

From: Andrew Scott-Clark, Director of Public Health

To: Graham Gibbens
Cabinet Member, Adult Social Care and Public Health

Subject: **School Public Health Services – Contract awards**

Classification: Unrestricted

Past Pathway of Paper: Children’s Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee, 10 November 2016, and previous dates listed at end of this report

Future Pathway of Paper: Cabinet Member Decision – 16/00038a (2)

Electoral Division: All

Summary

The Children’s Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee has previously endorsed plans to commission new School Public Health Services across Kent through a competitive procurement process. This procurement process started earlier in 2016 and is being undertaken as part of the wider procurement of the Children’s Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Services across the county.

The combined annual budget for the first year of the contracts is expected to be approximately £6m and will be funded from the Public Health grant. The contract values will be subject to a year on year reduction over the life of the contract in line with the planned reductions to the Public Health grant.

The total maximum contract value over the initial five year term will be £29m and the contract award will require a key decision by the Cabinet Member. The new services are due to start operating on 1st April 2017.

Recommendations

The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health is asked to agree to award contracts to the successful bidder(s) (from those listed in the exempt appendix to this report).

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The Children’s Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee has previously endorsed plans to commission new School Public Health Services across Kent through a competitive procurement process.
- 1.2. This paper aims to provide an update on the progress of the procurement process and seeks the committee’s endorsement of a proposed key decision to award the new contracts.

2. Background

- 2.1. As part of its responsibilities for public health and for delivering improved health and wellbeing outcomes for children and young people in Kent, KCC Public Health has commissioned school public health nursing services across the county since April 2013.
- 2.2. The services are currently delivered by Medway Foundation Trust (MFT) in Sittingbourne and Sheppey and Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust (KCHFT) across the rest of Kent.
- 2.3. The Committee has previously welcomed and endorsed the proposal to re-commission these services as part of a wider collaboration with health commissioners to implement *'The Way Ahead, Kent's Emotional Wellbeing Strategy for children, young people and young adults in Kent'*.
- 2.4. At its meeting in July 2016, the committee noted that the new services would be organised into two distinct lots:
 - **A Primary School Public Health Service** for children aged 5-11; and
 - **An Adolescent Health and Targeted Emotional Wellbeing Service** (mainly for young people aged 11-19)
- 2.5. These services will aim to improve physical as well and emotional and mental health of children and young people in Kent. This will include delivering the National Childhood Measurement Programme (NCMP), vision and hearing screening and health assessments at Year R and Year 6.

3. Progress

- 3.1. The procurement process started in June 2016 with a pre-qualification stage. The bidders who passed this stage were invited to submit 'outline solutions' which gave an overview of their proposed service models and approach.
- 3.2. This has now progressed through to a competitive dialogue process with a number of providers who are listed in the attached exempt report. This has enabled KCC and Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) commissioners to engage in discussions with potential providers and explore their proposed solutions in more detail and to consider bidders' questions or suggested changes to service requirements.
- 3.3. The table below sets out the timetable for the rest of the procurement process:

Bidders invited to submit final tenders	24 th November
Complete Evaluation of Final Tenders	23 rd December
Award contract	Early January 2017
Service mobilisation	January – March 2017
New Service start date	1 st April 2017

- 3.4. The new services will play a critical role in delivering an integrated system to improve emotional wellbeing of children and young people. The services will include a universal (Tier 1) emotional wellbeing service for all school-aged as well as more targeted (Tier 2) support for approximately 2,000 young people. This will replace the existing contract for Young Healthy Minds.
- 3.5. The Tier 3 Children and Young People's Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing Service (CYPMHS) is being commissioned by CCGs as part of the same procurement process. However, the contracts for these services are not due to be awarded until May 2016 with the services starting in September 2016.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1. The new School Public Health Service contracts will be funded from Kent's Public Health grant. The grant was reduced by 7.5% in 2016/17 and is due to be reduced by a further 2.5% in 2017/18 with further reductions expected in future years.
- 4.2. The new contracts for School Public Health Services have been allocated an indicative combined budget £6,000,000 in the 2017/18. The new contracts will be structured to deliver year-on-year efficiency savings to ensure that the service remains affordable but can still meet the essential requirements of the contract.
- 4.3. The maximum total contract value over the initial five-year term of the contract will be £29,000,000. The exact contract values will be determined through the final stages of the procurement process. The contract award will require a key decision by the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health.

5. Risks

- 5.1. The risks associated with the reducing budget will be managed through effective commissioning and through effective joint working between the service providers and other partners.
- 5.2. Commissioners will scrutinise provider performance, finances and key risks through the contract monitoring process in order to mitigate any significant risks to service delivery. Public Health will also encourage and support collaboration between providers, schools and other partners to help ensure that services make best use of the full assets and knowledge that are available across the county.
- 5.3. The different service start dates for the School Public Health Service (1st April) and the CYPMHS (1st September) could present some potential risks for service delivery and continuity. This risk will be managed through close working with CCG commissioners through the CYPMHS procurement programme board.
- 5.4. Bidders have also been asked to submit detailed transition and mobilisation plans as part of their tender. The transition to the new services will be carefully managed in order to minimise any unnecessary disruption for children, young people and families.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1. The Committee has previously endorsed commissioning plans for School Public Health Services on a number of occasions. Since the last update in July 2016, there

has been substantial progress in the procurement of a new Primary School Public Health Service and an Adolescent Health and Targeted Emotional Wellbeing Service.

- 6.2. The procurement is due to conclude with contract due to be awarded early in January 2017 for an initial term of five years. The anticipated combined annual contract value for 2017/18 is approximately £6m but is expected to reduce over the life of the contract. The total maximum contract value for the initial five year term will be £29m.
- 6.3. The contract awards will be subject to a Cabinet Member key decision. A proposed Record of Decision has been included as an accompanying paper to this report.

7. Recommendations

The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health is asked to agree to award contracts to the successful bidder(s) (from those listed in the exempt appendix to this report).

Background Documents:

Reports to Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee on:

- 10th November 2016
- 5th July 2016
- 22nd March 2016
- 22nd January 2016
- 8th September 2015

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