

**REPORT AUDIT TRAIL****CONSULTATION**

*This is important as it shows that consultation has been undertaken in the preparation of the report and provides a quick reference point for specific comments, whilst the report will not be publishable if these areas have not been completed by the named persons below. **You must liaise with and receive sign off from the relevant Cabinet Member(s).***

<b>Name/Position</b>	<b>Portfolio/Ward/ Directorate</b>	<b>Date Sent</b>	<b>Date Received</b>	<b>Comments in para:</b>
Councillor Baker-Rogers	Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health,	25/3/26	26/03/26	
Councillor Cusworth	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Young People	25/3/26	13/5/26	
<i>Ian Spicer</i>	Executive Director for <b>Adult Care, Housing and Public Health</b>	Click here to enter a date.	Click here to enter a date.	
Joshua Amahwe, Finance	Finance and Customer Services	20/4/26	23/4/26	
Stuart Fletcher, Legal Services	Legal Services	20/4/26	21/4/26	
<i>Trish Law,</i> Human Resources	Assistant Chief Executive's Office	20/4/26	21/4/26	No HR related concerns
Karen Middlebrook, Procurement	Finance and Customer Services	20/4/26	20/4/26	
Sunday Alonge, Equalities	Assistant Chief Executive's Office	20/4/26	20/4/26	

Arthur King, Climate Change	Corporate Services	21/04/26	24/04/26	11.2
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<b><u>REPORT APPROVAL TRACKING</u></b>			
<b>Equalities</b> Your report will not be authorised for submission to Cabinet by your Strategic Director if you have not undertaken and included an initial equalities screening. All equalities analysis documents should be included as appendices	<b>Initial Screening completed and included with report</b>	YES	20/4/26
	<b>Full Assessment completed and included with report</b>	NO	N/A
<b>Carbon Impact Assessments</b> Carbon Impact Assessments are to be appended to the associated cabinet reports. Carbon Impact Assessments should be sent to <a href="mailto:climate@rotherham.gov.uk">climate@rotherham.gov.uk</a> for feedback prior to your report being sent to your Strategic Director for approval.	Carbon Impact Assessment completed and included with report.	NO	N/A
<b>Background information</b> <b>MANDATORY:</b> Insert headings for a few main <b>public</b> documents you have used or referenced to write this report. This is a legal requirement. For Cabinet reports, <b>insert hyperlinks</b> . Do not list private documents.	<a href="#">RMBC Cabinet Report</a> – 22 March 2021  <a href="#">RMBC Cabinet Report</a> – 13 February 2023		
<b>Appendices</b> If appendices are essential to the understanding of the report, list titles here. Ensure that appendices have proper titles. List any appendices relevant to the decision being taken first with the Equality Analysis documents coming next and the Carbon Impact Assessment being listed as the last Appendix for all reports.	Appendix 1 <i>Equality Assessment Part A – 0-19s and Family Hubs 26-27 FINAL</i>		
<b>Cabinet Member Approval</b> You should retain an email confirming the Cabinet Member approval for your records. Strategic Directors should not authorise reports unless Cabinet Members have given sign off	YES	13/05/26	
<b>Report Authorised by Strategic Director</b>	YES/NO (delete as appropriate)	Click here to enter a date.	
<b>Report Authorised for publication by Chief Executive</b>	YES/NO (delete as appropriate)	Click here to enter a date.	

**Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting**

Delegated Officer Decision – 19 May 2026

**Report Title**

Decision to vary the 0-19s Integrated Public Health Nursing Service (IPHNS) contract with The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust (TRFT) for the continuation of provision of Family Hub activity. **Error! Reference source not found.**

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

No, but it has been included on the Forward Plan

**Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report**

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

**Report Author(s)**

Michael Ng, Strategic Commissioning Manager, Public Health  
michael.ng@rotherham.gov.uk

**Ward(s) Affected**

Borough-Wide

**Report Summary**

This report outlines the decision to vary the 0-19s Integrated Public Health Nursing Service (IPHNS) contract with The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust (TRFT) for the continuation of provision of Family Hub activity. **Error! Reference source not found.**

**Recommendations**

1. To issue a contract variation to The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust for the continuation of additional activity in the utilisation of the Family Hubs and Start for Life Grant

**List of Appendices Included**

**Background Papers**

[RMBC Cabinet Report](#) – 22 March 2021

[RMBC Cabinet Report](#) – 13 February 2023

**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

## **Decision to vary the 0-19s Integrated Public Health Nursing Service (IPHNS) contract with The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust (TRFT) for the continuation of provision of Family Hub activity.**

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### **1. Background**

1.1 On 22 March 2021, Cabinet agreed to the recommissioning of the Children's Public Health Nursing services for the 0-19 population ([link](#)). Subsequently, the contract for the Children's Public Health Nursing Service (reference 20-154) was successfully awarded to The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust following an open tender process. The 0-19's Integrated Public Health Nursing Service contract commenced on 1 April 2023 and will run until 31 March 2028 (5 years) with an option to extend for up to a further five years.

1.2 As described in the Cabinet Paper of 13 February 2023 ([link](#)) Rotherham Council accepted the Family Hubs and Start for Life Grant. The grant was made available to Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council by Department of Education (DfE) and Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) as one of the 75 Local Authorities that were selected.

On the 25 February 2025 the government announced a further one year extension of the Family Hubs and Start for Life Services ([link](#)). This extends funding for the period 1 April 2026 until 31 March 2027.

1.3 On 13 February 2023 Cabinet approved to accept the grant funding and approved the approach to the governance and management of the grant. The reporting specifically covered that the grant would fund the following:

- The 0-19 Integrated Public Health Nursing Service (IPHNS) to introduce a new universal 3–4-month review where families can be supported by a Nursery Nurse to encourage the development of play, language and social interaction as well as provide advice on weaning and mobility.
- Three Nursery Nurses that are based at each of the three hubs across the borough to work alongside the Early Help teams in offering direct support to families. These posts will support the 0-19 Service in delivering the new 3–4-month universal review to families across the borough.
- A specialist Breastfeeding Lead and Infant Feeding support worker will allow a larger capacity within the peer support offer in place and will support the 0-19 Service to embed the infant feeding service within the Family Hubs offer.

### **2. Key Issues**

2.1 The Council has an existing contract for the 0-19 Children's Nursing Services (IPHNS) which is provided by The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust (TRFT). TRFT is the Council's sole provider of this service, and the activities detailed above fall within the scope of the current contract on a targeted basis.

Therefore, the universal provision can only be delivered through the existing IPHNS contract.

- 2.2 This Officer Decision continues the Family Hubs activity previously delivered under a previous variation (VA-02) for a further 12 months to maintain continuity of early intervention and staffing within the 0–19 Service. The decision is required to continue the delivery of mandated universal and targeted support aligned to the Healthy Child Programme, including developmental reviews and infant feeding support.
- 2.3 Following the DfE announcement of the 2026/27 extension, the Family Hubs Operational Group and CYPS DLT approved the allocation of £237,588.89 to fund the activity described in this report.
- 2.4 The total value of the contract variation under this Officer Decision is £237,588.89 for one-year commencing 1 April 2026 until 31 March 2027.
- 2.5 Existing Contract Variations for the 0-19s Integrated Public Health Nursing Service:
  - **VA-01** – Family Hubs 23/25 (2 years) £327,068
  - **VA-02** – Family Hubs 25/26 (1 year) £218,155
  - **VA-03** – Supervised Toothbrushing (1 year) £79,421
  - **VA-04** – Early Years SEND Family Help (2 years 4 months) £543,684.36

The total value of the contract variations to date equate to £1,168,328.36.

- 2.6 The provider committed to 14 measures as part of its Social Value proposal for the initial contract term and is currently over-delivering on 7 of these commitments which is likely due to the increase in funding generated through the contract variations undertaken as detailed above. The provider will continue to report additional social value delivered and achieved through this contract variation for the whole duration of the variation period even though this will not be contractualised. Current delivery equates to 17.17% SLEVA (Social, Local and Economic Value Added) through this commissioned contract demonstrating positive performance from the provider in this aspect in addition to the core delivery of the contract. Ongoing monitoring however will be undertaken to ensure the 7 measures that are not over delivering are progressing in line with the original proposal and that the over delivery in certain areas does not mask the progression of delivery across all measures committed to.

### **3. Options considered and recommended proposal**

- 3.1 The recommended option is to vary the existing 0–19 IPHNS contract, as the activity falls fully within the scope of the current arrangement and is already delivered by TRFT. No alternative provider could deliver these elements within the existing model.

#### **4. Consultation on proposal**

- 4.1 At the Cabinet meeting on 13 February 2023 ([link](#)) Cabinet accepted the grant funding and approved the approach to the governance and management of the grant. The Cabinet report linked above details the consultation on the Family Hubs grant.

#### **5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision**

- 5.1 The 0–19 Integrated Public Health Nursing Service with TRFT is delivering activities funded through the Family Hubs and Start for Life Grant for the period 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2027. Delivery commenced at the start of the financial year to ensure continuity of mandated universal and targeted services, pending completion of formal governance and contract documentation. This Officer Decision confirms the continuation of that delivery for the full grant period.

#### **6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications**

##### **6.1 Procurement Implications**

This variation has been assessed in accordance with the Council's Financial & Procurement Procedure Rules (FPPRs) and is treated as an in-scope modification under Section 69, as it continues activity already provided for within the 0–19 contract and does not alter the overall nature of the arrangement.

Under the Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023, VA-05 (£237,588.89) meets the criteria in Regulation 13(1)(d), as the services remain materially consistent with the original contract and the cumulative value (£1,405,917.25) remains within the 25% (5.63%) lifetime limit.

As cumulative modifications now exceed £500,000, a PSR Modification Notice will be required to be published in accordance with under Regulation 13(4)(c), within 30 calendar days of the modification notice being formally entered into.

##### **6.2 Financial Implications**

The total value of the proposed contract variation for the 0–19 Integrated Public Health Nursing Service for the period 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2027 is £237,588.89. This cost will be fully funded from the Family Hubs and Healthy Babies (Start for Life) Grant and is included within the approved Family Hubs budget plan for 2026/27.

- 6.3 The Government has confirmed continuation of funding for Family Hubs and Healthy Babies for the period to 2028/29. This confirmation provides financial certainty and enables planning for the continuation of this activity, or future contract variations, over the medium term, subject to annual grant conditions and compliance with funding requirements. Funding beyond 2028/29 remains subject to future Government spending decisions.

## **7. Legal Advice and Implications**

- 7.1 This contract was procured in compliance with Public Contract Regulations 2015 (as amended). However, the contract now falls within the scope of the Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023 introduced 1st January 2024. Regulation 13 (1) of the Health Care Services Provider Selection Regime 2023 allows for this variation to take place and is legally compliant as it is confirmed that the Services to be delivered are the same in character as the original contract, and the cumulative change in the contract value is less than 25% of the original contract value.
- 7.2 Notice of the contract variation is to be published by the Council UK e-notification service and also on the Council's Contracts Register

## **8. Human Resources Advice and Implications**

- 8.1 There are no HR implications in relation to the contract variation in respect of RMBC.
- 8.2 Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) (TUPE) does not apply.

## **9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults**

- 9.1 The implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults are the same as the previous Cabinet paper published 13 February 2023 ([link](#)) and referenced above.

## **10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications**

- 10.1 The implications for equalities and human rights are unchanged from the previous Cabinet paper published 13 February 2023 ([link](#)).

## **11. Implications for CO2 Emissions and Climate Change**

- 11.1 A Carbon Impact Assessment Form was completed as part of the procurement process for the current Children's Public Health Nursing Service contract.
- 11.2 Since the proposed contract extension does not include any change in the scope or level of the contracted service, implications for carbon emissions and climate change are unchanged from a previous Cabinet paper, published on 13 February 2023 ([link](#)).

## **12. Implications for Partners**

- 12.1. The implication on partners is expected to be minimal as the provider already has established partnerships and pathways in place.
- 12.2 The implications for partners are the same as the previous Cabinet paper published 13 February 2023 ([link](#)).

### 13. Risks and Mitigation

- 13.1 There is a risk that unspent grant funding would need to be returned if activity is not delivered within the financial year. This variation mitigates that risk by ensuring continuity of delivery already established through TRFT.

### 14. Accountable Officers

Alex Hawley – Public Health Consultant

Michael Ng – Strategic Commissioning Manager, Public Health

Approvals obtained on behalf of Statutory Officers: -

	<b>Named Officer</b>	<b>Date</b>
Chief Executive	John Edwards	Click here to enter a date.
Strategic Director of Finance & Customer Services (S.151 Officer)	Judith Badger	Click here to enter a date.
Head of Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Phil Horsfield	Click here to enter a date.

*Report Author:*

*Michael Ng, Strategic Commissioning Manager Public Health*

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