

Contract Extension – Domestic Property Disability Adaptions (DPDA) Framework – Life of Client

Portfolio Holder: currently vacant

Officer Contact: Jayne Ratcliffe, Director of Adults Social Services

Report Author: Ayshia Akhtar, Commissioning Manager, ASC
Commissioning and Market Management

DATE: 21st September 2026

Reason for Decision

Approval is requested to exercise the compliant extension options for a further two-year period for the providers currently delivering the Domestic Property Disability Adaptations (DPDA) Life of Client Framework.

This service is jointly commissioned by Oldham and Tameside, with Oldham acting as the lead commissioner. It provides specialist adaptation equipment to support disabled residents across both boroughs.

The service is funded via the locality's allocation of the Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) and enables individuals to remain safe, independent, and living within their own homes and communities, a key element of the Adult Social Care vision of *supporting people to be independent, healthy, safe and well*.

The Framework was awarded following a compliant procurement exercise in 2023 and commenced between 1st October 2023 for Lot 2 and Lot 3, and 1st November 2023 for Lot 1. The Framework was established for an initial three-year period with the option to extend for two further periods of 12 months.

The DPDA Framework covers the provision, installation, servicing, maintenance, and removal of specialist equipment including stairlifts, ceiling track hoists, free-standing gantry hoists, step lifts, and through-floor lifts.

Following ongoing contract monitoring and performance review, all providers have delivered services to a satisfactory standard, with no significant performance, quality, contractual, or safeguarding concerns identified. Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council, as a partner authority to the Framework, has confirmed its agreement to utilise the available extension period.

Approval is therefore sought to exercise the contractual extension option for a further two-year period, ensuring continuity of service, value for money, and stability for residents requiring essential adaptations.

Executive Summary

The Domestic Property Disability Adaptations (DPDA) Life of Client Framework supports disabled adults and children by providing specialist equipment and adaptations that allow them to remain independent and safely access all areas of their homes.

The Framework consists of three Lots:

Lot	Description	Awarded To	Start Date	Current Expiry Date	Extension Expiry Date
Lot 1	Straight and Curved Stair Lifts	Provider A	01/11/2023	31/10/2026	31/10/2028
Lot 2	Ceiling Track Hoists and Free-Standing Gantry Hoists	Provider B	01/10/2023	30/09/2026	30/09/2028
Lot 3	Step Lifts and Through-Floor Lifts	Provider C	01/10/2023	30/09/2026	30/09/2028

The DPDA Life of Client Framework supports the Council's strategic objectives of promoting independence, reducing reliance on residential care, preventing hospital admissions, and supporting timely discharge from hospital settings.

Contract performance has been closely monitored throughout the contract period. All providers have consistently met service requirements, demonstrated responsiveness to referrals, maintained regulatory compliance, and continued to provide value for money.

The Framework has experienced increasing demand year-on-year, demonstrating the ongoing importance of this provision.

Approval is sought to activate the available two-year extension option, extending the contracts until September/October 2028 as per the table above.

Recommendations

Option 2 is the Preferred Option

1. Approve the exercise of the available two-year extension option contained within the Domestic Property Disability Adaptations (DPDA) Framework Agreement.
2. Approve the continuation of the following contracts:

Lot	Provider	Current Expiry Date	Revised Expiry Date
Lot 1	Provider A	31-Oct-26	31-Oct-28
Lot 2	Provider B	30-Sep-26	30-Sep-28
Lot 3	Provider C	30-Sep-26	30-Sep-28

1 Background

1.1 Domestic Property Disability Adaptations (DPDA) Life of Client Framework

1.2 The Domestic Property Disability Adaptations (DPDA) Life of Client Framework was commissioned jointly by Oldham and Tameside Council, with Oldham being lead commissioners to ensure continued access to specialist adaptation equipment for residents with disabilities.

1.3 The purpose of the Framework is to provide:

- Stairlifts
- Ceiling track hoists
- Free-standing gantry hoists
- Through-floor lifts
- Step lifts
- Maintenance and servicing arrangements
- Removal and replacement where required

1.4 These adaptations play a critical role in enabling residents to remain living independently within their own homes and communities whilst reducing pressure on health and social care

services.

- 1.5 On 30th August 2023, approval was granted to award and enter into Framework Agreements with the above successful contractors.
- 1.6 The Framework commenced between 1st October 2023 for Lot 2 and Lot 3, and 1st November 2023 for Lot 1 and was awarded for an initial term of three years with provision for two additional one-year extensions.
- 1.7 This service is strategically important as it directly supports the Council's statutory duties under the Care Act 2014 and plays a vital role in helping residents maintain their independence and remain safely within their own homes.
- 1.8 The provision of specialist adaptations contributes to effective hospital discharge pathways, reduces the likelihood of avoidable admissions to residential care, and supports the delivery of Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) objectives. It is also essential in meeting the adaptation requirements of both children's and adult social care services, ensuring that individuals with disabilities and long-term health conditions can access safe, suitable, and accessible living environments.
- 1.9 Without timely access to these specialist adaptations, many residents would face increased risks to their safety, wellbeing, and independence, potentially resulting in greater reliance on health and social care services.

2 Current Position

- 2.1 The Equipment and Adaption Team has regularly reviewed provider performance throughout the contract term.
- 2.2 No significant concerns have been identified regarding:
- Service quality
 - Installation timescales
 - Contract compliance
 - Health and safety standards
 - Customer satisfaction
 - Financial stability
- 2.3 All contractors continue to perform satisfactorily and there are no concerns that would justify undertaking a re-procurement exercise at this time.
- 2.4 The demand for specialist adaptation equipment continues to increase. Data for the last 5 financial years are included below, * part-year activity to date.

Provider A (Lot 1)		
Year	Number Installed	Value
2023/24	27	£129,656
2024/25	55	£277,029.90

2025/26	98	£406,649.66
2026/27*	7	£27,348.80

Provider B (Lot 2)		
Year	Number Installed	Value
2023/24	10	£26,530.50
2024/25	35	£96,160.50
2025/26	46	£111,028.22
2026/27*	2	£5,573.75

Provider C (Lot 3)		
Year	Number Installed	Value
2023/24	4	£63,937.15
2024/25	7	£107,721.19
2025/26	3	£61,895.00
2026/27*	1	£17,249.00

- 2.5 The data demonstrates sustained use of the Framework and highlights the increasing demand for disability adaptations across the borough.
- 2.6 The current budgets for these services are:

Type of Works	2025/26 Budget	Proposed 2026/27 Budget
Major Adaptations – Stairlifts	£395,000	£400,000
Major Adaptations – Ceiling Track Hoists	£111,000	£120,000

- 2.7 Expenditure on stairlift and ceiling track hoist installations during 2025/26 remained broadly aligned with the approved budgets. Demand for stairlift installations was higher than anticipated, resulting in a small overspend. Expenditure on ceiling track hoists remained within the approved budget allocation.
- 2.8 The overspend on stairlifts has been managed through the wider Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) programme and existing budget management arrangements, ensuring the continued delivery of essential adaptations without creating additional financial pressure on the overall service budget.

Adaptation Type	Budget 2025/26 (£)	Actual Expenditure (£)	Variance (£)	Variance (%)
Stairlifts	395,000.00	406,649.66	11,649.66	2.90%
Ceiling Track Hoists	111,000.00	111,028.22	28.22	0.00%
Total	506,000.00	517,677.88	11,677.88	2.30%

2.9 Whilst activity levels continue to increase, the proposed budgets for 2026/27 are considered sufficient based on current forecasting, available DFG funding, and planned budget growth. Extending the existing framework will ensure continuity of provision and value for money whilst allowing demand and expenditure trends to continue to be monitored.

2.10 Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council have confirmed their support for exercising the available extension period and have raised no concerns regarding contractor performance.

3 Options/Alternatives

Option 1: Allow the existing contracts to expire

Allowing the contracts to expire without replacement would create significant risks to service continuity and the Council's ability to meeting its statutory duties.

Option 2: Exercise the two-year extension option (Preferred option)

Approve the contractual extension provision for all three lots.

This approach will ensure continuity of service for residents, retain the expertise and knowledge of the incumbent providers, and avoid the time and costs associated with undertaking a new procurement exercise at this stage. Extending the existing arrangements also represents value for money by maintaining stable service delivery within an established contractual framework and minimising disruption for residents who rely on these services. Furthermore, this option has the support of both Oldham and Tameside Councils, providing a collaborative and consistent approach across the partnership area.

Option 3: Retender the Framework

Undertake a new procurement exercise before the current contracts expire.

Whilst this option remains available, there are currently no performance concerns with the existing providers and no identified service gaps that would necessitate a re-procurement exercise.

Retendering at the stage would create unnecessary procurement and administrative burden for both councils and providers.

4 Preferred Option

4.1 Option 2 – Exercise the two-year extension option (Preferred option)

- 4.2** This option aligns with statutory obligations, providing an effective and essential service for disabled residents across Oldham and Tameside. Contract performance has been positive, demand continues to increase, and no concerns have been identified with any of the providers. The exercise of the available two-year extension represents the most appropriate and cost-effective option to ensure continuity of service provision through to 2028.

5 Consultation

- 5.1** Consultation has taken place with the incumbent providers, who have confirmed their agreement to the proposed two-year extension. The providers remain committed to continuing service delivery under the existing contractual arrangements and have indicated their willingness to extend the contracts for the additional term. This support provides assurance that service continuity can be maintained without disruption while enabling both Oldham and Tameside Councils to continue to meet the needs of residents effectively.

6 Financial Implications

- 6.1** The proposed contract extensions represent capital expenditure and will be charge against the People - Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) within the approved capital programme.
- 6.2** Officers will continue to monitor the quality and value for money and the budget remaining within the overall DFG budget. The tenders are to be let on the basis that it is expected that DFG funding will be available for the foreseeable future.

Jit Kara – Senior Accountant

7 Legal Implications

- 7.1** As the extensions are being exercised in accordance with the extension provisions contained within the Framework Agreements and do not alter the overall nature of the contracts, it is therefore permissible under Regulation 72(1)(a) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

Pamela Nsofor - Solicitor

8 Procurement Implications

- 8.1** The Authority proposes to extend the Contract for a period of Two years pursuant to Regulation 72 1 (a) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. The extension is permitted

because it was expressly provided for in the original procurement documents and clause 2.2 of the Contracts. The extension does not alter the overall nature of the Contract and is being exercised in accordance with the conditions specified in the original Contract documentation.

Ankur Patel - Interim Category Manager

9 **Human Resources implications**

9.1 N/A

10 **Equality Impact, including implications for Children and Young People**

10.1 Yes

11 **Key Decision**

11.1 Yes

12 **Key Decision Reference**

12.1 HSC-14-26

13 **Background Papers**

13.1 N/A

14 **Appendices**

14.1 None