

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 16 February 2023

REPORTING OFFICER: Director of Public Health

PORTFOLIO: Health and Wellbeing

SUBJECT: 0 – 19 Healthy Child Programme,
Bridgewater Community Health NHS
Foundation Trust – KEY DECISION

WARDS: Borough Wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To inform members of the Executive Board on the request to extend the 0 – 19 Healthy Child Service (up to 25 for those with additional or complex needs) Bridgewater Community Health NHS Foundation Trust Contract; this paper is requesting the utilisation of the first extension that was approved as part of the original 2017 agreement. **This is the first request to utilise one of the agree 12 x month extensions.**

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Board

- 1) approve the implementation of the first one year extension, for the year April 2023 to March 2024, for the 0-19 Healthy Child Programme contract which is provided for within the original contract which was approved and implemented in 2018; and**
- 2) approve the commencement of a full procurement exercise including service reviews in the year 2023-2024 with a view to award a new contract at the end of March 2024.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

In February 2017, in accordance with Standing Orders, the Executive Board authorised the Director of Public Health to commence a procurement exercise to determine the most economically advantageous and effective organisation to deliver public health services for children, young people and families. It was agreed that the contract would be awarded for a period of 5 years with the option for two additional one-year contracts.

In April 2018 it was agreed that the 0 – 19 Healthy Child Service for Halton contract was awarded to Bridgewater Community Health NHS Foundation Trust for the agreed period of 5 years with the option for two additional one-year contracts.

The Service Specification is based upon the National Specification for the delivery of an integrated 0-19 (25) Public Health Service and on feedback from service users, staff and other partners. The service will continue to lead and deliver the universal Healthy Child Programme to all children and young people and will aim to ensure that every child gets the good start they need to lay the foundations for a healthy life.

The Service will continue to provide seamless support up to the young person's 19th birthday (up to 25 for young people with a disability or complex health care need), and is described in a number of discrete elements of the specification:

- Health Visitor Service for 0 - 5 years
- Family Nurse Partnership (First time Pregnancy in Teenagers)
- School Nursing Services for 5 - 19 years
- Reception Age Hearing and Vision Screening
- National Child Measurement Programme Services.

Performance data is submitted regularly on a quarterly basis. Recent discussions regarding current indicators have taken place and there will be some adjustments to enable the service to fully reflect the service that is being provided.

The 12-month plus one extension will provide the time required to fully procure the service anew (which was not possible to start a full procurement exercise and engagement in the past one-year due to covid). **This is the first request to utilise one of the agree 12 x month extensions.**

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The Procurement process is being followed; a contract extension will be submitted via the procurement portal.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial provision for the Service is contained within the Public Health ring fenced grant. The contract was awarded for 5 years with the option for two additional one-year contracts.

The current budget for 2021/22 is £3,645,960.

The budget for 2023/24 is £3,724,040 which includes a 5% increase to the current year spend.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

To ensure that in Halton children and young people are safeguarded, healthy and happy and receive their entitlement of high-quality services that are sensitive to need, inclusive and accessible to all.

The Government's aim is to enable local services to meet local needs, and the Healthy Child programme is a critical component in giving every child in Halton 'the best start in life'. Improving child development is a priority for Halton which will be supported by an effective and efficient service that supports both national and local strategies and action plans to meet the needs of children and their families.

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

To create an economically prosperous Borough that encourages investment, entrepreneurship, enterprise and business growth, and improves the education, skills and employment prospects of our residents and workforce so they can share in all the opportunities Halton affords.

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. This service will support children and their families in reducing the impact of ill health on their life chances and encourage and support "school readiness", with regards to speech, language and communication.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

To create a healthier community and work to promote well-being, a positive experience of life with good health (not simply an absence of disease) and offer opportunities for people to take responsibility for their health with the necessary support available.

Universal and specialist public health services for children are important in promoting the health and wellbeing of all children and reducing inequalities through targeted intervention for vulnerable and disadvantaged children and families.

6.4 A Safer Halton

None

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

Previous Impact Assessment undertaken.

Robust service monitoring should provide early warning of any performance issues.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

Aligns with E&D legislation

9.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

9.1 None

10.0 REASON(S) FOR DECISION

- a) Result in the local authority incurring expenditure which is significant.
- b) Impact in terms of its effects on communities if contract does not continue.

11.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

N/A

12.0 IMPLEMENTATION DATE

1st April 2023

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

List of Background Papers	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust – Signed Contract Dated 14.4.2018 – 31.3.2023	Documents available upon request	Leigh Hammad
Notice Of Procurement Executive Board Report Key Decision Dated 16.3.2017	Documents available upon request	Leigh Hammad
Award of Contract Executive Board Report Dated 16.11.2017	Documents available upon request	Leigh Hammad

