

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health
<b>Date:</b>	21 March 2014
<b>Title:</b>	Genito-Urinary Medicine (GUM) services provided by Frimley Park Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
<b>Reference:</b>	5614
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Public Health

**Contact name:** Robert Carroll, Public Health Manager

**Tel:** 02380 383322

**Email:** [robert.carroll@hants.gov.uk](mailto:robert.carroll@hants.gov.uk)

#### 1. Executive Summary

1.1. The purpose of this paper is to seek authority to put in place a Single Tender Approval for a 24 month extension to existing contract arrangements with Frimley Park Hospital NHS Foundation Trust for the provision of Genito-Urinary Medicine (GUM) Services for Hampshire residents. This is in response to the significant number of residents that continue to access this open-access service and is separate to the integrated sexual health provision currently provided by Solent NHS Trust.

#### 2. Contextual information

2.1. Frimley Park Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (FPH FT) provides an open-access Genito-Urinary Medicine (GUM) service for the testing and treatment of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) from their main hospital site in Frimley, Surrey.

Local Authorities are mandated to ensure that there are comprehensive, open-access sexually transmitted infection (STI) testing and treatment services for their population. An open-access service can be used by anyone in the area, whether resident or not, and services cannot be restricted to people who live in that area. Service providers recharge the home local authority where the user is resident for use of open-access services. This is usually based on the address of their home or GP. Service users can remain anonymous. There are strong public health reasons why open-access services are mandated. STIs are spread primarily through person-to-person sexual contact and easy access to services and treatment is essential to encourage people to seek treatment and so prevent the spread of infections and outbreaks of disease. For some people, a strong desire for anonymity or because a clinic is more convenient (e.g. nearer to their workplace), will mean

that they will choose to travel to access services away from where they live. In summary there are no geographical restrictions on where Hampshire residents can access these types of services.

- 2.2. Due to its close proximity to the Hampshire County Council area, FPH FT continues to see significant numbers of Hampshire residents for STI testing and treatment within its GUM service. Historically FPH FT has been the main provider of GUM services to the Hampshire population in the North East (Rushmoor & Hart district council areas) of Hampshire.
- 2.3. The service is also accessed by residents from Surrey and West Berkshire (as well as smaller numbers of residents from other local authority areas due to its open-access nature) and health authorities and primary care trusts from all three local authority areas have traditionally held contracts with FPH FT for this service.
- 2.4. In 2010 NHS Hampshire announced its commissioning intention to undertake a procurement exercise to commission a Level 3 integrated model of sexual health provision for Hampshire residents from 2012 and served notice on all existing contracts with local providers of specialist (level 3) sexual health services, including FPH FT. The procurement was successful and Solent NHS Trust (in association with British Pregnancy Advisory Service (BPAS)) was awarded a three-year contract to provide a Level 3 Integrated Sexual Health Service across Hampshire, which includes service provision based in the Aldershot Centre for Health.

### **3. Current Issues**

- 3.1 FPH FT elected not to become part of the new integrated sexual health service and to continue to provide a GUM service, primarily to Surrey and Berkshire residents. Consequently an agreement was put in place between NHS Hampshire and FPH FT such that NHS Hampshire would pay for Hampshire residents who continued to access the FPH FT open-access service in spite of the opening of a new integrated sexual health clinic, provided by Solent NHS Trust, in Aldershot. This agreement expired on 31 March 2013.
- 3.2 With the transfer of public health functions to Hampshire County Council, an extension for this service was put in place by Hampshire County Council under a Single Tender Approval dated 28 March 2013. This contract was for the period of 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014 and had a value for GUM services of £195,000. This value was the figure identified by NHS Hampshire prior to the transfer as the forecast cost of the residual Hampshire activity likely to still be seen at FPH FT following the development of the integrated sexual health clinic in Aldershot in 2013. The actual cost of the activity still seen at FPH FT is currently much higher, due to the open-access nature of the service, and this paper seeks approval to extend the current agreement for 24 months with a maximum contract value of £1,390,000 based on recent and current expenditure.
- 3.3 As a significant number of Hampshire residents continue to access the GUM service provided at Frimley Park Hospital, a further Single Tender Approval is

being sought to put a HCC public health contract in place with FPH FT. This is in order to regulate the service, allow robust contract management and to maximise control over the quality of the service that is being provided, as well as the activity and associated finances. Further it is desired that the service is more aligned with the integrated service provided by Solent NHS Trust. It should be stressed that the County Council has no control over the choice of the provider as this is a service that is driven by the significant continued use by Hampshire residents. The purpose of the contract is to regulate the service.

- 3.4 Single Tender Approval is sought for a period of 24 months from the 1 April 2014 to the 31 March 2016. This is firstly to align this contract with the Single-Tender Approval granted by the Executive Member on 20 September 2013 for the Level 3 Integrated Sexual Health Service contract with Solent NHS Trust. Secondly, it is anticipated that during this period there will continue to be significant use by Hampshire residents of the FPH FT service. This contract is separate to the integrated sexual health service contract with Solent NHS Trust.
- 3.5 The cost of the service is activity based and delivered at a national tariff. Work is already being undertaken to bring this into line with the local tariff that has been agreed with the integrated services provider.

#### **4. Legal Implications**

- 4.1 Council Standing Orders and procurement regulations govern the procurement of services. A request for a Single Tender Approval is a request to waive the Council's Standing Orders and depart from usual practice. As such it may only be used in exceptional circumstances with appropriate approval.
- 4.2 In exercising its functions an authority must have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Equality Act and advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

#### **5. Finance**

- 5.1 The maximum value of the approval sought for 24 months is £1,390,000 and is based on recent expenditure over 2012/13 and 2013/14.
- 5.2 This amount does not represent additional funding. It has already been identified within the Public Health sexual health programme budget based on current and historical activity.

#### **6. Performance**

- 6.1 The service contributes to the County Council's mandated function to commission open-access sexual health services. The service contributes to

the County Council's public health indicators to increase the chlamydia diagnostic rate in 15-24 year olds and to reduce the late diagnosis of HIV.

## **7. Other key issues**

- 7.1 The service is also commissioned by neighbouring local authorities.
- 7.2 Work is being undertaken with neighbouring local authorities to align procurement timelines and to encourage FPH FT to move towards the provision of an integrated service.

## **8. Future direction**

- 8.1 This Single Tender Approval is sought for a period of 24 months in order to align this period with the procurement of the Integrated Sexual Health Service for services from April 2016. A Single Tender Approval was granted to extend the current arrangements with Solent NHS Trust until April 2016 and approval to spend and to go out to tender for Level 3 Integrated Sexual Health Services was also granted; both were granted on 20 September 2013.

## **9. Recommendation(s)**

- 9.1 That the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health give approval to extend the current agreement by Single Tender Approval for provision of Genito-Urinary Medicine (GUM) services with Frimley Park Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (FPH FT) to April 2016 with a maximum contract value of £1,390,000.

**CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:****Links to the Corporate Strategy**

<b>Hampshire safer and more secure for all:</b>	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Maximising well-being:</b>	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Enhancing our quality of place:</b>	no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	

**Other Significant Links**

<b>Links to previous Member decisions:</b>		
<u>Title</u> Public Health Strategic Procurement Plan and Approvals	<u>Reference</u> 5128	<u>Date</u> 20 September 2013
<b>Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives</b>		
<u>Title</u> The Health and Social Care Act 2012		<u>Date</u> <u>2012</u>
Regulation 6 of Local Authorities (Public Health Functions and Entry to Premises by Local Healthwatch Representatives) Regulations 2013 (SI 2013/351).		<u>2013</u>

**Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents**

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

## **IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:**

### **1 Equalities Impact Assessment:**

- 1.1 A decision to extend the current agreement by Single Tender Approval will ensure that the population will continue to have access to the services that are currently made available to them. A decision not to extend could have a negative impact on the population that currently use this service.
- 1.2 Detailed Equality Impact Assessments will be undertaken as part of the planned procurement of integrated sexual health services
- 1.3 It must be noted that every aspect of Council business led by public health considers the opportunities to reduce inequalities

### **2 Impact on Crime and Disorder:**

- 2.1 There is no direct impact on Crime and Disorder
- 2.2 By definition, interventions considered to improve and protect the public's health are designed to support Hampshire residents to live safely and have improved health and health outcomes

### **3 Climate Change:**

- 3.1 There is no direct impact on climate change
- 3.2 Consideration of climate change and its impacts on the population and its current and future public health forms part of the evidence informing interventions to improve and protect the public's health.