

WRITTEN QUESTION TO BE ASKED BY COUNCILLOR RULE OF THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR ADULTS AND HEALTH AT THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON 16 JANUARY 2017

Could the Portfolio Holder confirm the basis for withdrawing funding from the Notts YMCA Physical Referral Service which provides support programmes throughout the City, including Clifton, to improve the health and fitness of residents suffering from diabetes and a number of other illnesses; and if funding is withdrawn whether there are any plans to provide support of this nature through an alternative provider?

Response

The City Council currently commissions the YMCA to deliver a free 12 week physical activity on referral programme, alongside other services that make up the commissioned healthy lifestyle programme for adults.

As the contract with the YMCA and other providers with city council is ending end March 2017 with no option to be renewed, we have conducted an extensive commissioning review which included engagement with citizens, service users and councillors and other stakeholders.

Following the commissioning review a new service model was approved by Councillors on the City Council Commissioning and Procurement model in June 2016.

The intentions from the commissioning review are from April 2017:

- To commission a stop smoking service with more of an emphasis on support to priority groups at higher risk of smoking and with higher smoking rates.
- To commission a healthy weight service with NHS health checks.

These two services have been advertised on the East Midlands Procurement Hub in October 2017 and the procurement process is still in progress.

It is planned that the new Healthy Weight service will provide targeted support for people to be active and eat more healthy over a 12 week period. The programme will be delivered in local areas such as Clifton to ensure it is accessible to target communities. In addition to this direct service provision, the service will also act to signpost those people who want to be more active to find out about free and low cost local exercise classes in their local Areas including activities at local leisure centres. This service forms an integrated evidence based weight management and prevention pathway commissioned with Nottingham City Clinical Commissioning Group.

The City Council has worked with the YMCA and other services that are ending to develop exit plans that will enable eligible clients to register for the new service and make them aware that a new service model will be available from April 2017.