

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting

Delegated Officer Decision – 16 April 2023

Report Title

Officer Decision Record for the award of the Integrated Public Health & Lifestyle Behaviour Change Services

Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?

No

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report

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Ward(s) Affected

Borough-Wide

Report Summary

This report outlines the decision to award this contract to Connect Healthcare Rotherham CIC following the completion of a tender process which was agreed by Cabinet 16 May 2022.

Recommendations

1. To award the contract for the Integrated Public Health & Lifestyle Behaviour Change Services reference 21-152 to Connect Healthcare Rotherham CIC, the services under the contract will commence from 1 October 2023 until 31 September 2027 (four years) with the option to extend the contract for up to a further five years.

List of Appendices Included

Background Papers

[Rotherham MBC Cabinet Report](#) – 16 May 2022

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

Name of Committee – Click here to enter a date.

Name of Committee – [Click here to enter a date.](#)

Council Approval Required

No

Exempt from the Press and Public

No

Officer Decision Record for the award of the Integrated Public Health & Lifestyle Behaviour Change Services ref 21-152

1. Background

- 1.1 Since March 2021, a Project Group has been in place to oversee the commissioning of the service. The Project Group has been supported by additional subgroups focusing on needs assessment, coproduction, and the development of the specification. Attendance and engagement of the groups have been excellent from both internal and external partners, ensuring an inclusive and thorough process.
- 1.2 The Integrated Public Health & Lifestyle Behavioural Change Service (referred to as the Better Health Service) supports residents of Rotherham Borough to address key health risk factors. Four of the leading risk factors that contribute to early death and reduced quality of life in Rotherham are tobacco smoking, high blood pressure, diet, and physical inactivity. The service will support individuals to modify and reduce their risks to health through facilitating holistic health conversations, the provision of smoking cessation services, weight management support and improved access to physical exercise.
- 1.3 Rotherham's current integrated healthy lifestyle service was tendered in 2016 and awarded to Parkwood Healthcare Limited. The service started on 1st of April 2018 for three years (31st of March 2021) with the option of 2 one-year extensions (31st of March 2023).

On 16th of May 2022 ([Item 147](#)), Cabinet agreed to extend the contract in 2 x 6-month blocks to enable sufficient time for the recommissioning of the new contract. Only one of the extension blocks was required because the tender was published in November 2022, with the current contract ending on 30th of September 2023.

- 1.4 The Better Health Service will provide Rotherham residents with support and advice on setting and achieving personal change goals to improve and sustain their health and wellbeing in relation to modifying the leading risk factors that contribute to early death and reduced quality of life. This advice and support will be based on the latest available evidence on effective interventions and should incorporate a person-centred compassionate approach to improving health.

The service will be part of the wider prevention and health inequalities pathways linking in with NHS Health Checks, QUIT Programme and the SY ICB commissioned Tier Three Weight Management services.

The service will support better linkages across the pathway, including embedding the principle of 'making every contact count', effectively signposting to the offer within the community and promoting self-help and upstream prevention messaging. With tackling health inequalities, a central part of the model is about ensuring support is delivered at a scale that is proportionate to the degree of need.

The service will act as a gateway for Rotherham residents wanting to make changes by providing:

- Interventions for smoking cessation, including supporting the wider QUIT programme
- Interventions for Weight Management, Tier 2 Weight Management and Tier 2 plus Weight Management. (Including improving access to exercise)
- Improving Health literacy and access via a digital platform for self-referrals.

- 1.5 A meeting of Cabinet, Monday 16th of May 2022 10.00 a.m. ([Item 147](#)) agreed to an extension of the current contract maximum of twelve months to 31st of March 2024 (in 2 x 6-month blocks) via a contract modification in accordance with Regulation 72 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (as amended) to enable sufficient time for the recommissioning of the new contract.

Cabinet agreed to a competitive procurement process to allow for the new service to be in place by October 2023 for an initial four-year contract term, with annual extension options after that for up to an additional five years, making the total potential contract length 9 years. Extensions will only be utilised if performance is strong and there is evidence of continuous improvement.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 The successful supplier identified through the tender evaluation is Connect Healthcare Rotherham CIC.
- 2.2 The officer decision confirms the decision to award the contract for the Integrated Public Health & Lifestyle Behaviour Change Services, Tender reference 21-152 to Connect Healthcare Rotherham CIC with the services to be provided from 1 October 2023 until 31 September 2027 (four years) with the option to extend the contract for up to a further five years.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 3.1 There are no options to consider. The recommendation to undertake an intent to award of the contract to Connect Healthcare Rotherham CIC is generated as a result of the tender evaluation process as summarised in the Tender Evaluation Report approved by the Strategic Director of Adult Care, Housing and Public Health.

4. Consultation on proposal

- 4.1 A Project Group was established with internal partners to the Council and the wider system, including the Integrated Care Board. (ICB)
- 4.2 A coproduction exercise has taken place, which sought the views of local people and stakeholders and professionals, including people working in health and the Voluntary Sector. The coproduction was delivered through various

forums, including 'Textocracy' (a texting survey service, aimed at anyone who lives in Rotherham.), online workshop with stakeholders and in-person workshops with underserved communities.

- 4.3 Results from the coproduction have supported the development of the service model and specification. The key themes and consultation were made available to potential bidders as part of tender process and asked to consider the finding as part of the development of service delivery models.
- 4.4 Two market engagement places have taken place around the proposed changes to the Service with a focus on compassionate approach to weight management and . The market expressed no issues with the proposed model.
- 4.5 The Officer decision has been reviewed at Adult Care, Housing and Public Health DLT meeting.
- 4.6 The Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Housing and Public Health has been made aware of the Officer Decision.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

- 5.1 Following completion of the procurement the standstill period commenced on the 03rd of April 2023 and was successfully concluded, regular mobilisation meetings will follow to implement the new contract with the provider. The contract commencement is the 1st October 2023.

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications (to be written by the relevant Head of Finance and the Head of Procurement on behalf of s151 Officer)

- 6.1 The tender was based on a fixed price contract for the first 4 years funded from the Public Health budget. The contract can be extended for up to a further 5 years, however, from year 5, CPI will be applied to the contract price based on the rate from the prior September. This will need to be considered as part of the Council's Budget and MTFs in the year proceeding any increase. The financial schedules submitted have been reviewed and no concerns have been identified.
- 6.2 This procurement has been completed in line with the Councils Financial and Procurement Procedure Rules and Public Contract Regulations (as amended) full details are contained within the Procurement Tender Evaluation Report.

7. Legal Advice and Implications (to be written by Legal Officer on behalf of Assistant Director Legal Services)

- 7.1 This report demonstrates that an appropriate lawful procurement process has been followed.
- 7.2 As stated in the Tender Evaluation report a comprehensive contract will be completed with the preferred supplier incorporating all the Council's

requirements and the suppliers' proposals. Legal Services has prepared the terms and conditions under commissioner instructions.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

- 8.1 There are no HR implications in relation to the contract in respect of RMBC.
- 8.2 Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) (TUPE) will apply to all eight staff members declared on the main contract as part of the employee liability information submitted as part of the tender process and are expected to transfer to Connect Healthcare Rotherham CIC.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

- 9.1 The service will partner with the Schools' Nurses as part of the 0-19 service to support young people aged 12 and over who are smoking to quit via the provision of behaviour change programme and the Nicotine Replacement Therapy if required.
- 9.2 The service aims to support individual to address key risk factors and is open to all Rotherham residents aged 18 years and over. In order to reduce health inequalities and reach those most in need of the interventions offered by the Service, the Service will target and support people living in the most deprived wards.

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

- 10.1 An equality assessment and a needs assessment has been carried out as part of the procurement process.
- 10.2 This is a universal Service in Rotherham. It is known that poor physical and mental health is disproportionately experienced by some of the most vulnerable members of our local communities. The recommissioned Service will aim to address inequality in health as a general principle and prioritise certain target groups via referrals from the NHS Health Checks.
- 10.3 The specification for the recommissioned Service sets out the above requirements to ensure equal access and outcomes across all of Rotherham's communities whilst ensuring that no protected equalities group is being unintentionally disadvantaged or excluded.

11. Implications for CO2 Emissions and Climate Change

- 11.1 A Carbon Impact Assessment form has been completed and highlighted no issues.
- 11.2 All bidders were required to describe the outcomes that the bidder will deliver to support the Council Plan. Connect Healthcare Rotherham CIC have made

proposed commitments to support the Council Plan's Plan 2022-2025 in their response around the council 5 themes.

12. Implications for Partners

- 12.1 The implication on partners is expected to be minimal as the new provider already has established partnerships and pathway locally, Connect Healthcare Rotherham CIC are a registered local federation organisation comprising of 29 GP Practices (company reg 10648960).
Connect Healthcare Rotherham CIC are the delivery partner for The NHS Health Checks.
- 12.2. The Service is an essential part of an existing prevention pathway and has existing relationships/pathways. The new specification/model is unlikely to impact this and potentially could improve it.
- 12.4 Views have been sought from external partners using consultation and engagement methods. Where a conflict of interest is not established, these partners are invited to participate in the specification development and the moderation of the tender.

13. Risks and Mitigation

- 13.1 The risk register that forms part of the Business Case for this procurement has been reviewed following the receipt of tenders and the identification of the preferred bidder. At this stage in the process, there remain no red RAG status risks.

14. Accountable Officers

Ian Spicer - Strategic Director of Adult Care, Housing and Public Health