

## CABINET

21 September 2021

# COMMISSIONING PLANS FOR WELLNESS AND PREVENTION SERVICES

### Report of the Strategic Director for Adult Services and Health

Strategic Aim:	Vibrant communities	
Key Decision: Yes	Forward Plan Reference: FP/230721	
Exempt Information	No	
Cabinet Member(s) Responsible:	Mr A Walters, Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Care	
Contact Officer(s):	John Morley, Strategic Director for Adults and Health	01572 758442 jmorley@rutland.gov.uk
	Karen Kibblewhite, Head of Commissioning	01572 758127 kkibblewhite@rutland.gov.uk
Ward Councillors	All	

### DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That Cabinet:

1. Approve the plans for future delivery of wellness and prevention services;
2. Approve procurement of the Sensory Impairment and Housing contracts;
3. Approve the award of a grant to Citizen's Advice Rutland towards the provision of Rutland's Information and Advice Service;
4. Delegate the sign-off of Award Criteria and approval of the Contract Awards for the Sensory Impairment and Housing contracts to the Director for Adult Services and Health in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care.

## **1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 The report sets out the proposed plans for commissioning services which will improve the wellbeing of individuals and reduce and delay the need for statutory services.
- 1.2 It requests approval from Cabinet to progress the proposed services, including award of a grant to Citizen's Advice Rutland, and the procurement of Sensory Impairment and Housing services.

## **2 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS**

- 2.1 Over the past 4 years there have been significant changes to the health and social care structures in Rutland and to the national direction of travel.
- 2.2 The Integrated Care System continues to be developed between partners and is expected to be in place from April 2022. This will play a key role in the delivery of health and social care services in Rutland, under the Place-Led Plan.
- 2.3 The council has developed greater partnership working with health, and the development of the local Primary Care Network has enabled services to become aligned.
- 2.4 Social prescribing has become a requirement nationally and much of the work which was being delivered in the community is now under the umbrella of the council's RISE Team.
- 2.5 The council's Admiral Nurse service has been developed and the support for those with dementia and their carers is embedded within Adult Social Care, as well as health.
- 2.6 The current End to End Review of Adult Social Care services will also lead to changes in how statutory care services are delivered to improve efficiency.

## **3 CURRENT PROVISION**

- 3.1 The current contract for the Community Wellbeing Service (CWS) ends on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. It provides a range of services including:
  - information and advice;
  - practical support for those with complex needs, including homelessness prevention;
  - dementia support;
  - older people's activities;
  - specialist sensory impairment provision;
  - advice and brief interventions for weight management and referral for specialist interventions;
  - smoking cessation; and

- voluntary sector infrastructure support.

3.2 The end of the contract period has presented an opportunity to review what preventative and wellbeing services are required to meet need and to support statutory services in the future, and to commission accordingly.

## **4 FUTURE SERVICES**

4.1 It is important to recognise the role which support services can play in preventing an escalation of needs and risk for individuals, thereby reducing pressure on our statutory services and in particular health and social care.

4.2 The register of people with visual impairments is the only specific statutory service which is currently part of the CWS contract and which will need to be provided regardless of any other support developed.

4.3 Officers have undertaken needs analyses and worked through a range of options and models for those services which would meet identified need and support the delivery of statutory services. The proposed services and models of provision are:

### **4.3.1 Information and Advice**

Information and Advice covers: benefits and debt; welfare rights; and housing. This is Citizen's Advice Rutland's core business and a service which is highly valued by internal officers and external stakeholders. It provides early intervention for those who would otherwise present at Adult Social Care and Children Services. It is proposed that a grant is given to Citizen's Advice Rutland (CAR) towards delivery of this, and that the grant is reduced over a three year period. This will reduce their reliance on the council for funding, whilst maintaining their financial stability in the short-term. This approach has been discussed with CAR, and it is intended that the council and CAR work closely together to support the ongoing sustainability of the service.

### **4.3.2 Dementia**

Dementia diagnoses in Rutland are increasing significantly, and this is likely to continue given the expected increase in the older people population. It is proposed that an additional worker is recruited to the Admiral Nurse Team to provide lower level interventions and support to complement the clinical input they already provide. This will release capacity within the Admiral Nurse Service.

### **4.3.3 Housing**

Provision of homelessness prevention support and support for those within Temporary Accommodation and moving into permanent accommodation is a specialist area of expertise. It is proposed that a contract is tendered for a specialist service provider to deliver this service. The specification would set out a clear requirement to work in conjunction with the RCC Housing Team and to be co-located with them to most effectively manage cases and support individuals.

### **4.3.4 Sensory Impairment**

Sensory impairment support, assessment and rehabilitation is a specialist provision. The council has a statutory requirement to maintain a Register of Those with Visual

Impairments. It is proposed to tender a contract for an external specialist provider. It would include both sight and hearing impairment. The service would be linked to the Occupational Therapy Team within Adult Social Care.

A Soft Market Test has been conducted to indicate interest from potential providers and whether the current indicative budget allocation of £30,000 is sufficient to deliver a viable service. The Soft Market Test indicated more than one provider interested in the opportunity to bid; the budget was considered low, yet viable.

#### **4.3.5 Smoking Cessation**

It is proposed that this is directly commissioned from Leicestershire County Council Public Health Healthy Lifestyles Service. Smoking has a significant impact on a range of health conditions prevalent in Rutland. The service provides a wider offer of digital and telephone support than could be provided via an independent contract or if the service were brought in-house, it would also offer greater resilience of service delivery. Direct commissioning from LCC's Healthy Lifestyles Service would not require procurement.

#### **4.4 Voluntary Sector Infrastructure support**

4.4.1 The community response to Covid has brought about an increase in community support networks at a more grass-roots level, and a step-up of voluntary sector organisations with some council support.

4.4.2 Infrastructure support to facilitate development of the sector in Rutland, building on the work which has taken place during Covid and enabling the sector to become more sustainable, will play a fundamental role in enabling voluntary sector organisations to deliver support services and bring additional funding into the county.

4.4.3 The council is engaged in discussion with the CCG regarding whether there is potential funding from the CCG into any voluntary sector infrastructure support commissioned in Rutland.

4.4.4 As this is an area of work which is still under development and has wider implications than Adult Services alone, it is proposed that a separate specific discussion with Cabinet Members is held regarding this in the autumn.

### **5 CONSULTATION**

5.1 Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee convened a working group to comment on the proposals. They were supportive of the approach taken and the services proposed. The Working Group has requested further opportunity to comment on any proposals for voluntary sector infrastructure support.

5.2 The Portfolio Holder has been consulted.

5.3 The work to develop options took into account the responses to the Future Rutland Conversation, particularly in respect of health and wellbeing.

### **6 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

6.1 A number of alternative options were considered:

- 6.1.1 To re-procure the existing Community Wellbeing Service contract as is. This option was rejected on the basis that feedback from internal officers and the providers delivering the service felt it did not make the best use of resources and the services combined under the contract did not fit together logically. In addition, the changes in health and social care since the contract was first awarded in 2015 have led to overlap of some elements of the current service with other services.
- 6.1.2 Not to commission any wellness or prevention services to support vulnerable people in Rutland. This option was rejected on the basis that needs assessments indicated that the services proposed would delay and prevent individuals from presenting at statutory services, which puts greater pressure on the existing health and social care system.
- 6.1.2.1 The sensory impairment service proposed includes statutory elements required and meets Care Act 2016 responsibilities. The council therefore has to provide this service.
- 6.1.3 The combination of services proposed and means of delivery is considered to make best use of resources to deliver the services needed.

## **7 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 The current contract is funded by a combination of:
- General Fund: £253,000
  - Better Care Fund: £177,000
  - Public Health Grant: £50,000
- 7.2 The proposed services would be funded as set out in Appendix A.
- 7.3 Allowing for a future General Fund contribution to any future voluntary sector infrastructure contract, the proposed indicative contract values could release a saving to the General Fund of £25,697 – 10% of the current General Fund commitment to the Community Wellbeing Service. A further saving of c£20,000 each year for the following 2 years should be realised from the proposed reduction in grant to Citizen's Advice Rutland.
- 7.4 Specific figures will depend staff costs and on tender prices. Should additional BCF and/or Public Health funding become available then this will be used to offset the General Fund accordingly to make further savings.
- 7.5 This is caveated by that fact that it is not yet known whether the BCF will continue and/or whether it will be replaced by similar funding following the implementation of the ICS in April. The criteria for spend of BCF/equivalent may change due to ICS/Place-led Plan priorities and this will not be known prior to going through any procurement process. The level of BCF (or equivalent funding) and of Public Health Grant for 2022/23 is not yet known.
- 7.6 The contingency for a reduction in funding, depending the level of reduction, would be:
- The proposed smoking cessation service would not be commissioned.

- The proposed voluntary sector infra-structure support would not be commissioned, and the sector would be encouraged to seek external funding to deliver this. It is accepted that this may not be possible.
- The grant awarded to Citizen's Advice Rutland would need to be significantly reduced, accepting that this may create financial instability and may result in their closure; this in turn would increase pressure on Adult Social Care. Should Citizen's Advice Rutland close, the service would be sought from a similar organisation in a neighbouring authority.
- The Housing contract value would be reduced. It is accepted that this would mean fewer complex cases would be supported, again increasing the pressure on Adult Social Care.

7.7 The sensory impairment contract is statutory and therefore would still be commissioned.

## **8 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS**

8.1 The statutory requirements of sensory impairment provision are set out in the Care Act 2016.

8.2 The procurements proposed will be undertaken in line with the Public Procurement Regulations 2015 and the Public Procurement Regulations 2019, and with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules.

8.3 The contracts will use the standard Rutland County Council Terms and Conditions. The full tender documentation is under development.

8.4 The proposed Grant for Citizen's Advice Rutland will use the standard Rutland County Council Grant Agreement.

8.5 The proposed Smoking Cessation service will be subject to Service Level Agreement with Leicestershire County Council.

8.6 Any recruitment undertaken for the proposed Dementia post will follow the council's standard recruitment processes and procedures.

## **9 DATA PROTECTION IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 A Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIA) has been completed. No adverse or other significant risks/issues were found. A copy of the DPIA can be obtained from Karen Kibblewhite, Head of Commissioning.

## **10 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

10.1 An Equality Impact Assessment screening document has been completed and submitted on 27<sup>th</sup> August 2021 for approval.

10.2 The screening indicated that the impacts of the proposed services would be positive and no adverse or other significant issues were identified.

10.3 An Equality Impact Assessment has not been completed for this reason.

## **11 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

- 11.1 The proposed services will support vulnerable individuals within Rutland and consequently make them safer.

## **12 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS**

- 12.1 The proposed services will provide support to individuals to improve their health and wellbeing. The services will reduce and delay the need for statutory social care and health services for those individuals, and where appropriate will enable them to engage with statutory services and move on from them.

## **13 ORGANISATIONAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 13.1 Human Resource implications

- 13.1.1 The proposal to bring additional Dementia support in-house, will require development of a suitable Job Description and a recruitment process.

- 13.1.2 The Transfer of Undertakings Protection of Employment Regulations 2006 amended (TUPE) is likely to apply to staff working on contracts that fall within the scope of the proposed procurements. TUPE information will be sought and will be included in the tender documentation, and providers will be required to undertake due diligence in accordance with their legal responsibilities.

- 13.2 Procurement Implications

- 13.2.1 The procurements proposed will be undertaken in line with the Public Procurement Regulations 2015 and follow a single stage open tender process.

- 13.2.2 The procurements proposed will be undertaken in line with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules.

## **14 SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS**

- 14.1 Under the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 local authorities are required to consider how economic, social, and environmental well-being may be improved by services that are to be procured, and how procurement may secure those improvements.

- 14.2 Award criteria for the proposed procurements will include specific sections referencing Social Value and providers will need to consider how they can deliver added value that will support the local economy, contribute to improving the local environment and reduce the future demand for public services.

- 14.3 The Grant will require proactive identification by the provider of social value which can be delivered.

## **15 CONCLUSION AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 15.1 The provision of prevention and wellness services to vulnerable individuals in Rutland will have positive wellbeing impacts for individuals, their families and the wider communities. The services proposed will support the delay and reduction in

need for statutory services from health and social care.

- 15.2 Procurement of the Sensory Impairment and Housing contracts will enable these services to be delivered by specialist organisations who have the relevant expertise.
- 15.2.1 Delegation of the sign-off of Award Criteria and approval of the Contract Awards for the Sensory Impairment and Housing contracts to the Director for Adult Services and Health in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care, will enable the procurements to commence as soon as possible. The Award Criteria will be developed to ensure that providers successful in the procurement have the necessary capabilities to meet the requirements of the service specification and will be able to deliver services in Rutland of an appropriate standard and quality.
- 15.3 The provision of a Grant to Citizen's Advice will enable financial support to maintain service delivery, alongside a reduction in the organisation's reliance on council funding.
- 15.4 The proposals for the Dementia role and the Smoking Cessation Service have been developed to best meet need in Rutland and offer most efficient use of resources to manage demand.

## **16 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 16.1 There are no additional background papers to this report.

## **17 APPENDICES**

- 17.1 Appendix A – Proposed Indicative Values and Funding Streams

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

## Appendix A Proposed Indicative Values and Funding Streams

	<b>Public Health Grant</b>	<b>Better Care Fund</b>	<b>General Fund</b>		
	£50,000 (current)	£197,000 (current)	£227,000 (reduction)		
				<b>Maximum value</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Information & Advice	£7,000	£75,000	£108,000	£190,000	Grant for Year 1
Dementia support		£50,000		£50,000	Dependent on job grade
Homelessness prevention & support	£21,000		£79,000	£100,000	Tender envelope £90-£100,000
Smoking cessation	£22,000			£22,000	Estimated proportion of LCC Healthy Lifestyles Service
Sensory impairment		£30,000		£30,000	Soft Market Test suggests this is the minimum for a viable service
VCS infrastructure support		£0	£40,000	£40,000	To be considered by Cabinet at a later date
<b>Total</b>	<b>£50,000</b>	<b>£155,000</b>	<b>£227,000</b>	<b>£432,000</b>	
Amount left to be allocated	£0	£42,000	£0		