

Record of operational decision

HEALTHY TOTS & HEALTHY SCHOOLS FRAMEWORK

Decision title:	To approve the tender for the delivery of an intervention to increase physical activity amongst children and their families and support for the Healthy Tots and Healthy schools programme.
Date of decision:	06/06/2024
Decision maker:	Director of Public Health
Authority for delegated decision:	An executive decision
Ward:	'Countywide'
Consultation:	<p>Intervention to increase physical activity amongst the most inactive children and their families - Engagement with the Physical activity steering group in addition to the below.</p> <p>The Healthy tots & Healthy schools programme - Consultation will be carried out with partners, stakeholders, early years settings and schools across Herefordshire throughout the development process.</p> <p>A stakeholder group will be established so that views and suggestions from partners can be fed into the process.</p> <p>Schools and early years representation will be sought to help establish the accreditation wheel and standards expected.</p>
Decision made:	<p>To agree to tender for the delivery of an intervention to increase physical activity amongst children and their families and support for the Healthy Tots and Healthy schools programme as a 2 + 1 year contract with no obligation to extend.</p> <p>Financial Summary:</p> <p>Intervention to increase physical activity amongst children and their families - £30k per annum</p> <p>Support for the Healthy Tots and Healthy schools programme – max £15k per annum, no minimum spend (as agreed in previous ROOD Healthy tots & Healthy schools 4.12.23)</p> <p>Total contract value - £135,000</p>

<p>Reasons For Decision</p>	<p>Tackling obesity is one of the greatest long-term health challenges currently faced in England. Obesity is associated with reduced life expectancy and a range of health conditions including type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease, liver and respiratory disease and cancer. It can also have an impact on mental health.</p> <p>Locally the proportion of Reception children who are overweight or obese in 2022/23 is 19%. For Year 6 it is 35%.</p> <p>For Year 6s, of most concern is the longer-term trend of rising levels of obesity for this age-group: from 16% in 2012/13, rising to 22% in the 10 years to 2022/23.</p> <p>Physical activity increases a person’s energy expenditure which can help them stay in energy balance or even lose weight, whilst having other wider health benefits.</p> <p>The aim of the intervention is to provide personalised 1:1 support for children and their families identified through schools as being inactive. The intervention supports children and their families to explore new activities, fit activity into their daily lives and maintain the change.</p> <p>Included in this proposal is to tender for additional capacity to support the Public Health team to reintroduce a Healthy Schools and Early Years programme to Herefordshire, supporting the Health and Wellbeing Strategy objectives; Best Start in Life and Good Mental Health Throughout Life; Herefordshire’s Physical Activity strategy and the ambition to become a sustainable food place.</p> <p>Further detail on the Healthy Tots & Healthy Schools programme can be found on the ROOD dated 4.12.23.</p>
<p>Equality Considerations</p>	<p>Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 the ‘general duty’ on public authorities is set out as follows:</p> <p>A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to – a) Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimization and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act; b) Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; c) Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it. The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying ‘due regard’ in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services.</p> <p>Our providers will be made aware of their contractual requirements in regards to equality legislation. The Equality Act 2010 established a positive obligation on local authorities to promote equality and to reduce discrimination in relation to any of the nine ‘protected characteristics’ (age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; marriage and civil partnership; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation). This project aims to improve the Health and Wellbeing of children and young people.</p>

<p>Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:</p>	<p>There is a risk that the Healthy Tots & Healthy schools programme ends after the 2 year period due to additional demands on the Public Health Ring Fenced Grant. However this is a priority in the Health & Wellbeing Strategy (2023-2033) therefore there is a commitment to support this area of work in order to demonstrate impact.</p> <p>The programmes will be open to all schools and all early years settings potentially benefiting all children and young people across Herefordshire. Data around obesity levels, poor oral health etc in the county will be used to target specific schools and early years providers in working through the programme and tackling areas of inequality.</p>
<p>Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:</p>	<p>Alternative options were considered but due to cost, capacity, time etc. these were not considered appropriate:</p> <p>Options:</p> <p>1) Do nothing and continue without a local physical activity intervention or Healthy Schools programme. This option is not recommended due to the increasing poor health outcomes for our children and also the lack of consistent support available for schools.</p> <p>2) Develop a bespoke local healthy schools offer – This would take too long to develop, with higher costs and require increased staff capacity.</p>
<p>Details of any declarations of interest made:</p>	<p>None</p>

Signed..... Date: 10th June 2024