

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health

DECISION NO:

18/00041

For publication**Key decision**

Affects more than 2 Electoral Divisions and expenditure of more than £1m.

Subject:

Decision: As Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health, I propose to work with commissioners to:

- a) **UNDERTAKE** an open tendering process for a Care Navigation and Social Prescribing Contract;
- b) **ESTABLISH** interim arrangements from 1 April 2019 for a minimum period of nine months for the majority of the remaining historic grants to allow for the full tender or appropriate process by 2020 in relation to community-based wellbeing services; and
- c) **DELEGATE** authority to the Corporate Director of Adult Social Care and Health, or other nominated officer, to undertake the necessary actions to implement the decision.

Reason(s) for decision: Commissioning a Care Navigation and Social Prescribing Service to support older people, carers and people living with dementia which will improve outcomes for people, reduce duplication and create clearer pathways. There will be an emphasis on aligning community care navigators to GP clusters and MDTs as well as closer working with District and Borough Council Community Teams. The service will be jointly commissioned where possible and coordinated where existing arrangements prevent joint commissioning.

Financial Implications: The proposed Care Navigation and Social Prescribing contract will be funded by ending existing historic grants for Community Care Navigators and ending the contract for Carers Assessment and reinvesting the money into the new contract. Dartford, Gravesham, Swanley and Swale Clinical Commissioning Group have gained agreement to invest £200k and will jointly commission care navigation with adult social care for their locality. It is proposed to increase funding in this Care Navigation Service by £411,242, effectively doubling the number of care navigators commissioned by Adult Social Care and Health. Additional funding will be sourced from ending existing grants and the predicted underspend in the Adult Social Care and Health demand led element of the carers contract, creating a total contract value of £5,931,861 per year (£23,727,444 over four years).

Legal Implications: Given the nature of the current grant agreements, it is likely that TUPE will apply. The specific arrangements established for the impacted organisations will need legal advice, which is being explored. Advice is being sought on the right route for an interim arrangement for 2019-20 for the second stage required in implementing the full Community Based Wellbeing Service.

Equality Implications: An Equality Impact Assessment had been completed and is attached as. The people most likely to be impacted by changes to this service are older people and carers who are the recipients of the current service. The service to this group will continue and because it is a short-term intervention, people are unlikely to experience a change in provider as part of a handover process, although there may need to be a waiting list implemented while transition between providers occurs. Overall the positive impact is likely to outweigh the negative as the service is more integrated, with reduced duplication of roles and pathways. Increasing investment will enable more people to receive support.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation: The proposed decision will be discussed at the Adult Social Care Cabinet Committee on 27 September 2018 and the outcome included in the paperwork which the Cabinet Member will be asked to sign.

Any alternatives considered:

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:

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signed

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date