

Report to CABINET

Request approval to extend the contract for the delivery of the Young People's Sexual Health and Substance Misuse Service

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Barbara Brownridge, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care

Officer Contact: Dr Rebecca Fletcher, Director of Public Health

Report Author: Andrea Entwistle, Senior Public Health Business and Commissioning Manager

Ext. x3386

11 December 2023

Reason for Decision

To seek approval to enact the option to extend the contract for the Young People's Sexual Health and Substance Misuse Service by a period of 2 years, from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2026, as per the provision made in the original award of the contract for the delivery of the service.

Executive Summary

Having a high functioning sexual health and substance misuse offer for young people is an essential component of the range of activity required to achieve better population health and reduce demand on health and social care services. As per Public Health funding conditions and mandated responsibilities, we are required to deliver drug and alcohol services and ensure access to sexual health services for young people.

In January 2021, the award for the provision of Young People's Sexual Health and Substance Misuse Service was awarded to the current provider for an initial period of three years (from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2024) with an option to extend for a further

period of two years plus two years dependent on performance, achievement of key performance indicators (KPIs), continued funding and local need.

It is proposed that we enact the option to extend the contract with the current provider by a further two years (up until 31 March 2026) to ensure the continuation of high-quality service provision for our local young people.

Recommendations

It is recommended that Cabinet agree to the proposal to enact the provision to extend the current contract for a period of 2 years from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2026 (with a remaining provision to extend for up to a further 2 years up to a total contract length of 7 years) as permitted in the original terms and conditions for the contract.

This will ensure that there is continued delivery of drug and alcohol services and ensure access to sexual health services for young people in the borough, in line with our public health funding conditions and mandated responsibilities.

Request to extend the contract for the delivery of the Young People's Sexual Health and Substance Misuse Service**1 Background**

- 1.1 Adolescence is a crucial time for physical, emotional and social development, and good quality advice, information and support for young people on sexual health and substance misuse has an important contribution to make to health, wellbeing, education and wider social outcomes. Having a high functioning sexual health and substance misuse offer for young people is an essential component of the range of activity required to achieve better population health and reduce demand on health and social care services. As per Public Health funding conditions and mandated responsibilities, we are required to deliver drug and alcohol services and ensure access to sexual health services for young people.
- 1.2 There is a relationship between sexual health behaviour and drug and alcohol use among young people. Research has shown that alcohol consumption can result in lowered inhibitions and poor judgements regarding sexual activity and risky sexual behaviours in young people. It was also found that young people want to understand the influence of alcohol on sexual behaviours and where to get confidential support to manage their emotions if they make a bad decision as a result of drinking. We, therefore, recognised the need for the implementation of a more holistic approach to sexual health and drugs and alcohol through an integrated service.
- 1.3 Oldham has poor outcomes in relation to sexual health and substance misuse and remains consistently worse than GM, NW and England rates for under 18 conceptions, abortion rates, LARC uptake, STI diagnosis (including Chlamydia detection rates) and hospital admissions due to substance misuse and alcohol (15-24 year olds).
- 1.4 In January 2021, the Director of Public Health (in her delegated capacity as approved by Cabinet) agreed to award the contract for the provision of Oldham's Young People's Integrated Sexual Health and Substance Misuse Service to the current provider from 1 April 2021 for an initial period of three years up until 31 March 2024, with an option to extend for a further period of two years plus two years dependent on performance, achievement of key performance indicators (KPIs), continued funding and local need.
- 1.5 The service offers specialist support for sexual health, contraception, and the prevention and treatment of substance misuse for young people. This enables young people to access high-quality information, advice and treatment for both their sexual health and substance use in a single location and transaction.
- 1.6 The Service is expected to contribute to the following outcomes:
- Increased access to contraception, including LARC.
 - Reduction in under-18 conception rates
 - Reduction in under-18 abortion rate
 - Controlling the transmission of STIs/HIV
 - Reducing the prevalence of STI, including HIV via improved diagnosis rates
 - Reduction in number of alcohol and drug misuse related admissions to hospital and deaths
 - Improved recovery rates and increased number of successful completions
 - Reduced harm and improved resilience amongst young people, including vulnerable groups.

-
- 1.7 Further detail regarding the service is set out in the report in the restricted part of this agenda.
- 2 **Current Position**
- 2.1 Information regarding the current position for Cabinet to consider is set out in the report to be considered in the restricted part of this agenda.
- 3 **Options/Alternatives**
- 3.1 These are set out in the report in the restricted part of this agenda.
- 4 **Preferred Option**
- 4.1 This is detailed in the report in the restricted part of this agenda.
- 5 **Consultation**
- 5.1 This is detailed in the report in the restricted part of this agenda.
- 6 **Financial Implications**
- 6.1 These are set out in the report in the restricted part of this agenda.
- 7 **Legal Services Comments**
- 7.1 These are set out in the report in the restricted part of this agenda.
8. **Co-operative Implications**
- 8.1 The Young People’s Sexual Health and Substance Misuse Service, as with all Public Health commissioned services, fully supports the delivery of Corporate Plan objectives of residents first, place-based working, digitisation and a preventative approach. The commissioning of the service and the award of the contract to the current provider is consistent with the commitment within the Oldham Plan to take a person and community centred approach, that places prevention at the heart of our emerging new model of delivery.
- 9 **Human Resources Comments**
- 9.1 These are set out in the report in the restricted part of this agenda.
- 10 **Risk Assessments**
- 10.1 As set out in the report in the restricted part of this agenda.
- 11 **IT Implications**
- 11.1 There are no IT implications.
- 12 **Property Implications**
- 12.1 These are set out in the report in the restricted part of this agenda.
- 13 **Procurement Implications**
-

-
- 13.1 These are set out in the report in the restricted part of this agenda.
- 14 **Environmental and Health & Safety Implications**
- 14.1 There are no direct environmental or health and safety implications.
- 15 **Community cohesion disorder implications in accordance with Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998**
- 15.1 None
- 16 **Oldham Impact Assessment Completed (Including impact on Children and Young People)**
- 16.1 Yes – available on request
- 17 **Key Decision**
- 17.1 Yes
- 18 **Key Decision Reference**
- 18.1 HSC-17-23
- 19 **Background Papers**
- 19.1 These are included in the report in the restricted part of this agenda.
- 20 **Appendices**
- 20.1 None