

MEETING:	HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
DATE:	18 JUNE 2010
TITLE OF REPORT:	MENTAL HEALTH PROCUREMENT
REPORT BY	ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF INTEGRATED COMMISSIONING

CLASSIFICATION: Open

Wards Affected

County-wide

Purpose

To receive a further update on the Mental Health Procurement project being undertaken by NHS Herefordshire and Herefordshire Council.

Recommendation

THAT the Committee considers the progress of the Mental Health Procurement Project.

Introduction and Background

1. The Committee considered an update on the mental health procurement project on 1 March 2010. Services included within the procurement project include: Community and Acute Mental Health Services, Mental Health Social care and legislation lead (Mental Capacity Act), Substance Misuse (Drugs and Alcohol), Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services and Learning Disabilities (Health).
2. This report sets out progress towards the goal of increasing accessibility to services for Service users and their carers, increasing the diversity and range of services delivered and improving the governance and value for money of those services
3. Comparison with other West Midlands PCTs and Local Authorities shows that the quality of services delivered in Herefordshire is adequate, but at much higher cost. In part this is because of economies of scale, the same management and governance functions have to be funded for a smaller number of service users, and small teams require a higher percentage of qualified staff (eg 1 of 2 or 3 team members). It is also difficult for small teams to offer geographical coverage in a rural county.

Further information on the subject of this report is available from
Wendy Fabbro, Associate Director of Integrated Commissioning. Tel: 347622

4. The Procurement project has adopted a 'competitive dialogue' methodology in order to exploit the knowledge and expertise of other Mental Health Trusts to develop a specification of the service we would like to deliver. This means that the bidders who were selected through the initial stages are developing a 'detailed solution' for Herefordshire (rather than Herefordshire writing a detailed specification) through robust dialogue and negotiation. When the 'dialogue' stage closes, bidders will tender a price on their detailed solution.
5. The project has been inclusive and received appreciation for the efforts to consult with service users and carers via the Mental Health Reference group, staff/clinicians and practitioners especially via a clinical reference group that has considered and commented on key documents, verbal and written reports to Scrutiny, PCT Board and Performance and Quality sub group, Cabinet, and also via public information in Herefordshire Matters, and on line.
6. The next stage of invitation to tender is expected to conclude in September 2010

Objectives / Benefits

7. The key objectives of the project are:
 - To provide patients with greater access to Mental Health Services.
 - To improve the quality of Mental Health care available to patients.
 - To deliver affordable and Value for Money Mental Health services.
 - To deliver on national initiatives and clinical governance.

Project Progress

8. Current progress of the project is tabled below:

July 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ PCT Board approval to move ahead with project.
August 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Mental Health Service advertised in the Official Journal of the European Union.
October 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Five Expressions of Interest returned. ▶ Pre Qualifying Questionnaire reduced the number of interested bidders to four.
November 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Board approval sought to continue. ▶ Initial engagement of Mental Health Reference Group.
December 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Bidder Event held – to provide the bidders with an overview of the Service and set out procurement principles. ▶ Meeting with MHRG.
January 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Develop Invitation to Submit Outline Proposal (ISOP). ▶ Further meetings with Mental Health Reference Group
February 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ ISOP issued to bidders ▶ Initial engagement of Herefordshire LINK
March 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ ISOP returned. ▶ Bidders presented their outline proposal to Herefordshire

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ stakeholders. ▶ ISOP assessed by Tender Evaluation Panel and feedback provided to bidders ▶ Meeting with Herefordshire LINK
April 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Develop and issue Invitation to Submit Detailed Solution (ISDS). ▶ Bidders meeting with Commissioning Team ▶ Bidders meeting with Mental Health Reference Group
May 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ ISDS returned ▶ Bidders present their detailed solution to the Project Board and the Tender Evaluation Panel. ▶ Tender Evaluation Panel met bidders to feedback on their solution
June 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 2nd Submission of ISDS ▶ Assessment by Tender Evaluation Panel ▶ Feedback to bidders ▶ Close Competitive Dialogue ▶ Commence development of Invitation to Tender
July 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Board approval to Invitation to Tender ▶ Issue Invitation to Tender ▶ Invitation to Tender returned
August 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Formal evaluation of Invitation to Tender by Tender Evaluation Panel
September 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Panel recommendations to Board
Oct 2010– March 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Mobilisation Phase
Apr 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Commencement

Governance and Reporting

9. Attached as Appendix A is the Mental Health Procurement Project structure which provides a pictorial representation of the governance and reporting structures. This demonstrates how key stakeholders have been kept informed and consulted where appropriate

Communication & Engagement

10. The communication and engagement of stakeholders is being supported by the Communication Team within the Council. The work undertaken by the project team in communicating with stakeholders is detailed below:
- ▶ Regular communication and engagement with Mental Health Service Users and Carers via the Mental Health Reference Group.
 - ▶ This group have been particularly proactive during the life of the project and have produced excellent documentation detailing their findings and requirements of the service. Their work with the project is being considered at a national level as a framework for 'best practice'.

- ▶ Communication with Herefordshire LINK. The chair of the Mental Health Reference Group provides a direct feed into this group.
- ▶ Attendance at the Learning Disabilities Partnership Board.
- ▶ News article in Hereford Times 13 January 2010.
- ▶ A Cabinet briefing on the project was delivered in December 2009 and has been followed up with items in 'Members News'.
- ▶ The PCT Board and Provider Services Board are updated at each meeting by a member of the Project Board.
- ▶ Health Scrutiny Committee has received regular updates.
- ▶ A monthly update is delivered to Councillor Olwyn Barnett.
- ▶ A monthly project newsletter is distributed to staff.
- ▶ Intranet pages on both the PCT and Council websites are regularly updated with news and frequently asked questions.
- ▶ Meetings with staff to discuss the project remain available to all teams impacted by the project.
- ▶ The Project Manager has a regular slot on the Mental Health Team Leaders monthly meeting to provide updates on progress.

Summary

11. Using Competitive Dialogue as a tendering vehicle results in a lengthy process, however, the Project Board remain clear that engaging with our bidders in the way that Competitive Dialogue supports has enabled us to 'get to know' our prospective partners. Discussing the needs and aspirations for Herefordshire Mental Health Service with our bidders has given them an insight into the service which they simply would not have had during a standard tendering process. The expectation of this two way conversation is that the final bid will deliver a service which is not only robust in its governance and quality standards, but provides a value for money service which increases access to the Mental Health services needed by the people of Herefordshire.