

London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

Report to: Officer Decision Report

Date: 10/04/2020

Subject: Continuation of the 0-19 Children's Public Health Nursing Contract

Report of: Niki Lang, Consultant in Public Health

Responsible Director: Lisa Redfern, Strategic Director of Social Care

Summary

Public Health has a contract with Central London Community Healthcare (CLCH) for children's public health nursing services. The Local Authority has scope within the existing contract to continue the service for four periods of three months each, providing a maximum extension of one further year, between April 1st 2020 and March 31st 2021.

Recommendations

1. To note that Appendix 1 is not for publication on the basis that it contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) as set out in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).
 2. To implement the first two three-month extensions, as provided for within the contract and within the authority given by the Cabinet on 4 March 2019, so as to enable the contract to continue until 30th September 2020, thereby maintaining continuity and ensuring a safe running of the service.
 3. To replace the Family Nurse Partnership Service (FNP) with high needs Health Visiting interventions. FNP will be decommissioned over six months.
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Wards Affected: All

H&F Priorities

Please state how the outcome will contribute to our priorities – delete those priorities which are not appropriate.

Our Priorities	Summary of how this report aligns to the H&F Priorities
Doing things with local residents, not to them	The continuation of the 0-19 Service will provide residents with appropriate Public Health Services whilst the services are recommissioned during 2020. The future service will be informed by surveys of the needs of a range of local stakeholders.
Being financially efficient	The continuation will provide appropriate Public Health Services whilst the best combination of value and quality is established through the recommissioning process.

Legal Implications

This report requests the approval of the continuation of the Contract for the Provision of 0-19 Healthy Child Programme Service This is a “Social and Other Specific Services” Contract for the purposes of the Public Contract Regulations 2015 (“PCR”) and Council’s Contract Standing Orders (“CSOs”).

The proposed continuation period under Clause A4 of the Contract shall require Officers to ensure the extension is in accordance with Clauses A4.2-A4.4.

This report has been reviewed in accordance with the CSOs and PCR.

Under CSO 24, above threshold Contracts can only be extended if it is compliant with reg 72 PCR.

In accordance with reg 72(1) of the PCR, the Contract makes provision for “clear, precise and unequivocal review clauses” stating the nature of the possible modifications together with maintaining the nature of the Contract. The extension therefore does not require a new procurement process and meets the requirements of CSO 24.

In accordance with CSOs 18, 21 and 24, the approval process of the extension of high value contracts lies with the consultation of the relevant Cabinet Members, in this instance the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care. Further, the Cabinet, by virtue of the Report to the Cabinet of 4 March 2019, has delegated authority to the Strategic Director of Social Care and Public Services Reform in consultation with the Cabinet Member to determine whether the extensions provided for in the Contract and detailed in that Report should be exercised. The Recommendations in this Report are therefore in exercise of that delegated authority.

Legal implications completed by Lorraine Spurling- Local Authority Solicitor

Financial Impact

Contained in the exempt appendix.

Financial Implications completed by Gary Ironmonger – Finance Manager and verified by Emily Hill.

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Background Papers Used in Preparing This Report

None

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Proposals and Analysis of Options

1. The services should continue for a minimum of 6 months to maintain safe public health nursing provision.
2. Nursing Services of this scale and value require a notice period of 6 months in order to be decommissioned, and recommissioned safely.
3. There are no other options to deliver the service at this time during an ongoing process of commissioning where future needs are being established and evaluated.

Local Authority Responsibilities

4. The Local Authority is responsible for ensuring the provision of Health Visiting, School Nursing and associated (0-19) health, welfare and safeguarding services to the whole population cohort.

These services are mandated under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and must be delivered by the Local Authority as a matter of law. As preventative health services the focus is on protecting and improving population health and, in so doing, the identification and referral of individuals with more significant needs to dedicated individual health and social care services.

Reasons for Decision

5. Continuation is required in order to maintain safe delivery of the service.
6. The six-month extension will allow for necessary recommissioning activity to be undertaken. During this period evidence will be obtained to indicate whether procurement may be completed by September 2020, or whether a further period of 6 months (until March 2021) may be appropriate.

Equality Implications

7. Public Health Nursing is a universal service available to all children and families in the borough.

Other Implications

8. Procurement: This continuation of service is provided for in the existing contract does not require a new procurement.

Consultation

9. N/A

List of Appendices:

Exempt Appendix 1: Continuation of the 0-19 Children's Public Health Nursing Contract