

**REPORT TO:** Executive Board  
**DATE:** 15 March 2018  
**REPORTING OFFICER:** Director of Public Health  
**PORTFOLIO:** Health & Wellbeing  
**SUBJECT:** CHAMPS Public Health Collaborative Service  
**WARD(S)** Borough-wide

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To seek approval from the Executive Board to offer and award a new direct contract to the Cheshire and Mersey Public Health Collaborative (CHAMPS) for the delivery of public health services and functions for a one year period from 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Executive Board**

- 1) Notes the content of the report; and**
- 2) agree to the use of Procurement Standing Orders 1.14.3 to waive Standing Order 3.1 in respect of contracts below the EU threshold.**

## **3.0 BACKGROUND**

3.1 As a result of the Health and Social Care Act (2012) local authorities have been given the responsibility for public health in conjunction with strategic partners including NHS England and the Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG). In line with the national policy requirement and performance frameworks, the council commissions the CHAMPS team to both deliver and commission public health services across the Cheshire and Mersey footprint.

The Directors of Public Health for Cheshire & Merseyside are committed to working in the best way possible to achieve better health outcomes and have established a collaborative way of working which brings great benefits for all and has been established for almost fourteen years.

Improving health and wellbeing lies at the heart of Champs Public Health Collaborative, led by an Executive Board and serving the 2.5 million people of Cheshire & Merseyside. The role of the Collaborative is to energise the whole system and influence strategic partnerships to focus on prevention and use the best data and evidence. The Collaborative includes members of local teams and works with strategic partners facilitated by a small Support Team. The purpose of the Champs Public Health Collaborative is to:

- Improve local health and wellbeing outcomes
- Enable and deliver strong public health system leadership by collective strategic action
- Create and disseminate the latest evidence and promote effective interventions
- Secure new external resources
- Co-ordinate expert public health advice across partnerships

- Deliver shared learning opportunities

The Collaborative is an outcome focused model and works on key system priorities including:

- Mental Health and Wellbeing of Children and Young People
- Preventing Suicide
- Tackling High Blood Pressure

Work also focuses on supporting key strategic partnerships including Devolution and the NHS Five Year Forward View (FYFV) and maintaining a safe and resilient system. These priorities have been agreed in partnership with Public Health England North West and NHS England Cheshire & Merseyside.

- 3.2 Local councils have contributed financially to the collaborative service since the transfer of responsibility for public health in 2012. For Halton in 2017/18, the financial contribution to CHAMPS was **£64,910**. The anticipated value for 2018/19 is projected to be c. **£70,000**.

#### **4.0 PROPOSAL**

- 4.1 This report seeks a waiver of the Council's Standing Orders to directly award a contract to CHAMPS to support strategic management, oversight and collaboration as well as clinical support and the commissioning of large scale service delivery.

- 4.2 This award via a waiver is sought on the following basis:

- CHAMPS is the only organisation currently working on behalf of all Local Authorities to deliver a number of joint health programmes across Cheshire and Merseyside.
- CHAMPS offer value for money to the Council as it enables projects and services to be commissioned at scale that would be otherwise unaffordable for individual local authorities.
- CHAMPS enables key pieces of research from universities to be produced for the whole of Cheshire and Merseyside rather than each Local Authority having to produce their own.
- CHAMPS allows us to tie into national bodies and benefit from their expertise.
- CHAMPS allows us to employ specialist staff that work for the whole of Cheshire and Merseyside rather than all paying independently.
- CHAMPS provides regular conferences on topics for Cheshire and Merseyside.
- CHAMPS provides advertising and promotions on health topics for Cheshire and Merseyside.

- 4.3 The Public Contracts Regulations 2015 don't apply to the proposed contracts. The current EU Value Threshold for Light Touch Regime for Services which these contracts fall under is £615,278. No publication on the Official Journal of European Union (OJEU) is required.

#### **5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 These services are commissioned in pursuance of the local authority's statutory responsibility to improve the health and well-being of the local population through the delivery of specialist Public Health advice and the continued access to health improvement services for residents in Halton. The method of procurement complies

with the Council's Procurement Standing Orders and Public Contract Regulations 2015. The service objectives are in line with the Health and Wellbeing and Clinical Commissioning Group Priorities.

## **6.0 FINANCIAL/RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 The provision of collaborative public health services and functions is an essential element of the Public Health Grant and the resources are included in the ring fenced budget. It is anticipated that the annual budget will not exceed **£70,000** per year.

## **7.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

### **7.1 Children and Young People in Halton**

The proposal supports the delivery of the Health & Wellbeing Strategy and elements of the Children's Plan.

### **7.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton**

Employment, Learning and Skills is a key determinant of health and wellbeing and is therefore a key consideration when developing strategies to address health inequalities.

### **7.3 A Healthy Halton**

The proposal supports the council's delivery of the Health and Wellbeing strategy and contributes to the achievement of the council's outcomes, including population health and reducing health inequalities as outlined in the priorities contained in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA).

### **7.4 A Safer Halton**

None identified.

### **7.5 Halton's Urban Renewal**

None identified.

## **8.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

8.1 The service will be monitored by means of regular review meetings with CHAMPS and through the oversight of the Director of Public Health as a member of the Executive Board of CHAMPS. Contract monitoring meetings will consider both overall activity and financial management alongside a review of key quality and performance indicators which will be agreed jointly with the provider. This will assist commissioners in establishing whether the service performing against intended outcomes and represents value for money.

## **9.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

9.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is not required for this report.

## **10.0 REASON(S) FOR DECISION**

10.1 To support the council in meeting its statutory duties with regards to the provision of the public health programmes.

**11.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

11.1 There are no alternatives.

**12.0 IMPLEMENTATION DATE**

12.1 It is intended that the provision of a direct award would be undertaken following Executive approval with the new contract to commence in April 2018.

**13.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

None.