

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING WITH CABINET MEMBER, HEALTH AND COMMUNITIES

11 November 2014

Report of the Director of Public Health

**GRANT FUNDING FOR THE 'LIVING WITH LONG TERM CONDITIONS'
SERVICE WITH DERBYSHIRE COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES**

1. Purpose of the report:

To seek approval to grant fund the 'Living with Long Term Conditions' service, currently provided by Derbyshire Community Health Services for twelve months until the end of March 2016.

2. Information and analysis:

The 'Living with Long Term Conditions' service is currently provided by Derbyshire Community Health Services, the contract for the service having been previously extended until 31 March 2015.

This service, whilst meeting contractual obligations, needs to develop in terms of the numbers of people with long term conditions who would benefit from a programme to improve self-management, empowering them to make appropriate decisions about their care. This would reduce the number of GP appointments, out of hours health service contacts and hospital admissions.

A piece of work is on-going to develop a programme incorporating self-management, but also including referral to health and well-being services ie the Derbyshire Integrated Wellbeing Approach which would not just empower people to manage their long term condition(s) but would also support their need to stop smoking, manage their weight, eat healthily and increase the exercise they take. At present individuals are made aware of such services but there is no automatic assessment of need or referral to Lifestyle services.

This programme would offer more comprehensive support to a range of patients and it is envisaged that referral to the service would be built into the NHS patient care pathways so more people will be referred into the services overall.

Many long term conditions are a consequence of poor lifestyle and are worsened by its continuation so it is essential that people are referred to appropriate services to support the clinical care they receive.

The work, which is being undertaken alongside the Clinical Commissioning Groups will not be completed in time to re-procure a service from April 2015. As such the request is being made to grant fund the current service provider for one year from April 2015.

3. Financial considerations:

A grant of £50,000 would be made to the current service provider for one year from April 2015.

4. Legal Considerations

The Director of Legal Services advises that it is reasonable for a grant-funded arrangement be established to provide an interim solution pending the procurement of a new service from April 2015. By grant funding, Derbyshire Community Health Services will not be contractually obliged to deliver any particular services although the Council may be able to claw back grant if it is unspent or misapplied.

5. Other considerations:

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: prevention of crime and disorder, equality of opportunity, human resources, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

6. Background papers:

The service specification is held in Public Health.

7. Key Decision:

No

8. Call-in:

Is it required that call-in be waived for any decision on this report?

No

9. Officer's recommendation:

To approve the payment of a grant of £50,000 to Derbyshire Community Health Services for the provision of a 'Living with Long Term Conditions' service for one year from April 2015.

Elaine Michel
Director of Public Health