



City of Hamilton Report for Consideration

To: Chair and Members
Emergency and Community Services Committee
Date: May 1, 2025
Report No: HSC25024
Subject/Title: Long-Term Care Delegated Authority
Ward(s) Affected: Ward 7 and Ward 13

Recommendations

- 1) That the General Manager, Healthy and Safe Communities, or their delegate, be authorized and directed to negotiate, enter into, and execute, on behalf of the City, all agreements associated with the long-term care homes and seniors' services including any amendments, extensions, ancillary or associated documents, and reports, including but not limited to agreements respecting funding, research, data sharing, confidentiality, software, medical director/attending physician/dentistry services, professional services, student practicums, supplies and goods, services and professional services, and temporary staffing provided that any associated costs to the City do not exceed \$250,000, are within budget, and are in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;
- 2) That the Senior Administrator, Long Term Care – Healthy and Safe Communities or their delegate be delegated the authority to negotiate, enter into, and execute, on behalf of the City, all agreements associated with the long-term care homes and seniors' services including any amendments, extensions, ancillary or associated documents, and reports, including but not limited to agreements respecting funding, research, data sharing, confidentiality, software, medical director/attending physician/dentistry services, professional services, student practicums, supplies and goods, services and professional services, and temporary staffing, provided that any associated cost to the City does exceed \$75,000 and is within budget, and that they are in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor, and;

- 3) That the Senior Administrator, Long Term Care Division be delegated authority to respond to long-term care associated surveys from various parties and provide feedback on behalf of the City to the Ministry of Long-term Care, the Ministry of Health, Ontario Health, associated Ontario Health Teams, health service providers, professional associations, or other governing body regarding legislative requirements, regulations, guidelines, or policies impacting long-term care.

Key Facts

- The purpose of Report HSC25024 is to request Delegated Authority for the General Manager, Healthy and Safe Communities as well as the Senior Administrator, Lodges to execute and complete agreements and other business matters related to long-term care on a timely basis. Many opportunities in the long-term care industry require quick responses. The ability to enter agreements on an agile basis will increase opportunities for the City to participate in beneficial research, grant, and feedback opportunities that may be lost if there is administrative delay. The Delegated Authority is also requested to secure long-term care needs and that applicable legislative requirements are met
- Operational continuity is critical for our Long-Term Care Division to ensure that necessary changes can be made without interrupting service delivery or creating gaps in care or services for residents.
- These recommendations will support Council's Strategic Priority of Responsiveness and Transparency to continue to prioritize customer service to our residents, staff and other key stakeholders served throughout our Long-Term Care Division.
- These recommendations will allow for optimization of service delivery by the Senior Administrator and Division and ensuring a high-performing public service.

Financial Considerations

No financial implications, as all contracts or otherwise will be within allocated budgets.

Background

Historically, the Senior Administrator has signed off on most agreements with key stakeholders such as the Ministry of Long-Term Care, Ministry of Health, Local Health Integration Network, Educational Institutions, Research Projects, amongst others, as part of the day-to-day operational responsibilities of the position. Through recent review, there is no clear documented Delegated Authority and the recommendations herein are to clarify the delegation and its applications.

With the provincial introduction of the Fixing Long-Term Care Act, there has been an increase in operational, regulatory, and compliance demands for long-term care homes. This request for Delegated Authority will facilitate legislative compliance and responsiveness to our obligations on service delivery and to optimize beneficial opportunities.

Analysis

In order to conduct day-to-day long-term care and services for seniors', , long-term care division staff are required to enter into service agreements, which can include other beneficial agreements such as research, with varied stakeholders such as Ministry of Long Term Care, Ministry of Health, Ontario Health West, Ontario Health at Home, etc. Staff is seeking formal authority to sign agreements that meet the satisfaction of the City Solicitor to ensure that the Long-Term Care division can conduct day-to-day business and provide care and services efficiently.

- Legal implications or legislated requirements – consulted with Legal Services
- Corporate Policy implications – Not applicable
- Staffing Considerations (work priorities) – Not applicable

Alternatives

Not Applicable

Relationship to Council Strategic Priorities

1.0 Responsiveness & Transparency

- 1.1. Prioritize customer service and proactive communication
- 1.2. Get more people involved in decision making and problem solving
- 1.3. Build a high performing public service
- 1.4. Modernize City systems

Previous Reports Submitted

Not Applicable

Consultation

Jennifer Sheryer, Solicitor, Legal Services
Alex Wilson, Ward 13 Councillor, City Council
Esther Pauls, Ward 7 Councillor, City Council

Appendices and Schedules Attached

None

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recommended by:**

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