

Health & Wellbeing Board Briefing Note.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSIONING UPDATE

28 January 2015

Following the Cabinet Member approval to progress tendering activity across the key services managed under Public Health contracts a series of commissioning and procurement activities have been undertaken. The services concerned are:

Drugs and Alcohol, Sexual Health, Health Checks and Stop Smoking and Child Health

The current positions on each of these services are as follows:-

Drugs and Alcohol

- Service Specification developed and consultations completed.
- Provider Update (Briefing Paper) prepared and circulated for all Providers who engaged in the Soft Market Testing exercise.
- Invitation to Tender pack incorporating: Background Information, Instructions to Tenderers, Evaluation questions, Terms and Conditions and Schedules are currently being prepared.
- Contingent upon sign off from the Legal Department the Invitation to Tender is expected to be issued early in February.
- Allowing a sufficient period to enable tenderers to develop an integrated service, tenders are scheduled for submission in mid - April. Following evaluation the contract will be formally awarded in early June.
- A report is presently being prepared to secure approval for appropriate contract extensions to enable both mobilisation and effective transition (TUPE, Property etc). Providers will be informed immediately approvals have been received.

Sexual Health

- A new Commissioning Manager has been appointed to ensure progress can be accelerated and ensure that the process for Sexual Health services can mirror that being undertaken for Drugs and Alcohol. Detailed Specifications are approaching completion.
- The procurement processes for both Drugs and Alcohol and Sexual Health will run in parallel, although the Sexual Health tender will run approximately 6 weeks behind that of Drugs and Alcohol. This is necessary to enable sufficient resource for both tender processing and conducting tender evaluations.

- Consequently, the Invitation to Tender is planned for issue in mid – March, tenders submitted at the end of May with award and implementation in July.
- Again, acknowledging the need for considered implementation and transition, authorisation for an extension of the contract is being requested and Providers will be informed immediately approvals have been received.

Health Checks and Stop Smoking

- A combined tender, configured in two separate lots (one for each service) has been issued. The pack was released to the market just before the Christmas break. The tender seeks applications in the form of an 'Any Qualified Provider' basis.
- Tenderers are currently in the process of completing their submissions which are due for return on 30th January.
- Evaluations and moderation will be completed by mid- February with the successful tenderers being identified by 20th February.
- The conclusions of the evaluation will be presented through the Council's governance process. Award letters and contracts are expected to be issued in early March.
- Implementation and transition are currently under consideration, and since significant change in the provider base is not anticipated, the new contract will commence on 1st April 2015.

Child Health

- A report on the School Nursing Service, requesting a contract extension to enable alignment with the transferring 0-5 Health Visitor Service and Children's Centre's is currently going through the Council's governance process.
- A quotation process to secure a Provider to undertake the Child Dental Health Survey has just been completed and additional resources from within Public Health have been targeted to complete a Dental Health Improvement Programme.

Additional Activity

- A procurement process is concluding to implement interim 'spot purchasing' arrangements for Residential Dettol. These arrangements have been secured until the Drugs and Alcohol tender can be concluded.
- In order to deliver the ASSIST Programme, a process is also underway to appoint a delivery partner. Tenders close on the 23rd January and a contract award is anticipated in mid-February.