

CABINET BRIEFING

16th March 2021

0-19 HEALTHY CHILD PROGRAMME EXTENSION

Report of the Director of Children's Services

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|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Strategic Aim: | Protecting the Vulnerable | |
| Key Decision: Yes | Forward Plan Reference: FP//220121 | |
| Exempt Information | No | |
| Cabinet Member(s) Responsible: | Cllr David Wilby, Portfolio Holder for Children's Services and Education Cllr Alan Walters, Portfolio Holder for Safeguarding – Adults, Public Health, Health Commissioning & Community Safety | |
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| Ward Councillors | | |

DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That Cabinet:

1. Approves the extension to the Healthy Child Programme Contract from April 2022 by a maximum of 6 months at a value of circa £254,000.

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 This report seeks approval to extend the 0-19 Healthy Child Programme up to a further 6 months from April 2022 and outlines the reasons for this request.

2 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

- 2.1 It is a statutory responsibility to provide health visiting services with a range of mandated universal health assessments and to deliver the National Child Weight Management Programme. The service includes the delivery of the programme for children, young people and their families (aged 0-19 years). The delivery model is one of 'proportionate universalism' i.e. some support is offered to all families, with more for those in greater need.
- 2.2 The Healthy Child Programme provides Health Visiting services from pregnancy through to 5 years and School Nursing Services 5-19. For 0-5 this includes providing mandated health assessments with parents and children of all families at specific times ((i.e. Pre-Birth; New Baby; 6 to 8 weeks; 1 year; 2 to 2.5 years). Additional support is provided dependant on need under Universal Plus or in partnership with other services as part of Partnership Plus support. School nursing includes undertaking the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP), school health assessments and support for all children 5-19 with additional help based on need. Appendix 1 depicts the service in graphic form.
- 2.3 The Healthy Child Programme was jointly procured with Leicestershire County Council on a 3-year contract with 2 one-year extensions authorised by Cabinet. The current service is due to end March 31st, 2022. It was commissioned with separate contracts for Leicestershire and Rutland and separate and slightly different service specifications to meet the different needs of Rutland.
- 2.4 The service is provided by Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust and funded from the Public Health Grant. The contract value was £485k per year with the addition of extra Department of Health funding for Agenda for Change making current year value circa £507k. The contract requires 12 months' notice to extend. Therefore, notice of intension to extend should be given by April 2021.

3 RE-PROCURING SERVICES

- 3.1 Work is underway to start the re-procurement for the future service, jointly with Leicestershire. However, timescales are tight and capacity to do this work has been impacted by Covid19 and timelines are also affected by purdah. Approval for a further 6 months extension by cabinet would provide sufficient time to undertake the re-procurement and mobilisation of service.
- 3.2 A further paper will be brought back to cabinet later in the year to seek approval for the re-procurement and model of service and how this will meet the needs of children, young people and families in Rutland.

4 CONSULTATION

- 4.1 A range of engagement and consultation approaches will be undertaken as part of the re-procurement process and will be detailed in the next cabinet report.

5 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 5.1 The Director has considered the option not to extend the contract further. However, it is not felt to be feasible given public health capacity to undertake the procurement during the Pandemic. Leicestershire County Council has agreed to extend their contract and to gain the economies of scale undertaking the procurement jointly with Leicestershire provides the best option.

6 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The current costs of the service are fully funded from the Public Health Grant. The future of this grant is not confirmed at this stage, but a significant part of the service is statutory.
- 6.2 The cost of extending the contract for up to 6 months is circa £254,000. It is expected this will be fully covered by the Public Health Grant.

7 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 The Council's Contract Procedure Rules (CPRs) require that if a contract is required to be extended beyond the term permissible in the original contract documents, advice must be sought from the Monitoring Officer (CPRs section 17.3.4). Advice has been sought as required and incorporated in to this document. Approving further financial support is a Key Decision and Cabinet authority is therefore requested for this work.

8 DATA PROTECTION IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 A Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) has not been completed because there are no service, policy or organisational changes being proposed at this stage.

9 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 9.1 The 0-19 Health Child Programme is a universal service and so will affect all children and their carers in Rutland. The service also covers children up to the age of 25 who have Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND). The service meets the Equality Act 2010 requirements to have due regard to the need to meet any of the following aspects:

- eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- advancing equality of opportunity between different groups; and
- fostering good relations between different groups.

These are specifically written into the service specification

- 9.2 The Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment screening undertaken when this service commenced and concluded that there is no evidence that this service could have a different affect or adverse impact on any section of the community, that no sections of the community will face barriers in benefiting from the proposal, and that there will be a positive impact on individuals or community groups who identify with any of the 'protected characteristics'. There was therefore no requirement for a full EHRIA report. A new assessment will be undertaken as part of the re-procurement exercise.

10 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 The provision of the 0-19 Healthy child Programme should contribute to the safety and reduction of risk for vulnerable people.

11 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 This service is designed to provide high quality services which support good health and wellbeing of Rutland children, young people and their families.

12 ORGANISATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 Procurement Implications – capacity within public health to undertake the procurement whilst dealing with the pandemic is a key issue that is impacting upon the time required to undertake a full re-procurement exercise and the reason behind the request for an extension to this contract.

13 CONCLUSION AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 13.1 The extension to the current 0-19 Healthy Child Programme Contract of six months will provide sufficient time for officers to undertake the procurement of a new service. The process and timelines for undertaking this has been impacted by Public Health staff dealing with COVID19 and purdah. The service is funded from the Public Health Grant and a significant proportion of it is mandated.

14 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 14.1 There are no additional background papers to the report

15 APPENDICES

- 15.1 Appendix 1: Graphic depicting the components of the Healthy Child Programme.

A Large Print or Braille Version of this Report is available upon request – Contact 01572 722577.

Healthy Child Programme: The 4-5-6 approach for health visiting and school nursing

