

17 November 2017

Dear Care Provider

RE: FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT FOR THE PROVISION OF CARE HOMES WITH AND WITHOUT NURSING SERVICES AND / OR HOME SUPPORT SERVICES

I am writing to inform you of changes to the current process of allocating care packages under the Sproc.net system. This does not change the content of Schedule 6 of the above contract but is an operational change to improve efficiency and objectivity.

The Council will continue to operate a micro-procurement system that automates key components of the mini-competition process. The key change is to remove any manual evaluation and scoring of the offer submitted by providers, from the mini-competition process.

**Current process**

The current process is; for Brokers to include a series of outcomes when the requirement (RQ) is created; for care providers to give a detailed response to these; and for Brokers to then score these against agreed scoring guidelines (for those offers that are shortlisted).

This score is then used in the overall ranking of the shortlisted offers, alongside the price offered and your current quality rating score (based on the SAQ but with deductions for any contractual interventions/CQC rating issues).

**Proposed process**

With effect from **Monday 20 November 2017** the process will remove the need for; outcomes to be specified in the RQ; for you to provide a response to these; and as a result this element of the score will no longer apply.

The change will therefore affect the way you make an offer in response to the RQ. Providers will no longer be required to complete Stage 5 of the provider offer process, which is the 'Profile Questions' field currently completed using free text. This provides comprehensive details in response to the RQ questions, which will no longer require completion. However all other fields will need to be completed in the usual way.

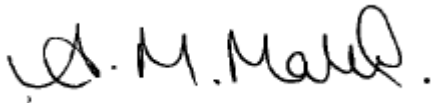
The score for each offer will now be made up of only the price offered and the current quality rating score (based on the SAQ but with deductions for any contractual interventions/CQC rating issues).

This change does not affect the way the system scores the initial offers made. It only removes the Broker scoring, which currently applies to those offers shortlisted based on the 60% quality and 40% price method.

Please be reassured that this change will not alter the fundamental components of the work allocation process through Sproc.net and will remove the potentially subjective element of the current ranking process. It is also envisaged that this will make the process quicker for both yourselves and Brokers, ultimately resulting in quicker allocation of care providers to service users.

If you have any concerns or questions arising from this change please email your enquiry to [shapingthemarket@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:shapingthemarket@birmingham.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. M. Malik'.

Alison Malik  
Head of Commissioning  
Adult Social Care and Health