

REPORT TITLE	PROPOSED PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSIONING INTENTIONS 2021/22
REPORT OF	DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

REPORT SUMMARY

- The aim of this report is to seek agreement from The Adult Social Care and Health Committee to progress Public Health's proposed commissioning intentions for 2021-2022.
- The proposals in this report link to the delivery of the Wirral Plan 2025 and the statutory responsibilities of the local authority in respect of public health: ***services which help people live happy, healthy, independent and active lives, with public services there to support them when they need it***
- The proposed actions affect all Wards within the borough.
- The decisions requested are key decisions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Adult Social Care and Health Committee:

1. Authorises the Director of Public Health to:
 - i. re-commission a Stop Smoking Service totalling up to £4,884,600 (£697,000 per annum) for an initial five-year contract (1 October 2021 – 30 September 2026) with the option of two one-year extensions.
 - ii. re-commission a Black and Asian Minority Ethnic (BAME) Programme totalling up to £262,625 (£52,525 per annum) for an initial three-year contract (1 October 2021 – 30 September 2024) with the option of two one-year extensions.
 - iii. to extend a further 11 contracts in 2021/22 as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.
2. Note that the decision to re-commission contracts totalling £1,811,483 for four Children's Public Health Programmes, for initial one year contracts (1 September 2021 – 31 August 2022) with the option of a one year extension for each will be made by Children, Young People and Education Committee.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1.1 To allow Public Health to implement the commissioning intentions for 2021/22 as outlined in this report.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 It is necessary to recommission the services highlighted in order to comply with the Public Contract Regulations and Wirral Council Contract Procedure rules.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Health and Social Care Act (2012) gave Wirral Council statutory duties across three “domains” of Public Health, as described in the Public Health Outcomes Framework. These duties cover the following components:
- Health improvement – including reducing lifestyle related ill-health and inequalities in health, and addressing the underlying determinants of health;
 - Health protection – ensuring that comprehensive plans are in place across the local authority, NHS and other agencies to respond to infectious disease outbreaks and other public health emergencies;
 - Health service improvement - providing NHS Commissioners, including Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), with expert advice and support to improve and evaluate the quality and efficiency of health services.
- 3.2 The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) should both inform and influence the commissioning plans of the Council and so influence how the Public Health grant is attributed. These responsibilities are delivered through a combination of external contracts, internal investment and running costs.
- 3.3 This report is intended to provide transparency in relation to our commissioning intentions that are delivered through external contracts.
- 3.4 Public Health received a grant of £29.9m in 2020/21 this is expected to drop to just over £29m in 2021/22 as part of the annual spending review. The budget is spent as follows:
- 65% on commissioned services as outlined in this paper
 - 24% on Council services e.g. environmental health services, healthy homes
 - 6% on running costs including Wirral Intelligence Service
 - 5% protecting future service provision due to year on year grant reduction
- 3.5 Services are delivered by a range of providers. Currently (as at 19/11/2020) Public Health directly manages 30 contracts (with 26 providers). These contracts are proactively managed through the commissioning process.

- 3.6 All Public Health contracts are subject to on-going evaluation as part of a clearly defined commissioning cycle, which is designed to maximise return on investment and improve outcomes. This methodology ensures that Public Health services (and contracts) are consistently and routinely tested against a range of criteria.
- 3.7 The main strategic criteria against which contracts are tested include the following:
- Evidence base e.g. academic research, engagement feedback, Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
 - Performance of targets e.g. financial and activity based and outcomes against plans and benchmarking information
 - Value for money
 - National policy and technical guidance e.g. Public Health Outcomes Framework
 - Strategic direction e.g. Wirral Plan strategic aspirations (narrowing the gap in life expectancy), delivery of Public Health outcomes through council services
 - Legal and contractual frameworks e.g. incorporate national updates to contract templates used for NHS providers
- 3.8 The output from this approach provides the intelligence to inform the development of commissioning/ contracting recommendations for approval by The Adult Social Care and Health Committee.
- 3.9 Public Health's proposed commissioning intentions for 2021/22 are set out and summarised in Table 1

Table 1 – Summary of Commissioning Plans 2021/22

Action	Financial Value £	No. of Contracts
Contracts ending to be retendered	1,524,754	6
Contracts ending in 2021/22 to be evaluated and reviewed	208,300	5
Contracts ending in 2021/22 – request to extend for one year	556,888	6
Contracts within contract continuing with no changes	15,657,927	13
Total	17,947,869	30

Contracts ending to be retendered in year

- 3.10 Six services will be retendered during the 2021/22 financial year as the current contracts conclude between the 31st August and the 30th of September 2021. It is necessary to recommission the services in order to comply with the Public Contract Regulations and Wirral Council Contract Procedure rules.
- 3.11 This will provide an opportunity to reconsider the funding and delivery models, enabling the release of cost savings and the refocussing of service delivery considering current developments and the healthcare needs of service users. Supplier selection process will be conducted in accordance with The Public Contract Regulations 2015 and Wirral Council Contract Procedure Rules.

- 3.12 The six services account for an annual value of up to £1,524,754. The current contracts will continue during the recommissioning process and a period of service mobilisation will be built into the tender process in order to ensure there is no loss of service to residents and a seamless transition for existing service users is maintained.
- 3.13 The services to be recommissioned are:
- Wirral Stop Smoking Service (£697,800 per annum; five-year contract with option of two one-year extensions)
 - BAME Health Improvement Programme (£52,525 per annum; three-year contract with option of two one-year extensions) and
 - Four Children's services (£774,429 per annum; one-year contract with option of a one-year extension).
- 3.14 It is to be noted that the proposal to recommission the BAME Health Improvement Programme will also provide the opportunity to undertake a joint commission with Wirral CCG and draw upon the lessons learnt emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 3.15 The Children's services recommission is on a short-term basis in order to enable a longer-term strategic vision to be developed as part of an integrated commission across the Council and other partners, bringing disparate elements together and providing a more seamless offer to young people.
- 3.16 Considerable work will be involved in developing this offer in partnership as it incorporates services beyond the above specific commissions. Initial discussions have taken place at appropriate commissioning groups which report into the Partnership Group for Children, Young People and Families and key partners including Wirral CCG are in agreement that this approach will enable the most effective support to be developed to improve outcomes for children, young people and families. The longer-term proposal will be informed by the recommendations of the Youth Offer Review and other local insight work and will be agreed by the Children, Young People and Education Committee.

Contracts ending in 2021/22 – request to extend for one year

- 3.17 The Committee is asked to approve the extension of 6 contracts (listed in Appendix 1) scheduled to end in 2021/22 for the following reasons:
- It is requested that the option to extend two contracts (Wirral Citizens Advice Ltd and Reader Organisation) by one year in accordance with their contractual terms and conditions. It is to be noted that the Wirral Citizen's Advice Ltd contract value of £464,499 is the Public Health contract contribution and does not include the additional £300k funded by Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group (WCCG). The approval for this element will be required through WCCG.
 - It is requested that four further contracts ranging in value from £12,500 to £27,810 are extended for a further year for the following reasons:
 - (i) the service provided is specialist and unique,
 - (ii) services are co-funded across the Cheshire & Merseyside area and independent commissioning would be uneconomic and ineffective,
 - (iii) previous provider infrastructure investment would make re-procurement of the service uneconomic.

- 3.18 Any extensions will comply with Wirral Council Contract Procedure Rules.
- 3.19 All contracts will be subject to the service specifications (which underpin the contracts) being reviewed and renegotiated with providers as part of the 2021/22 contract negotiations. The updated specifications e.g. performance metrics, are designed to ensure that the contracts reflect the commissioning intentions of public health and maximise performance in terms of outcomes and value for money.

Contracts ending in 2021/22 to be evaluated and reviewed

- 3.20 A further five contracts, with an annual value of up to £208,300, are being reviewed within year to determine future commissioning arrangements. Until the evaluation and review of the services are completed it is recommended that the contracts are extended for another year. Proposals for these contracts will then be brought back to Committee for consideration. These contracts are listed in Appendix 1.

Contracts within contract continuing with no changes

- 3.20 There are 13 Public Health contracts (with the value of £15,657,927) which are currently ongoing, in line with the contract period and value, and are not therefore subject to any change during 2021/22 (See Appendix 1).

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The value and availability of the Public Health grant for 2021/22 onwards is not yet known but is due for publication at the end of this calendar year. Budget has been allocated for the services highlighted based on the grant funding being consistent with this financial year.
- 4.2 Should the grant vary and be reduced then contract amounts would be varied, and the proposed tender exercises will consider appropriate mitigating measures.
- 4.3 The tendering exercises highlighted will provide the opportunity for more integrated and cost-effective models to be developed.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The recommissioning of the services detailed within this report will need to be undertaken in accordance with the Public Contract Regulations and Wirral Council Contract Procedure rules.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

- 6.1 The Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 (T.U.P.E.) will be applicable to any contracts awarded.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 7.1 It is necessary to recommission the services highlighted in order to comply with the Public Contract Regulations 2015 and Wirral Council Contract Procedure rules and as a result of the full-term conclusion of a number of Public Health contracts.

- 7.2 There is always a risk of disruption to service provision during service redesign, recommissioning and commencement of new services. To mitigate against this and minimise disruption, adequate time to plan for, and implement the mobilisation of new services, is built into the procurement process between contract award and commencement.
- 7.3 The procurement process is also subject to scrutiny and at risk of legal challenge. Particular regard is given to contract procedure rules and relevant legislation at all stages of the process and the Public Health team works closely with the Procurement team to ensure compliance.
- 7.4 In the current challenging financial climate, the impact of any future reductions in budget or policy implications on the amount of funding available for Public Health is unknown. The value and availability of the Public Health grant for 2021/22 onwards is not yet known. It is important to acknowledge that the Council will need to review all financial allocations in order to achieve a balanced budget over the next few years. Therefore, there is a risk associated with commitment to contracts for 5 years, in advance of funding settlements. This will be mitigated by the insertion of appropriate termination clauses in relevant contracts.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

- 8.1 The following consultation will take place to inform the recommissioning of the Stop Smoking Service:
- There will be ongoing virtual consultation with key stakeholders, community groups and service users in order to inform future service design and delivery.
- 8.2 The following consultation has taken place to inform the recommissioning of the BAME Health Improvement Service:
- A BAME thematic group has been established to explore issues affecting local BAME population and impacts of COVID
 - Insight work undertaken with local BAME provider and leaders
 - Review of all current specifications to establish synergies across services
 - Consultation with key stakeholders, community groups and service users will continue to inform future service design and delivery
- 8.3 The following consultation has taken place to inform the recommissioning of the Children's Public Health Programmes:
- The commissions will incorporate findings from a range of previously completed consultations/insight work, including the Youth Offer Review completed during 2019 by the Children and Young People's Department and the 'Moonshot' insight work previously completed by a range of partners with children, young people, and families.
 - Review of all current specifications to establish synergies across service. Feedback from current service provision will be considered alongside this to ensure that support builds on what is currently working well.

- There will be ongoing consultation with key stakeholders, community groups, children, young people, and their families using services in order to inform future service design and delivery.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 Whilst Public Health are expected to adhere to Wirral Council's legal requirement to make sure its policies, and the way it carries out its work do not discriminate against anyone, there are already individual EIA's associated within the contracts listed within this report, therefore equality implications have already been considered.

10.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 During the procurement process, bids will be evaluated on a number of factors including social value added to the service. As part of this bidders will need to consider and demonstrate how they can have a positive impact on Wirral's environment and climate.
- 10.2 The content and/or recommendations contained within this report are expected to have no direct impact on emissions of carbon dioxide.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Public Health Contract Status: 19 November 2020

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Wirral Plan 2025
- Wirral Nicotine and Smoking Cessation Treatment Service Contract
- BME Health Improvement Service Contract
- Preventative and early intervention secondary school-based service Contract
- Healthy Child Programme (Health Improvement) Contract
- Confidential Young People's Online Counselling & Advice Service for young people Contract

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Proposed Public Health Commissioning Intentions 2019-20	4 December 2018

Public Health Contract Status: 19 November 2020

Contracts ending to be retendered				
Provider	Category	Contract Period	Value £ Per Annum	No of Contracts
Wirral Community Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust	Children 0-19 (Health Improvement)	Contract ends 31.08.2021	425,696	1
Action for Children	Children 0-19	Contract ends 31.08.2021	111,813	1
Brook Wirral	Children 0-19	Contract ends 31.08.2021	135,600	1
Xenzone	Children 0-19 (Mental Health)	Contract ends 31.08.2021	101,320	1
A Better Life (ABL)	Smoking Cessation	Contract ends 30.09.2021	697,800	1
Wirral Change	Miscellaneous	Contract ends 30.09.2021	52,525	1
Subtotal Contract ending to be retendered			1,524,754	6

Contracts ending in 2021/22 to be evaluated and reviewed				
Tomorrows Women Wirral	Drugs & Alcohol Substance Misuse	Expires 31.03.2021	30,000	1
Tranmere Rovers in the Community	Miscellaneous	Expires 31.03.2021	12,000	1
Pathfinders	Mental Health	Expires 31.03.2021	15,000	1
Tranmere Rovers Football Club	Mental Health	Expires 31.08.2021	14,400	1
Community Action Wirral	Miscellaneous	Contract ends 30.09.2021	136,900	1
Subtotal Contracts ending 2021/22 to be evaluated and reviewed			208,300	5

Contracts ending in 2021/22 – request to extend by one year (no change)				
Wirral Citizens Advice LTD	Miscellaneous	Contract ends 31.03.2021	464,499	1
Reader Organisation	Mental Health	Contract ends 31.03.2021	25,000	1
Midlands and Lancashire CSU	Miscellaneous/ Drugs & Alcohol Substance Misuse	Contract ends 31.03.2021	12,561	1
Liverpool John Moores	Drugs & Alcohol Substance Misuse	Contract ends 31.03.2021	27,810	1
BWT Consultancy Ltd	Health Checks/ Blood pressure Action Plan	Contract ends 30.04.2021	12,500	1
Liverpool City Council	Children 0-19 (Child Death Overview Panel)	Contract ends 01.06.2021	14,518	1
Subtotal Contracts ending 2021/22 for extension with no change			556,888	6

Contracts within contract continuing with no changes				
Provider	Category		Value £ Per Annum	No of Contracts
Wirral Community Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust	Infection Control	Contract ends 31.3.2022	421,136	1
Wirral Community Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust	Sexual Health	Contract ends 31.3.2022	2,546,038	1
Shahir House	Sexual Health	Contract ends 31.3.2022	98,961	1
RASA	Sexual Health	Contract ends 31.3.2022	49,920	1
Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust	TB Service	Contract ends 31.3.2022	80,739	1
Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust	Hepatitis Service	Contract ends 31.1.2023	45,000	1
Involve Northwest	Miscellaneous	Contract ends 31.1.2023	717,939	1
GPW Federation Ltd	Health Checks	Contract ends 31.3.2023	85,269	1
Primary Care Wirral Ltd	Health Checks	Contract ends 31.3.2023	172,731	1
Slimming World	Weight Management	Contract ends 31.5.2023	80,000	1
Weight Watchers	Weight Management	Contract ends 31.5.2023	50,000	1
CGL Services Ltd	Drugs & Alcohol Substance Misuse	Contract ends 31.1.2025	5,789,250	1
Wirral Community Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust	Children 0-19 (Core Service)	Contract ends 31.1.2025	5,520,944	1
Subtotal within contract			15,657,927	13
Subtotal no changes			16,214,815	18
Total			17,947,869	30