

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:

5099

Author:

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Department:

People

Contact:

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Subject:

Drugs and Alcohol Care Team (DACT)

Total Value:

£523,477 total over 4.5 years (Type: Revenue)

Decision Being Taken:

To Delegate Authority to the Director of Public Health to:(i) enter into an appropriate funding agreement with the Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board to accept funding of £411,543; (ii) use £111,934 of the Ring Fenced Public Health Grant; and (iii) enter into a modification of the existing Community Substance Treatment and Recovery Service (Lot 1) contract with Nottingham Recovery Network (NRN), To fund over 4.5 years (between 1st April 2024 - 30th September 2028) and provide a specialist nursing service for patients admitted to NUH who have alcohol and/or drug dependency (to be known as the Drugs and Alcohol Care Team) NB - s151 Officer Spend Approval has been obtained :Spending Request ID: 6381

Reasons for the Decision(s)

Drug and Alcohol use causes a wide range of conditions including cardiovascular disease, cancers, and liver disease, as well as contributing to harm from accidents, violence, and self-harm. In 2021, Nottingham City had an alcohol-related mortality rate of 44.5 per 100,000, which is higher than the East Midlands average (40.3 per 100,000) and the England average (38.5 per 100,000). Nottingham City also sees among the highest number of alcohol-related hospital admissions in England (838 in 2021/22, compared to the England average of 626). Nottingham City Council (NCC) competitively procured a hospital to community pathways team known as the Hospital Alcohol Liaison Team (HALT) in 2016 to encourage continuity of care upon discharge from hospital into the community. The current HALT contract is with Framework Housing Association and has been extended beyond the original contract term, to 31 March 2024, with no further contract extensions available. The HALT currently consists of two specialist alcohol and drug workers that provide holistic care whilst people are in hospital and ensure a safe discharge to community services (provided by Nottingham Recovery Network). The service works with people identified on hospital wards across both Nottingham University Hospital (NUH) sites (Queens Medical Centre and City Hospital) who have been screened for high or increasing levels of alcohol use, or who are risk of/or experiencing acute alcohol withdrawal episodes and any drug use. In 2019 NHS England (NHSE) selected NUH to receive funding as an early implementer site for an Alcohol Care Team (ACT) with additional funding which increased the availability of non-clinical specialist staff. HALT and ACT have been delivering as a single team since 2019 to increase the availability of specialist alcohol and drug interventions in the hospital. This has enabled proactive liaison with all wards about the clinical management of alcohol and drug dependent patients across both QMC and City sites, 7 days per week. The team advise on prescribing plans to prevent acute episodes of withdrawal and have implemented health promotion screening at NUH. A review of this integrated model has been carried out by the ICB, NCC, NUH and providers and has identified that specialist drug and alcohol team is critical to enabling safe and effective hospital treatment in both the Emergency Department, as part of safe withdrawal management on the wards, and onward referral to community-based services. NHSE have not confirmed continuation of funding for the ACT at NUH, so this service will cease from 1 April 2024, although NUH and the ICB are exploring options to continue. In the meantime, it has been agreed between the ICB and NCC that we will maintain the current level of ICB and NCC funding to enable proactive specialist nursing input within the hospital setting. The ICB funding will need to be provided to the Council under an appropriate funding agreement. The NCC element of the funding will be provided from the ring-fenced Public Health Grant. The core new service will see a change from specialist alcohol and drug workers to 2.0 WTE band 6 nurses (NRN), 1.0 WTE band 6 nurse (NUH funded). Additional work is underway in Nottinghamshire County Council and NCC to explore options for additional capacity using the Supplementary Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery Grant, subject to Grant approval to enhance the service offer. It is proposed that the new service will have an increased focus on screening and identification of people who are drinking above safe consumption levels, clinical management of patients at risk of acute withdrawal to provide proactive care to prevent the progression of symptoms such as delirium and frailty, and referral to on-going treatment and recovery in the adult substance use recovery and treatment service on discharge. Pursuant to CPEC approval (Commissioning of substance misuse treatment and recovery services for Nottingham, 12 July 2022) a contract was awarded for Community Recovery & Treatment Services for Adults who use Alcohol & Drugs to Nottingham Recovery Network (NRN), having been procured under the PCR 2015 with a maximum value of £83,818,475 over its maximum terms of 9 years (5 + 2+2). The services provided under the contracts comprise 4 key elements: . Alcohol and drug treatment and recovery services for adults in the community, . Alcohol and drug treatment and recovery services for people in the criminal justice system . Family and carer support for those impacted by someone else's alcohol and drug use . Treatment and recovery support in primary care settings. These services and those to be provided by the Drugs and Alcohol Care Team, are not materially different in character to each other and comprise 'relevant' health care services within the scope of Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023 ("the PSR Regs 2023") (which came into force on the 01.01.2024) as services that: . are provided as part of the health

service, whether NHS or public health. consists of the provision of health care to individuals or groups of individuals. falls within one or more of the specified CPV codes in the PSR Regulations 2023. This being so it is proposed to add the DACT service to the Community Recovery & Treatment Services for Adults (Alcohol & Drugs) Nottingham Recovery Network (NRN) contract, as it is permissible under PSR regulation 13 (1) (d) and (2) where the increase in value (along with any other cumulative additions made to the contract) is under 25% of the total contract value. The £523,477 represents just circa 0.62 % of the original total contract value of £83,818,475.

Other Options Considered:

1) Do nothing. This would result in the end of the service, and would have a negative impact on: the wellbeing of people who use alcohol and/or drugs who are admitted to hospital; the number of hospital admissions; number of hospital bed days occupied, and continuity of care from hospital to community services. Without the service, the pathways from hospital to community would cease and with it the opportunity to engage with people on discharge, potentially causing harm to individuals, communities and society as a whole. Therefore this option is not recommended.2) Undergo a procurement exercise to award a new contract for the service. It is recognised that the value in the proposed service model is in having an integrated staff team across NUH and the adult substance use recovery and treatment service. If this model is approved it cannot be delivered by another provider, and there would be little interest in the market to provide such a service. Therefore this option is not recommended.

Background Papers:

Published Works:

Affected Wards:

Citywide

Colleague / Councillor Interests:

Consultations:

Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.

Crime and Disorder Implications:

N/A

Equality:

EIA not required. Reasons: This is a continuation of existing activities, so there will be no adverse impact on citizens

Regard for NHS Constitution:

Local authorities have a statutory duty to have regard to the NHS Constitution when exercising their public health functions under the NHS Act 2006. In making this decision relating to public health functions, we have properly considered the NHS Constitution where applicable and have taken into account how it can be applied in order to commission services to improve the health of the local community.

Decision Type:

Portfolio Holder

Subject to Call In:	Yes
Call In Expiry date:	11/03/2024
Advice Sought:	Legal, Finance, Procurement
Legal Advice:	<p>Legal comments/advice, as per the attached note. Advice provided by Richard Bines (Solicitor) on 22/02/2024.</p> <p>Advice documents: Legal Comments.docx</p>
Finance Advice:	<p>See attached document For reasons outlined by the report author, this decision seeks approval to 1.accept £411,543 joint funding income from the ICB over 4.5 years, between 1st April 2024 to 30th September 2028.</p> <p>2.approve and commission £523,477 to fund a Drugs and Alcohol Care Team (DACT) over 4.5 years, between 1st April 2024 to 30th September 2028.</p> <p>Advice provided by Tracey Moore (Senior Finance Technician) on 08/02/2024.</p>
Procurement Advice:	<p>The decision seeking approval to modify the existing Community Substance Treatment and Recovery Service, to incorporate the Drugs and Alcohol Care Team (DACT), is permissible under the new Provider Selection Regime Modifications Regulation 13(2) and permissible under Nottingham City Council's Contract Procedure Rule 18.110.</p> <p>The Community Substance Treatment and Recovery Service was recently awarded through a competitive tender and value for money was secured. The proposal to add DACT to the existing contract is considered the appropriate route to source the services required. Advice provided by Nicola Harrison (Procurement Lead Officer) on 31/01/2024.</p>
Signatures	<p>Linda Woodings as Portfolio Holder (Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Health)</p> <p>SIGNED and Dated: 04/03/2024</p> <p>Lucy Hubber (DPH)</p> <p>SIGNED and Dated: 27/02/2024</p>