

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

Proposed extension to Young Persons Drug and Alcohol Service Contract

Responsible Officer

Rebecca Eley - ST SC

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 Young Persons Drug and Alcohol Service contract is due to end on 31 December 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 Young Persons Drug and Alcohol Service contract, as delivered by Addaction, which later rebranded as We Are With You (With You), commenced on 1st January 2018. The contract is due to end on 31st December 2022 (5 years in total) with an option to extend by 2 years. The intention is to extend the contract by 15 months to align all Kent 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 Young Persons Drug and Alcohol contract services considers that no change in the Young Persons 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 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

Who have you involved, consulted and engaged with?

We have engaged and consulted with internal stakeholders within KCC:

- Public Health Consultants and Specialists
- Interim Head of Strategic Commissioning (Public Health)
- Relevant commissioners in Strategic Commissioning

We have also engaged with the current provider as appropriate regarding the proposed extension to the contract.

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

Section C – Impact

Who may be impacted by the activity?

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

Details of Positive Impacts

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 young people and their families in Kent.

The 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 young people. Therefore, maintaining consistent access to treatment services for vulnerable young people remains incredibly important.

The intention is to extend the contract by 15 months to align all Kent 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 decision to extend and align all the Kent 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.

Negative impacts and Mitigating Actions

19. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Age

Are there negative impacts for age?

No

Details of negative impacts for Age

Not Applicable

Mitigating Actions for Age

Not Applicable

Responsible Officer for Mitigating Actions – Age

Not Applicable

20. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Disability

Are there negative impacts for Disability?

No

Details of Negative Impacts for Disability

Not Applicable

Mitigating actions for Disability

Not Applicable

Responsible Officer for Disability

Not Applicable

21. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Sex

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

22. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender

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

23. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Race
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
24. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Religion and belief
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
25. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation
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
26. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity
Are there negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity
No
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
27. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
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
28. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities
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