

**EQIA Submission – ID Number****Section A**

EQIA Title	Proposed extension to East Kent Drug and Alcohol Service Contract
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Responsible Officer	Stacey Baston - ST SC
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**Type of Activity**

Service Change	No
Service Redesign	No
Project/Programme	No
Commissioning/Procurement	Commissioning/Procurement
Strategy/Policy	No
Details of other Service Activity	No

**Accountability and Responsibility**

Directorate	Strategic and Corporate Services
Responsible Service	Public Health Commissioning
Responsible Head of Service	Christy Holden - ST SC
Responsible Director	Anjan Ghosh - ST SC

**Aims and Objectives**

The East Kent Community Drug and Alcohol Service contract is due to end on 31 March 2022. Commissioners have undertaken a formal contract review of the service to determine whether KCC should extend the contract (as per the contract clause) or go through a new procurement exercise. Key findings from the contract review support extending the contract until March 2024.

The East Kent Community Drug and Alcohol Service was commissioned in 2017. The contract was awarded to the Forward Trust and commenced on 1 May 2017 with an end date of 31 March 2022. This contract has allowable extensions contained within the contract for a further 36 months. The intention is to extend the contract by 24 months to align all adult drug and alcohol contracts to end in March 2024. This will give the Council maximum flexibility and opportunity to re-commission in a way that will effectively supports Kent residents in the future. Commissioners plan to procure all the contracts as one exercise which will allow for economies of scale and shared engagement with all the market.

The analysis of the proposal to extend the East Kent Drug and Alcohol contract services considers that No change in the East Kent Drug and Alcohol service is the most appropriate option.

The evidence presented here suggests that there is no potential for discrimination and that this option is an appropriate measure to advance equality and create stability for vulnerable service users.

This EQIA will be updated further to as part of the recommissioning process to continually assess and consider the options and whether No change remains the most appropriate for the new service specification.

**Section B – Evidence**

Do you have data related to the protected groups of the people impacted by this activity?	Yes
It is possible to get the data in a timely and cost effective way?	Yes
Is there national evidence/data that you can use?	Yes
Have you consulted with stakeholders?	Yes

<b>Who have you involved, consulted and engaged with?</b>	
<p>We have engaged and consulted with internal stakeholders within KCC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Public Health Consultants and Specialists</li> <li>- Head of Public Health Commissioning</li> <li>- Relevant commissioners in Strategic Commissioning</li> </ul> <p>We have also engaged with the current provider as appropriate regarding the proposed extension to the contract.</p>	
Has there been a previous Equality Analysis (EQIA) in the last 3 years?	No
Do you have evidence that can help you understand the potential impact of your activity?	Yes
<b>Section C – Impact</b>	
<b>Who may be impacted by the activity?</b>	
Service Users/clients	Service users/clients
Staff	Staff/Volunteers
Residents/Communities/Citizens	Residents/communities/citizens
Are there any positive impacts for all or any of the protected groups as a result of the activity that you are doing?	Yes
<b>Details of Positive Impacts</b>	
<p>Extending the contract and maintaining service delivery with the current provider will offer service users, staff, stakeholders and the general public with stability. This will mean that services will remain accessible to all those with protected characteristics and not create any confusion, ensuring a level of consistency in service delivery for vulnerable adults and their families in East Kent.</p> <p>The recent Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak also supports the option of an extension to the contract as is recognised that the coronavirus pandemic has disproportionately affected vulnerable adults. Therefore maintaining consistent access to treatment services for vulnerable people remains incredibly important.</p> <p>The intention is to extend the contract by 24 months to align all adult drug and alcohol contracts to end in March 2024. This will give the Council maximum flexibility and opportunity to re-commission in a way that will effectively supports Kent residents in the future. Commissioners plan to procure all the contracts as one exercise which will allow for economies of scale and shared engagement with all the market.</p> <p>The decision to extend and align all the adult drug and alcohol contracts will create an opportunity to engage effectively and efficiently with all those impacted by the services as we will dedicate resource to co-production and engaging with key stakeholders, with a particular focus on those with protected characteristics.</p>	
<b>Negative impacts and Mitigating Actions</b>	
<b>19. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Age</b>	
Are there negative impacts for age?	No
<b>Details of negative impacts for Age</b>	
Not Applicable	
<b>Mitigating Actions for Age</b>	
Not Applicable	
Responsible Officer for Mitigating Actions – Age	Not Applicable
<b>20. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Disability</b>	
Are there negative impacts for	No

Disability?	
Details of Negative Impacts for Disability	
Not Applicable	
Mitigating actions for Disability	
Not Applicable	
Responsible Officer for Disability	Not Applicable
<b>21. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Sex</b>	
Are there negative impacts for Sex	No
Details of negative impacts for Sex	
Not Applicable	
Mitigating actions for Sex	
Not Applicable	
Responsible Officer for Sex	Not Applicable
<b>22. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender</b>	
Are there negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender	No
Negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender	
Not Applicable	
Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender	
Not Applicable	
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender	Not Applicable
<b>23. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Race</b>	
Are there negative impacts for Race	No
Negative impacts for Race	
Not Applicable	
Mitigating actions for Race	
Not Applicable	
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Race	Not Applicable
<b>24. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Religion and belief</b>	
Are there negative impacts for Religion and belief	No
Negative impacts for Religion and belief	
Not Applicable	
Mitigating actions for Religion and belief	
Not Applicable	
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Religion and Belief	Not Applicable
<b>25. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation</b>	
Are there negative impacts for Sexual Orientation	No
Negative impacts for Sexual Orientation	
Not Applicable	
Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation	
Not Applicable	
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation	Not Applicable
<b>26. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity</b>	
Are there negative impacts for	No

Pregnancy and Maternity	
Negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity	
Not Applicable	
Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity	
Not Applicable	
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity	Not Applicable
<b>27. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>	
Are there negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships	No
Negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships	
Not Applicable	
Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships	
Not Applicable	
Responsible Officer for Marriage and Civil Partnerships	Not Applicable
<b>28. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities</b>	
Are there negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities	No
Negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities	
Not Applicable	
Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities	
Not Applicable	
Responsible Officer for Carer's responsibilities	Not Applicable