

Central Bedfordshire Council

Social Care, Health and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee

20 September 2016

Healthy Child Programme Contract & Wider Community Health Services

Report of Cllr Maurice Jones, Executive Member for Health

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Purpose of this report:

1. To update the committee on the arrangements for the integrated procurement for Community Health Services (including 0-19 Children's Services) outlined within the Memorandum of Understanding.
2. To outline the model of care and outcomes for the 0-19 Children's Services

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

- i. Consider the proposed partnership arrangements outlined within the Memorandum of Understanding.
- ii. Consider the Commissioning Plan for the Healthy Child Programme.

Background

- The committee at its meeting held in June 2016 considered proposed integrated procurement for Community Health Services (including 0-19 Children's Services) and joint working for the delivery and management of the Service. At that meeting the Committee supported the principle of a joint arrangement with Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group and Bedford Borough Council for procuring and commissioning community health services with a view to providing a better integrated service recognising the principles for the design for community services.
- The Executive Committee at its meeting held in August agreed that "That the Director of Public Health be authorised, in consultation with the

Executive Member for Health, to agree and sign off the Memorandum of Understanding between Bedford Borough Council, Central Bedfordshire Council and Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group that sets out how the parties will work together to deliver the procurement of Community Health Services for children and young people, following further consultation with the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee.”

- The contract for the 0-19 Children’s Services (Healthy Child Programme) is currently commissioned by Public Health on behalf of both the Council and Bedford Borough Council.

Joint Working

- Evidence from around the country has provided some support for the conclusion that joint working between Health Providers and local authorities on the provision of services has the potential to provide benefits in terms of service quality and cost efficiency. It is noted that the most successful partnerships have a common thread of clear and transparent structures and governance.
- It is generally agreed that governance mechanisms should include a partnership agreement or Memorandum of Understanding which records the basis of the partnership i.e. the objective of procuring better outcomes for community health and the structure of the partnership including how, by whom and in what forum decisions are made both in relation to the procurement process and to the subsequent management of the service delivery post implementation. Experience has shown that the most successful partnerships are those in which there is clarity of purpose and status of the partnership, scope of any powers or decision making and governance.

Issues for Consideration

- The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) captures the arrangements for the partnership to jointly procure the range of community health services required within the combined area from April 2018.
- The Commissioning Plan for Children outlines the vision, strategic case, principles and outcomes for the services commissioned by CBC. The plan has been developed in consultation with a wide range of stakeholders but will be further informed by engagement events which will have been completed by late October. The views of the OSC would be welcomed prior to the commissioning plan being finalised.

Conclusion and Next Steps

- It is recommended that the Committee supports the proposed MOU

- It is recommended that the Committee supports the Commissioning Plan for Children and identifies any areas where it would want to see changes made.

Council Priorities

- Full and effective delivery of Community Health Services including the Healthy Child Programme will contribute to the achievement of the following Council priorities:
- Enhancing your local community
- Improved educational attainment
- Promote health and well-being and protect the vulnerable

Corporate Implications

Risk Management

- The process requires sound and timely management to ensure decisions can be taken at the appropriate time based on all viable options and the decision process is open and transparent.

Staffing (including Trades Unions)

- There are no specific staffing issues arising from this report.

Legal Implications

- The legal implications at this stage centre around setting up appropriate governance mechanisms in line with requirements in the Constitution to ensure open and transparent decision making at all stages.

Financial Implications

- None at this stage and will be fully considered during the procurement process.

Equalities Implications

- Central Bedfordshire Council has a statutory duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and foster good relations in respect of nine protected characteristics; age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation. Ensuring better outcomes under CHS and HCP should be for the benefit of all residents and equality duties should be considered and embedded in the context of any joint working to avoid discrimination.

Appendices

- Appendix A – Draft Healthy Child Programme 0-19
- Appendix B- Memorandum of Understanding, Children's Health Services Procurement programme.