

***March 17, 2017***

***Press Release***

**Bluebird Care Westminster awarded £1.6m City of London Corporation contract to deliver up to 16,000 hours of care annually**

The City of London Corporation has appointed Bluebird Care Westminster & City of London to provide up to 16,000 hours of ‘person-centred’ care annually to service users in their own homes over the next five years – a contract worth up to £1,680,000.

The City Corporation says its focus for 2017 is on developing high-quality ‘outcome-focused care and reablement’, to help residents to live independently at home after a difficult spell - such as coming out of hospital.

The City Corporation chose Bluebird Care for a number of reasons including:

· Providing a ‘person-centred’ service

· Good staff retention rates

· Providing a comprehensive and continually-improving enablement service

· Engaged with the wider community

· Providing specialist training to service users and their families

· Using Care Quality Commission (CQC) assessment results to improve service delivery and demonstrate best practice.

Neal Hounsell, Acting Director of The City of London Corporation’s Community and Children’s services said: “The City of London Corporation looks forward to working with Bluebird Care to support us in delivering the highest quality home care for our communities. The care of our residents remains a top priority for us and we have selected Bluebird Care for their innovative and quality service that they already deliver to people across the UK.”

Bluebird Care director Peter Slough said: “We are very happy to be partnering with the City of London Corporation to deliver an outcome focused, high-quality care service. We are very proud that our customer service approach to delivering care has been recognised and we aim to deliver ‘outstanding’ care to the City of London residents.”

Pimlico-based Bluebird Care Westminster & City of London achieved an ‘Outstanding’ rating for its care in 2016 from the Care Quality Commission (CQC) for championing services for local people living with dementia.

It was the only Westminster-based homecare organisation at the time to have achieved the highest rating from the independent regulator for ‘Is the Service Caring?’ All other areas of the inspection were ‘Good’ – giving the organisation an overall ‘Good’ rating. [Read more here.](http://www.bluebirdcare.co.uk/westminster-city-of-london/news/our-cqc-report-featured-on-healthwatch)

As part of their work in the community, Bluebird Care owner Peter Slough actively supports the ‘Hymns and Pimms’ groups for people living with dementia and their carers at Grosvenor Chapel, Mayfair, and regularly holds events raising money for the community and dementia groups.

Peter founded and chaired the Westminster Dementia Action Alliance group – with the aim of developing the area into a ‘Dementia Friendly Community’ - making everyday life easier for those living with dementia.

Note to editors:

· Peter set up the Pimlico-based homecare business in 2012 after witnessing fluctuating care standards given to his late grandmother. He also has personal experience of dementia after his step-grandmother lived with it.

· Bluebird Care’s team of 70 care assistants deliver home and community care to adults with a wide variety of needs throughout both the City of Westminster and the City of London including: Baker Street, Barbican, Bayswater, Belgravia, Covent Garden, Charing Cross, Fitzrovia, Hyde Park, Knightsbridge, Lancaster Gate, Lisson Grove, Little Venice, Maida Hill, Maida Vale, Mayfair, Marylebone, Millbank, Paddington, Piccadilly, Pimlico, Queen’s Park, Regent’s Park, St James’s, St John’s Wood, Soho, Temple, Victoria, Westbourne, the West End and West Kilburn.

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