

## OFFICER DECISION FORM

**DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:** Director of Public Health

**KEY DECISION** Yes

**DIRECTORATE: ADULT CARE AND HEALTH**

**WARDS AFFECTED: ALL WARDS**

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**SUBJECT: NHS PAY AWARDS: WIRRAL COMMUNITY HEALTH AND CARE NHS FOUNDATION TRUST, PUBLIC HEALTH CONTRACTS**

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### **1.0 DECISION:**

- 1.1 The Director of Public Health is recommended to approve contract variations to Wirral Community Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust Public Health contracts (Healthy Child Programme, Integrated Sexual Health Service, Community Infection Prevention and Control Service, Children and Young People Healthy Weight Programme and Risk and Resilience Service), to meet the nationally agreed NHS Agenda for Change staff pay awards for 2023-24 and 2024-25, at a total cost of £648,859 over this two year period.

### **2.0 REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

- 2.1 Public Health commissions a number of services from Wirral Community Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust, to deliver both mandated and non-mandated Public Health services. Responsibility for paying the nationally agreed NHS staff inflationary uplifts for Public Health contracts (for staff directly employed to deliver these services) has transferred to Local Authorities (Public Health budgets) from NHS Cheshire & Merseyside Integrated Care Board (ICB), to account for pay awards from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023. Additional funding has been received to the value of £510,440 contributing to covering the costs, with the remainder balance of £138,419 to be funded by the Public Health ring-fenced grant.
- 2.2 Public Health officers will continue to formally manage these contracts and work with the provider to forecast the cost pressures related to the pay award in future years, liaising with the Department for Health and Social Care.
- 2.3 The Council is not contractually obliged to cover these costs but failure to take this decision and not provide the pay award to NHS staff employed on these contracts would be a reputational risk and could impact on the quality of provision of mandated Public Health services.

### **3.0 STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE**

- 3.1 The recommendations detailed within this report are in compliance with the Public Contract Regulations 2015 (regulation 72(c), modifications of contracts during their term).

#### **4.0 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

4.1 There were no interests declared.

**Signed:** 

**Officer: Dave Bradburn**

**Title: Director of Public Health**

**Date: 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

**A list of background papers on this issue is held with:**

Contact Officer: Hayley Clifton, Commissioning and Business Manager

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025

**Date of Publication:**

**Date of Expiry of Call-In Period:**