

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY:

Graham Gibbens,
Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and
Public Health

DECISION NO:

16/00142

For publication**Key decision**

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

Subject: Community Advocacy for People with a Learning Disability

Decision: As Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health, I:

- a) **APPROVE** a variation to the Kent Advocacy Contract to include Community Advocacy for People with a Learning Disability; and
- b) **DELEGATE** authority to the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, or other nominated officer, to undertake the necessary actions to implement the decision.

Reason(s) for decision:

The Kent Advocacy Contract commenced on 1 April 2016 and is delivered by seAp. The Contract was awarded following a re-shaping of commissioning arrangements moving from ad-hoc purchasing to a county wide advocacy service providing all of Kent's statutory and non statutory advocacy services. seAp works collaboratively with a network of delivery partners to deliver the service. Advocacy for All is one of the delivery partners for Kent Advocacy and seAp work very closely with them.

The Community Advocacy Service for People with a Learning Disability was kept out of scope of this Contract at the time as current arrangements were working well however, as the Contract is coming to an end alternative arrangements must now be made.

Financial Implications: The current annual cost of the Kent Learning Disability Community Advocacy Contract is £297,800 per annum with approx. £5,200 spent on advocacy supporting adults with child protection issues.

The current value of the Kent Advocacy Hub Contract is £1.2 million per annum, the new Contract value including Learning Disability Community Advocacy will be £1.5 million per annum.

Legal Implications: Throughout the tender for the Kent Advocacy contract it was clearly stated that although Community Advocacy for People with a Learning Disability was out of the scope of this contract the right was reserved to include this provision within the contract at a later date. By stating this throughout the tender and contract documentation Corporate Procurement is satisfied that a contract variation can legally be made to incorporate Community Advocacy for People with a Learning Disability into the existing Kent Advocacy contract.

Equality Implications: An EqIA was completed when the Kent Learning Disability Advocacy Contract was originally tendered. The EqIA has been updated to include this proposed change and

no further risks have been highlighted.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The proposed decision was discussed at the Adult Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee on 30 January 2017. Ms E Hanson, Head of Strategic Commissioning, was in attendance for this item.

1. Ms Hanson introduced the item and explained the context of the current proposal to include community advocacy for people with a learning disability in the existing advocacy contract. She then responded to comments and questions from Members, as follows:-
 - a) the proposal to expand the contract, and the additional funding made available to accompany this, were both welcomed; and
 - b) in response to a question about monitoring and target outcomes, Ms Hanson undertook to circulate to the committee the performance data relating to the current advocacy contract and those proposed to be included in the new revised contract to include advocacy for people with a learning disability.
2. The Cabinet Member, Mr Gibbens, thanked Members for their comments and undertook to take account of them when taking the decision.

RESOLVED that the decision proposed to be taken by the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health, to approve a variation to the Kent advocacy contract to include community advocacy for people with a learning disability, and to delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, or other nominated officer, to undertake the necessary actions to implement the decision, be welcomed and endorsed

The Kent Learning Disability Partnership Board will be consulted regarding implementation.

Any alternatives considered:

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

None



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signed

9 FEBRUARY 2017

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date