

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

21 February 2017

Report of the Director of Public Health

**RE-PROCUREMENT OF DERBYSHIRE INTEGRATED
SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES (DISHS)
(Health and Communities)**

1. Purpose of the report:

To seek Cabinet approval to re-procure Derbyshire Integrated Sexual Health Services (DISHS) for a period of five years commencing on 01 April 2019, with an option to extend the contract for two further periods of two years.

2. Information and analysis:

2.1 Mandatory responsibility

The Council is mandated by the Health and Social Care Act 2012 to ensure provision of open access sexual health services including:

- contraception
- testing and treatment of sexually transmitted infections (STIs)
- sexual health aspects of psychosexual counselling and
- sexual health specialist services including young people's services, outreach, HIV prevention and sexual health promotion.

The Council's current integrated sexual health contract with Derbyshire Community Health Services Foundation Trust was for an initial period of 2 years up to 31 March 2017. In November 2016, Cabinet approved the option to extend for a further 2 years until 31 March 2019.

The complexity and value of the contract requires a longer contract period of five plus a maximum extension of up to four years (in two periods of two years, 5+2+2) to avoid service destabilisation. Local and national experience of sexual health service procurements indicates that a longer overall contract period generates a wider commercially competitive provider market, in tendering for the service and ensures stability to deliver service development.

At the previous market engagement, providers indicated that they would be deterred from submitting a tender, because the term was too short and they

would be unable to recoup the TUPE costs. As stated, a longer term should result in increasing the market competitiveness and enable bidders to recoup the costs of TUPE over a longer period, as the short period and TUPE costs are currently making it less viable for providers.

A longer contractual period will also help maximise delivery of value for money for the Council and benefit the County's population in terms of sexual health improvement and reduced inequalities in sexual health outcomes.

2.2 Sexual Health need in Derbyshire

Overall sexual health in Derbyshire is good, with lower levels of STIs, HIV, teenage conceptions and abortions. However, the burden of sexual ill health disproportionately affects certain groups within Derbyshire; men who have sex with men (MSM), young people, particularly vulnerable young people and people living with HIV. In addition, rates of STIs and teenage conceptions are higher in the most disadvantaged areas in Derbyshire.

As part of the re-procurement, a review of sexual health need will inform service proposals.

2.3 The importance of good sexual health and well-being

Sexual health is an important part of both physical and mental health and is essential to general well-being. The consequences of poor sexual health can be serious and costly for the individual, for health and social services and for society as a whole. Unintended pregnancy and STIs have preventable short term and long term effects on health and well-being, which can include:

- Pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), pregnancy outside of the womb (ectopic) and difficulty getting pregnant (infertility);
- Cervical and other genital cancers;
- Inflammation of the liver (hepatitis), chronic liver disease and liver cancer;
- Chronic infection, such as human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), or recurrent infection, such as genital herpes;
- Distress over unintended pregnancy;
- Psychological consequences of sexual coercion and abuse;
- Limited educational, social and economic opportunities for teenage parents.

Providing cost-effective, evidence-based sexual health services, in line with the needs of residents in Derbyshire, will sustain good sexual health outcomes, especially for those most at risk, thus reducing longer term costs for both the health and social care systems.

3. Social Value considerations:

The re-procurement of integrated sexual health services offers significant opportunities to include social value requirements within the procurement process, related to the contract value and length, and the inherent opportunities for adding social value resulting from the nature of the service. The re-procurement process will include systematic consideration of social value principles and will utilise appropriate outcomes in line with the Derbyshire Social Value Procurement Framework.

Consultation, engagement and market analysis will be used to identify what social value opportunities could be created and realised through this process.

4. Financial considerations:

The current annual cost for the service is £5m. Whilst there is uncertainty about future funding, the total cost for a newly procured service over five years with an option to extend the contract for two further periods of two years (5+2+2) would be a total of £45m. This total is based on the current cost per annum. The procurement will be conducted in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations.

5. Legal considerations:

The re-procurement of this service will be carried out in accordance with Protocol 1 of the Council's Financial Regulations and the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

6. Equality of Opportunity considerations:

Significant inequalities exist across the area of Sexual Health. Some people are more at risk of poor sexual health outcomes compared to the wider population. They include young people and vulnerable young people, men who have sex with men (MSM) and people living with HIV. Additional at risk groups include young heterosexuals, sex workers, people misusing drugs and alcohol, and some black and minority ethnic populations. The procurement process will include an Equality Impact Analysis and a review of health need in Derbyshire. These processes will include engagement of individuals and groups most at risk of poor sexual health outcomes.

7 Human Resources considerations:

During procurement of the contract for the new integrated sexual health

service, consideration will be given on the application of the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 (TUPE), and further Legal and Human Resources advice considered where necessary.

8. Other considerations:

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

9. Background papers:

Cabinet, 21 October 2014 - Sexual Health Services for Derbyshire Residents

Cabinet, 22 November 2016 - Amendment to format of extension of contract: Derbyshire Integrated Sexual Health Services (DISHS)

10. Key Decision:

Yes

11. Call-in:

Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No

12. Officer's Recommendation:

That Cabinet approves the re-procurement of the Derbyshire Integrated Sexual Health Service for a period of five years with an option to extend the contract for two further periods of two years.

Dean Wallace
Director of Public Health