

# Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



**Nottingham**  
**City Council**

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| Reference Number:           | 3368   |
| Author:                     | Jennifer Burton  |
| Department:                 | Children and Adults  |
| Contact:                    | Alison Challenger<br>(Job Title: Director of Public Health, Email: <a href="mailto:alison.challenger@nottinghamcity.gov.uk">alison.challenger@nottinghamcity.gov.uk</a> , Phone: 01158765105)  |
| Subject:                    | Application to extend the 'Into the Mainstream' service.   |
| Total Value:                | £103,878 (Type: Revenue)   |
| Decision Being Taken:       | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) To approve funding of £ 51,939 per annum for 1+1 years</li><li>2) To approve dispensation from Contract Procedure Rule 5.1.2 in accordance with Financial Regulation (3.29) to allow for the contract to be extended for 1 + 1 years commencing on 1 April 2019.</li><li>3) To delegate authority to the Head of Contracting and Procurement to extend the contract and the Performance Development Manager to sign the contract.</li></ol>   |
| Reasons for the Decision(s) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Asylum seekers experience multiple health problems both before and after entering the UK. It is recognised that despite having free access to healthcare in the UK, the health of asylum seekers deteriorates in the first 2-3 years following arrival. Asylum seekers face a number of barriers to accessing mainstream services, including difficulties registering with practices; language and literacy; poverty; understanding of NHS services. The service works with all newly dispersed asylum seekers and refugees arriving in Nottingham to ensure GP registration and facilitate access into mainstream services. The service identifies and priorities asylum seekers with immediate health needs to ensure these are appropriately met.</li><li>2) 'Into the Mainstream' is a specialist service delivered by Refugee Forum who are experts in this field of work. The service is performing well and offers excellent value for money. Whilst the contract value was reduced £57,710 to £51,939 per year from April 18 demand for the service remains high. Into the Mainstream supported 299 newly arrived individuals in 17/18 and a further 58 in the first 3 months of 18/19.</li></ol> |

**Other Options Considered:**

1) Do not have a service: This offer has been rejected, as Nottingham City is one of three dispersal areas for asylum seekers receiving UK Borders Agency (UKBA) support in the East Midlands. Therefore, Nottingham will continue to receive asylum seekers and refugees. In to the Mainstream are the only service in Nottingham City who support asylum seekers and refugees to access mainstream services. In 2017/18 Into the Mainstream worked with 299 newly arrived asylum seekers/refugees, 74 of whom had immediate health needs to include (pregnant, FGM, psychological needs, communicable diseases and sexual health). Without the service, it is likely that these vulnerable groups would not access health services, which increases the risk of the transmission of disease to the wider population (e.g, HIV, Hepatitis, tuberculosis)

2) Go out to procurement: This was rejected due to uncertainties around the available funding. Significant efficiencies have been implemented across public health contracts during 18/19 and uncertainty continues around the potential impact of continued budget pressures. At present the funding required to offer a 3 year contract term cannot be secured. Given this uncertainty and the short length of contract which can be offered a tender process it is not considered appropriate

**Background Papers:**

none

**Published Works:**

Asylum Seeker, Refugee and Migrant Health JSNA (2018)

**Affected Wards:**

Citywide

**Colleague / Councillor Interests:**

none

**Dispensation from Financial Regulations:**

Yes

**Consultations:**

no consultation has taken place as the proposal is to extend the service.

**Crime and Disorder Implications:**

This decision is unlikely to have a direct impact on crime and disorder

**Equality:** EIA not required. Reasons: The proposal is to extend the service, therefore the request does not relate to a new or changing service and there is no direct impact on any groups.

**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:** 17/01/2019

**Advice Sought:** Legal, Finance, Procurement

**Legal Advice:** This report does not raise any significant legal issues and contract can be extended by a direct award. The aggregate value of the extension is below the applicable procurement financial threshold. Advice provided by Andrew James (Team Leader Contracts and Commercial) on 25/10/2018.

**Finance Advice:**

This decision seeks approval to extend the In to the Mainstream service for a maximum period of 2 years on a 1+1 year basis.

The total cost of this decision (for the maximum contract extension of 2 years) is £103,878. There is provision for the full cost of the decision within the Public Health base budget for the contract extension period.

Due to funding uncertainty beyond the contract extension period, a 3 year contract could not be secured.

The current service demonstrates value for money for this organisation - whilst the contract has reduced by £6k per annum, demand for this service remains high.

This decision seeks approval for dispensation from Contract Procedure Rule 5.1.2 in accordance with Financial Regulation (3.29) and due to the reasons provided by the report author, this is deemed appropriate.

Advice provided by Hayley Mason (Strategic Finance Business Partner) on 09/11/2018.

**Procurement Advice:**

Procurement have been involved in discussions regarding this decision to approve dispensation from Contract Procedure Rule 5.1.2 in accordance with Financial Regulation (3.29) to allow for the contract to be extended for 1 + 1 years commencing on 1 April 2019 and is supported for the reasons provided.

Advice provided by Nicola Harrison (Procurement Lead Officer) on 23/10/2018.

**Signatures**

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| <b>Sam Webster (PH for Adult Social Care and Health)</b>                                       |
| <b>SIGNED and Dated: 10/01/2019</b>  |
| <b>Alison Challenger (Director of Public Health)</b>   |
| <b>SIGNED and Dated: 08/01/2019</b>  |
| <b>Laura Pattman (Strategic Director of Finance) - Dispensation from Financial Regulations</b> |
| <b>SIGNED and Dated: 03/12/2018</b>  |
| <b>Chief Finance Officer's Comments:</b>   |