

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Decision Report**

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health
Date:	21 March 2014
Title:	Public Health Strategic Procurement Plan Update
Reference:	5697
Report From:	Director of Public Health

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1. Executive Summary

1.1. This report provides an update on the progress in implementing the Public Health Strategic Procurement Plan approved by the Executive Member in September 2013. It highlights proposed developments to the implementation in particular for the School Nursing services and Sexual Health service procurements.

2. Context

2.2 In September 2013 approval was given (reference 5128) to the strategic procurement plan for Public Health services in various categories that covered a five year timescale. This included arrangements to continue contracts that had transferred to the Council under the Transfer Order and approvals to go out to tender.

3. School Nursing (category A)

3.1. The School Nursing Service, now known as the Public Health School Nursing Service 5-19 years, delivers the mandated requirement for delivering the National Childhood Measurement Programme (NCMP) for children in school years R and Year 6 as well as providing the breadth of children's public health nursing within the national specifications to support our young people becoming healthy and mentally resilient adults.

3.2. The inherited service is currently contracted with two providers with contracts in place to end of March 2015.

3.3. The intention was that the Council would tender for the public health services for which it is responsible, however there is a possibility that the Council may be asked to carry out the procurement exercise for immunisations and vaccinations

for Children 5-19 on behalf of NHS England and School Nursing for Children 5-19 on behalf of another local authority.

- 3.4. The Council's involvement in carrying out a procurement exercise on their behalf would be limited to key elements of procurement such as evaluation and documentation such as the specification and terms and conditions will be undertaken by each commissioning organisation which would then award and enter into separate contracts for their own services. There is no change to the maximum amount the Council intends to spend as previously approved by the Executive Member.
- 3.5. The exposure of the Council will be limited to the inherent duty of care that will be owed to each additional commissioner arising from providing professional services.

4. Sexual Health (Category B)

- 4.1 The strategic plan and implementation approved by Executive Member in September 2013 included provision of Level 2 Sexual Health Services. The Level 2 services are GP Long Acting Reversible Contraception, GP Chlamydia Screening, Pharmacy Emergency Hormonal Contraception, Pharmacy Chlamydia Testing Kits & Condom Distribution and Pharmacy Chlamydia Treatment. The primary care providers, the GPs and in particular community pharmacies change over time as GPs and pharmacists come into the County, either replacing colleagues or when new businesses open following approval through the legislative process managed by NHS England. Individual GPs and Pharmacists, who are qualified to provide services may also leave, take sabbaticals, retire or take extended periods of leave.
- 4.2 Prior to April 2013 all primary care providers, subject to having the appropriate qualifications and competences and being contracted by the NHS as 'NHS providers', would have been considered eligible to provide the full range of services. Being an NHS provider means holding either a contract to provide medical services or being on a pharmaceutical services list (both of which are now held by NHS England). Both of these are on-going requirements for the period envisaged by the approvals granted on the 20 September 2013.
- 4.3 The previous report indicated that the existing providers would continue to provide the services. However the report did not explain that available providers may change as described above. This could have a significant effect on equality of access for parts of the population of Hampshire if not addressed. There is no change to the maximum amount the Council intends to spend as previously approved by the Executive Member. The single tender approval however needs to be able to assure full access across the county by considering any primary care provider who:
 - a) Is eligible to provide NHS services whether or not they hold a current contract for any of the above services; or
 - b) Become eligible to provide NHS services during the period up to award of new contracts following the tender exercise.

5. Finance

5.1 The recommendations in this report are within the approved budgets.

6. Recommendations

6.1 That the Executive Member notes the proposal that the Council may be asked to carry out the procurement exercise for immunisations and vaccinations for Children 5-19 on behalf of NHS England and School Nursing for Children 5-19 on behalf of another local authority; and

b) any primary care provider in the County that satisfies the appropriate eligibility and competence requirements may be added to the list of providers in respect of the single tender approval previously granted for the Level 2 Sexual Health Services.

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

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	Yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	Yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	Yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
Public Health Strategic Procurement Plan and Approvals	5128	20 September 2013
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives		
The Health and Social Care Act 2012		<u>Date</u> 2012

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 The transfer of the relevant Public Health functions and services into the County Council has been assessed and has not highlighted significant impacts.
- 1.2 There is no direct impact as a result of implementing the Public Health Strategic Procurement Plan.
- 1.3 In taking forward the agreed Strategic Procurement and Contracting Plan the risks to equalities will be mitigated and addressed by detailed service planning and consultation.
- 1.4 A more detailed Equality Impact Assessment will be undertaken on each of the procurements as they come forward.
- 1.5 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. Public Health functions and services will not impact on Crime and Disorder.
- 2.2. By definition, interventions considered to improve and protect the public's health are designed to support the citizen's of Hampshire to live safely and have improved health and health outcomes.

3. Climate Change:

- 3.1. Public Health functions and services into the County Council will not have a bearing on climate change.
- 3.2 Consideration of climate change and its impacts on the population and its current and future health forms part of the evidence informing interventions to improve and protect the public's health.