

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM

Report to: Cabinet Member for Children and Education, Cllr Alex Sanderson

Date: 29/06/2022

Report Title: Approval to Direct Award CAMHS Contracts for 2021/22 and 2022/23

Report author: Paul Triantis, Programme Lead

Responsible Director: Jacqui McShannon – Director of Children’s Services

SUMMARY

This report seeks approval to secure and continue the provision of Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMHS). These services provide critical, specialist and statutory services to vulnerable children, families and young people in Hammersmith and Fulham.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Cabinet Member for Children and Education:

1. Notes and ratifies the direct awards for the following Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) (as per table 1) for a period of 12 months from 1st April 2021 until 31st March 2022.

Table 1

Contract	Provider	Total Value
Early Intervention Community CAMHS	West London NHS Trust	£205,387
Looked After Children CAMHS	West London NHS Trust	£185,398
H&F Intensive Behavioural Support Service	West London NHS Trust	£83,950
Kooth	Xenzone	£9,599
	TOTAL:	£484,334

2. Additionally approves the direct awards for the following Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) as per table 2 for a period of 12 months from 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023.

Table 2

Contract	Provider	Total Value
Early Intervention Community CAMHS	West London NHS Trust	£227,407
Looked After Children CAMHS	West London NHS Trust	£187,163
H&F Intensive Behavioural Support Service	West London NHS Trust	£84,790
Kooth	Xenzone	£9,599
	TOTAL:	£508,959

Wards Affected: All

Our Values	Summary of how this report aligns to the H&F Values
Building shared prosperity	Providing services that enable children and young people to reach their full potential.
Creating a compassionate council	Supporting critical services which will support local young people and their families.
Doing things with local residents, not to them	Maintaining high standards of existing contracts.
Being ruthlessly financially efficient	Supporting critical services which will support local young people and their families.
Taking pride in H&F	A high-quality service supporting some of our most vulnerable residents to access services.
Rising to the challenge of the climate and ecological emergency	N/A

Financial Impact2021-22

The 2021-22 CAMHS provision totals £484,334.

£428,334 is to be funded from the CAMHS expenditure budget which totals £428,600. The expenditure budget is made up of £56,300 of public health income with the remaining £372,300 coming from general fund.

The remaining £56,000 is funded through matching general fund budget for a behavioural support post in the Disabled Children's Team.

All 2021-22 spend can be contained within the allocated budget.

2022-23

The 2022-23 CAMHS provision totals £508,959.

£406,600 is to be funded from the CAMHS and behaviour support budget:

- £56,000 behaviour support budget
- £56,300 of public health income budget
- £294,300 coming from general fund CAMHS budget which includes Inflation of £14,000.

An MTFS saving was targeted in the 2022/23 MTFS of £92,000 relating to increased Health Service funding contributions. This is no longer expected to be achieved and will cause a pressure from April 2022 which Children's Services will need to identify mitigations for early in the new financial year.

There will therefore be a pressure of £102,359. £10,359 of the pressure is due to the inflation on the contracts (averaging 5% and totalling £24,625) exceeding the 3% inflationary budget growth approved. £10,000 can be mitigated by additional LAC CAMHS transformational income from the CCG which has been confirmed for 2022/23. The remaining pressure of £92,359 requires mitigation.

Tony Burton, Head of Finance for Children's Services and Education

Verified by Emily Hill, Director of Finance

Dated: 13 May 2022

Legal Implications

The recommendation is for direct awards of contracts. These are for health social and related services as defined in the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. The threshold for such services £663,540 so there is no obligation to undertake a procurement exercise will backup all data within the solution including any 3rd party products e.g. Cadline. The backups will be retained for a period of 12 months allow H&F to revert to data sets as they were up to 12 months previous to the request to restore.

The contract for early intervention community CAMHS is a high value contract and the contract for Looked After Children CAMHS is a medium value contract under the Council's standing orders. CSOs 15 and 19 require there to be a process of competition or use of a framework for contracts of this value, so a waiver of these standing orders is required.

Verified by John Sharland, Senior Solicitor (Contracts and Procurement)

Dated: 29 June 2022

Background Papers Used in Preparing This Report

None

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Proposals and Analysis of Options

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)

1. Hammersmith & Fulham's Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services provide multi-disciplinary assessment, and therapeutic and psychopharmacological interventions for children and young people up to the age of 18 years.
2. The objective of this offer is to ensure joined up emotional wellbeing and mental health services that provide equitable access and the best possible outcomes for H&F's children and young people.
3. Services have been considered as part of the ongoing Social Emotional Mental Health Review, and plans for service reviews and improvements are in place for 22/23 as part of the Review's Delivery Plan.

Table 3 – CAMHS Contracts		Plans for 22/23
Looked After Children CAMHS	Serves looked after children and care leavers, experiencing emotional distress and/or mental health needs. This includes 'step up' and 'step down' support for children from out of area CAMHS services.	Review to establish new model, spec, accountability and KPIs and explore opportunities for joint funding. (Action from SEMH Review)
Intensive Behavioural Support Service	A jointly commissioned behavioural support service for CYP with Learning Disabilities and/or Autism who are at risk of Tier 4 hospital admission or residential placement.	Finalise service spec, referral routes, and model of working. (Action from SEMH Review)
Community CAMHS	An early intervention Community CAMHS service offering assessment, short-term therapeutic work, early help and targeted services to children and young people (0-18). (Jointly funded with H&F CCG)	No significant changes planned – the service is functioning well, and is in line with national funding splits for LA and CCGs. Opportunity to increase community footprint in mid term, by tie-ing into planning around Family Hubs and 0 – 19 strategy.
Kooth	Online text-based counselling service for adolescents delivered	No change.

	via an app provided by Xenzone.	
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4. In addition, effective September 2019, Hammersmith & Fulham Council and our partner Clinical Commissioning Group secured Trailblazer funding to provide Mental Health Support Teams in local schools. This initial award of £850k p.a. has enabled the introduction of 15 emotional wellbeing staff supporting 16,000 children and young people in areas of higher health inequalities, and those with special educational needs and disabilities. The Trailblazer is an NHSE funded initiative but has close working ties with the Local Authority and other CAMHS Services.
5. The value of the contracts is given in the table below.

Table 4 - CAMHS Contracts	21/22	22/23
Looked After Children CAMHS	£185,398	£187,163
Intensive Behavioural Support Service	£83,950	£84,790
Community CAMHS	£205,387	£227,407
Kooth	£9,599	£9,599
Total	£487,334	£508,959

6. Since the ending of shared s75 services arrangements, the Community CAMHS contract value has not been regularly uplifted to fund nationally set NHS Agenda for Change pay scale increases, despite a one off-up lift of 2.1% applied by the LA last year. Commissioners have worked with West London Trust (WLT) to keep the contract value to the historic envelope for 21/22, despite requests for increased funding.
7. However, from 22/23 the contract value for Community CAMHS will increase by £22,020, based on a re-baselining of costs based on actual staff FTE and mid-point salary ranges by WLT across the contracts. The CCG, who jointly fund the service have met the increase effective 21/22.
8. The effects have not been seen across our other CAMHS contracts as these have undergone recent service redesigns or restructures which have resulted in savings and effectively mitigated increases. The service provision for Community CAMHS has not been subject to efficiencies in this same way and there is no plan to reduce the service offer.
9. Services will continue to be subject to inflationary Agenda for Change pressures going forward.

10. As part of the SEMH Review, officers have been in discussions with CCG colleagues with regards to improving joint accountability and responsibility for the LAC CAMHS service. Constructive initial conversations had indicated that it would be possible to jointly fund the LAC CAMHS contract, therefore proposals were submitted as part of the MTFS challenge for savings on this contract. Subsequently, the CCG were unable to confirm or secure their share of the financial contribution, which has resulted in the £92k shortfall in the budget (before inflation). However, the CCG have found a reduced amount of £10,000 to contribute on a recurring basis to support funding of the LAC CAMHS service. The CCG have also further invested in additional provision to enhance the offer through the creation of a new post from April 2022, which will be responsible for monitoring therapeutic placements for all Children and Young People placed out of borough, which will free up some capacity from LAC CAMHS to focus on its core service.
11. Furthermore, the provider West London Trust have identified funds from NHSE CAMHS Transformation. These monies can only be used to expand or enhance the current offer. Commissioners are therefore now working with Health partners in 22/23 to explore how CAMHS transformation monies, designated for service expansion and improvement, can be allocated to this area to further support the LAC CAMHS offer from a health perspective, with a view to recommissioning the offer by April 23 and mitigating the current shortfall.
12. The following are our strategic priorities for our H&F CAMHS service offer in 22/23:
 - Apply the findings of our Mental Health Pathways Review to refine and improve our mental health and emotional wellbeing offer for all children and young people in the borough
 - Ensure targeted, evidence-based support is in place for vulnerable families and children
 - Refocus provision towards outcomes: emphasise innovation, collaboration & flexibility from providers.
 - Achieve co-produced services that have community buy-in, increase wellbeing and provide value for money.

Option 1: Agree to the financial contributions for direct award of the CAMHS contracts as listed in Tables 1 and 2 above (Recommended)

13. This will secure existing provision at this unprecedented time when the council is going to rely significantly on the extended workforce of the providers and ensure continuity of supply. It will also enable providers to continue to provide critical and vital support to vulnerable children, young people and families.
14. There are unlikely to be viable alternative providers as mental health services are delivered by NHS trained professionals via the local trust covering H&F.

Option 2: Do not agree the direct award of the contracts listed in Tables 1 above (Not recommended)

15. The Council would not be able to meet its statutory responsibilities if funding and in turn provision was to cease.

Reasons for Decision

16. The decision to direct award the contracts will secure existing provision as the Council continues to provide services during the COVID19 pandemic. It will also enable the providers to continue to provide vital support to vulnerable children, young people and families.
17. Competition remains absent due to the extensive resources and specialised mental health expertise required to fulfil the volume of services the Council requires.

Equality Implications

18. There are no negative equality implications for groups with protected characteristics, under the Equality Act 2010, arising from the approval of these proposals. The direct award of contracts outlined in this report help to secure continuity of provision supporting vulnerable children, young people and their families.

Risk Management Implications

19. The value of the Service and continuing need has been clearly defined within the report in accordance with the council's Ruthlessly Financially Efficient priority, furthermore a course of action has been outlined that ensures continuity of service following engagement with partners to review and develop the offer in line with strategic objectives, paragraph 12 of the report. Whilst it is unclear what the medium to longer term impacts will be following the Covid pandemic, the Council will secure existing provision through the providers. It will also enable providers to continue to provide critical and vital support to vulnerable children, young people and families.

Implications verified by: David Hughes, Director of Audit, Fraud, Risk and Insurance, 1 June 2022

Climate and Ecological Emergency Implications

20. There are no climate or ecologic emergency implications as a result of this report.

Implications verified by: Hinesh Mehta, Strategic Lead, 1 June 2022

Local Economy and Social Value Implications

It is a requirement that all contracts let by the council with a value above £100,000 provide social value commitments that are additional to the core services required under the contract. In addition, the evaluation of social value should account for a weighting of a minimum of 10% of the overall score.

Of the eight contracts recommended to be awarded, four are above £100,000 as detailed in tables 1 and 2 above. These four contracts are recommended all to be awarded to West London NHS Trust and total £803,590. Therefore, the social value contribution should be a proxy value of at least 10% of this total.

West London NHS Trust currently directly employs two Hammersmith & Fulham residents who are expected to work on the contracts over their durations. Together, they work 1.85 x full-time equivalent hours. Therefore, the proxy value of these contributions to local employment is 17.95% of the total contract values.

The project lead should monitor these social value key performance indicators over the duration of the contract (Social Value Portal will not be employed to do so and the contractor need not pay their monitoring fees). It is recommended that, should the contractor require support to retain or employ local staff, the project lead will work closely with the council's Social Value Officer and the contractor to agree on a delivery plan.

It is advised that the commissioner works with Legal to ensure appropriate social value clauses are included in the contract so that the council can enforce its right to compensation if social value commitments are not delivered.

Implications completed by: Paul Clarke, Economic Development Officer, 4 March 2022