

From: Andrew Scott-Clark, Director of Public Health

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

7th March 2017

Subject: Sexual Health Services - contract extensions

Classification: Unrestricted

Previous Pathway: Adult Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee – 10 March 2016 and 11 October 2016

Future Pathway: Cabinet Member Decision – 16/00095

Electoral Division: All

Summary: At its meeting in March, the Adult Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee noted and welcomed the range of sexual health services that had been commissioned in the past two years. In October 2016, the Committee RESOLVED that the decision proposed to extend the existing contracts for sexual health services to 31st March 2019, be endorsed.

This report seeks the Cabinet Member's approval for the decision to extend the contracts for up to two years, in line with the provision of the original contract.

Recommendation: The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health is asked to take the key decision to authorise the extension of the existing contracts for sexual health services for up to two years, to 31st March 2019.

1. Introduction

- 1.1. At its March 2016 meeting, the Adult Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee considered a paper which provided an update on the implementation of the community sexual health services that Kent County Council (KCC) has commissioned in the past two years. The committee welcomed the work that had been undertaken to commission the wide range services that are now available in the county.
- 1.2. The initial two-year term of the contracts is due to end in March 2017. This paper seeks the committee's endorsement of a proposed decision to extend the contracts for up to two more years in line with the provision of the original contract.

2. Background

- 2.1. Since 2013, KCC has had a statutory responsibility to ensure provision of range of open access sexual health services across the county. KCC Public Health therefore commissions a range of services including:

- integrated sexual health services covering genito-urinary medicine (GUM), contraception and HIV outpatient services
- a chlamydia screening programme
- psychosexual counselling
- sexual health outreach
- sexual health provision through community pharmacies

3. Contract Performance

- 3.1. These services were re-commissioned through a competitive tendering process in 2015 which enabled KCC to open up the market for sexual health services and secure savings through more efficient activity-based contracts.
- 3.2. The paper presented to the committee in March set out the substantial progress that had been made in implementing the new services. Since this time, the services have continued to generally perform well whilst continuing to innovate and improve value for money for KCC. A detailed breakdown of the performance and cost of each of the contracts is included at Appendix A.

4. Proposed Extension

- 4.1. The original contracts, awarded in 2015, allowed for an initial two-year term and the possibility of an extension of up to two more years. The generally good performance and the significant opportunity for innovation over the next one to two-years provides a strong case for extending the contracts with a number of adjustments to deliver further improvements in value for money and improved service delivery. These changes are subject to further dialogue with providers but are likely to include:
- better online access to sexual health screening and testing
 - further innovation and use of technology to improve access to services
 - improved outreach for vulnerable groups and better detection of chlamydia
- 4.2. Public Health will work with providers in the coming months to finalise the detail of any proposed changes and will implement any necessary changes to the contract as part of the contract extension.
- 4.3. The proposed key decision will provide the authority to implement the changes and the extensions up to 31st March 2019 but will still allow commissioners to implement changes where needed, take remedial action or terminate contracts earlier than planned if the performance deteriorates to an unacceptable level.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1. The maximum combined value of the additional two-year contract extensions is £18,633,200. A breakdown of the values of each of the six contracts is included at Appendix B.

5.2. The maximum contract value of each of the six contracts includes an activity-based payment which ensures better value for money for KCC. These payments are adjusted to reflect the providers' variable costs, or changes in service capacity. During the current financial year, this contracting model is projected to deliver a net saving of more than £0.5m for KCC.

6. Conclusion

6.1. KCC Public Health is seeking the committee's endorsement of a proposed key decision to extend the current contracts for community sexual health services for up to two-years. The extensions are in line with the terms of the contracts, which were competitively tendered in 2015. There has been good progress in implementing the new services. The services are performing well and are delivering improved value for money for KCC.

6.2. The contract extensions will provide an opportunity to build on the progress that has been made so far, to innovate and make better use of technology in providing services efficiently and to deliver further improvements in value for money in the next two years. If the current services continue to perform well and deliver the required value for money, the current contracts could continue up to March 2019. KCC will still have the flexibility to adjust or replace the services within that time if performance deteriorates significantly or if the services are judged to no longer meet the needs of the population.

7. Recommendations

Recommendation: The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health is asked to take the key decision to authorise the extension of the existing contracts for sexual health services for up to two years, to 31st March 2019.

Background Documents:

Report to Adults Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee, 10 March 2016

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APPENDIX A – Contract Performance

Integrated Sexual Health Services:

This service was commissioned to provide a comprehensive contraceptive and genito-urinary medicine (GUM) and HIV outpatient service across east Kent. The service provides appointment and walk in clinics consisting of 30 minute appointments across five districts in a hub, super-spoke and spoke model.

Open access to sexual health services has increased across east Kent, and there has been much improvement in the quality and level of information presented to monitor performance.

Psychosexual Counselling Service:

As previously reported at the March committee meeting, this service has been extended across Kent and is growing. The change to the performance monitoring of this therapy service has enabled greater insight into what it delivers to the population. The service offer has expanded and increased access countywide. There has been improvement in the quality and productivity of the service.

Pharmacy Sexual Health Service:

This service continues to expand to ensure access to free emergency contraception to women aged 30 and under. The phased implementation of this programme has provided an opportunity to direct activity to areas/wards with highest teenage pregnancy rates. The focus will continue to be on areas with higher or increased termination of pregnancy rates.

Condom Programme:

The C Card programme has evolved into the current 'Get It' programme. The service delivery of this programme has enabled a greater number of young people to register for and access condoms from a range of providers. The range and variety of distribution sites and on line access has expanded this service exponentially. Given the current burden of sexually transmitted infections amongst 20 -24 year olds, the programme has expanded its age range to up to 24 years. It has targeted specific geographical areas such as Swale district and vulnerable population groups such as unaccompanied male asylum seekers. The progress of this programme has been exceptional and the outcomes set out within the service specification have been met with added value.

Chlamydia Screening Programme:

As previously reported at the March committee meeting, changes to the Source Bioscience service has enabled efficiencies on the chlamydia screening programme. As a result of the increase in reliance on IT and digital service provision arrangements, and the evolution of subsequent patient management systems, we have identified opportunities to create further efficiencies and enhancements to this contract.

APPENDIX B – CONTRACT VALUES

Service	2016/17	2017/18	Total
Integrated services – North and West Kent	4,440,500	4,440,500	8,881,000
Integrated services – East Kent	3,806,000	3,806,000	7,612,000
Psychosexual	272,900	272,900	545,800
Chlamydia	264,600	264,600	529,200
Condoms	156,000	156,000	312,000
Pharmacy	376,600	376,600	753,200
Total	9,316,600	9,316,600	18,633,200