresa Neal (Strategic Director) (0116) 257 2642 <a href="mailto:teresa.neal@oadby-wigston.gov.uk">teresa.neal@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Adrian Thorpe (Head of Built Environment) (0116) 257 2645 <a href="mailto:adrian.thorpe@oadby-wigston.gov.uk">adrian.thorpe@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</a></p>
<b>Strategic Objectives:</b>	<p>Our Communities (SO2)</p> <p>Our Environment (SO4)</p> <p>Our Partners (SO5)</p>
<b>Vision and Values:</b>	<p>"Our Borough - The Place To Be" (Vision)</p> <p>Customer &amp; Community Focused (V1)</p> <p>Proud of Everything We Do (V2)</p> <p>Collaborative &amp; Creative (V3)</p> <p>Resourceful &amp; Resilient (V4)</p>
<b>Report Implications:-</b>	
Legal:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Financial:	The implications are set out in Paragraph 3 of this report.
Corporate Risk Management:	<p>Decreasing Financial Resources / Increasing Financial Pressures (CR1)</p> <p>Reputation Damage (CR4)</p> <p>Regulatory Governance (CR6)</p> <p>Organisational / Transformational Change (CR8)</p>

Equalities and Equalities Assessment (EA):	There are no implications arising from this report. EA not applicable
Human Rights:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Health and Safety:	There are no implications arising from this report.
<b>Statutory Officers' Comments:-</b>	
Head of Paid Service:	The report is satisfactory.
Chief Finance Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Monitoring Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
<b>Consultees:</b>	None.
<b>Background Papers:</b>	None.
<b>Appendices:</b>	None.

## 1. Background

- 1.1 The Lightbulb Service has been running for over seven years and brings together a range of housing support into a single service. Its purpose is to help vulnerable residents in Leicestershire to remain safe and well in their own home and aid transition from hospital to home. During its existence Lightbulb has been recognised nationally for the difference it is making to the lives of Leicestershire residents having won seven awards and recognised as good practice in several articles and at innovation conferences.
- 1.2 OWBC have been part of the Lightbulb Service since it was launched in October 2017. The last Delegation and Collaboration Agreement that was signed was for the period from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2024. During the last 12 months work has been undertaken to produce an updated delivery document to consider the next five years and options for development of the service further. Alongside this a review of the demand data has been undertaken to inform the amount each partner should pay for the service.
- 1.2.1 The agreement sets out that the Lightbulb Service delivers the following functions through a hub and spoke model:
- Assessment and ordering of minor adaptations and equipment
  - Assessment and delivery of Disabled Facilities Grants
  - Holistic Housing MOT
  - Referrals for additional grants such as a home support grant
  - Wider housing support needs (warmth, energy, home security)
  - Housing related health and wellbeing (Assisted Technology, falls prevention)
  - Planning for the future (Housing Options)

- Housing related information & advice
  - Support with urgent referrals with a hospital discharge grant
- 1.3 Quarterly performance and financial updates are provided to Oadby and Wigston and the authority has representatives which are part of the Lightbulb governance structure, Executive Board and Delivery Group. On an annual basis representatives of the Lightbulb Service will attend Service Delivery Committee to provide an update on the provision of the service in Oadby & Wigston.

**2. Extension of the Delegation and Collaboration Agreement in relation to the Lightbulb Service.**

- 2.1 Six of the District councils are fully integrated within the Lightbulb service, and it has the support of the County Council. Charnwood Borough Council operates a hybrid model, independently managing their Disabled facilities Grant, they pay a proportion towards the hub, but run their own locality services. It is agreed by all partners that running a hybrid model is unsustainable and the service needs to get to a point where Charnwood Borough Council are either fully integrated into Lightbulb or exit from the arrangement. Either option will take some time to complete.

Over the last few months Blaby District Council has been consulting with partners on the future of the Lightbulb Service leading to the production of a visioning document. Alongside this, Charnwood Borough Council employed Foundations for an independent review of their services. Charnwood has identified that before they are willing to fully commit, they want Lightbulb to consider offering more services to residents, in particular a Builders Framework to assist residents to get quotes for works and manage contractors.

- 2.2 It is proposed that a short piece of work is undertaken to assess that proposal, to identify whether it is something that could become part of the Lightbulb service offer. The current Lightbulb contract between BDC and the district councils expires on 31 March 2024. On that basis, it is necessary to extend the existing arrangements in order to carry out that piece of work. The work will proceed in the first quarter of 2024/25. At that point Charnwood Borough Council will be asked to determine whether they are to be fully integrated into the Lightbulb Model or whether an Exit Strategy is implemented ready for the commencement of the 25/26 financial year.
3. It is proposed that a new delegation and Collaboration Agreement be signed for the next twelve months from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025, with the option to extend this up to a period of five years in total taking the period up to 31 March 2029.

The cost of the Lightbulb Service for Oadby and Wigston for 2024/25 is £28,309, this covers the central hub costs and the locality team. This represents good value for money as Oadby and Wigston get access to a Housing Support Coordinator, Technical Officer, administrative officer and also a management team for a lesser cost than one full time Officer.

4. The latest performance information up to the end of Quarter 3 is detailed below.

At the end of Quarter 3 the number of adaptation requests processed by the team were

- **88** minor adaptations
- **7** major adaptations

The average completion time was within the 20-week target.

In terms of the pilot projects offered through Lightbulb, the number of referrals below have been made for residents on Oadby and Wigston are detailed below.

- **Safespaces** - This pilot supports individuals who are hoarding or have been identified as self-neglecting. The team works with residents at a pace that is suitable to them. This may be clearing a bed so someone can get a good night's sleep or cleaning a room so they can use cooking facilities. For the period from December 2022 to December 2023 **17** residents of Oadby and Wigston have been supported through this pilot.
- **Home Gadgets** – using assisted technology to support individuals in their own homes who have a long-term condition such as dementia to live independently and as safely as possible by providing items of equipment that helps them manage everyday life. Alongside this the pilot also offers support to disabled children and families to develop Smart Homes that help the family now and in the future. Between April to December 2023 **87** residents in our Borough have been supported.

5. The request regarding the extension of the Delegation and Collaboration Agreement has been put to all local authorities within the Lightbulb Partnership.