

11 February 2014		ITEM: 5
Health and Well-being Overview and Scrutiny Committee		
Public Health Commissioning 2014/15		
Report of: Dr Andrea Atherton, Director of Public Health		
Wards and communities affected: All wards	Key Decision: No decision	
Accountable Head of Service: Debbie Maynard – Head of Public Health		
Accountable Director: Dr Andrea Atherton – Director of Public Health, /Roger Harris, Director of Adults, Health and Commissioning,		
This report is public		
Purpose of Report: The purpose of this report is to provide the HOSC with details around the commissioning intentions for public health services in 2014/15		

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2013/14 budget allocation for public health that transferred to Thurrock was £7,414m, this represented a shortfall of 12.7% from the actual spend of the previous year’s services with our providers. This ring fenced budget was largely used to fund a programme of commissioned public health services for the Thurrock population. At the end of September 2013 the public health team served notice on three of these services. This paper details the process for re commissioning these three services for April 2015.

On the 22 December 2013 we were notified by Public Health England that we had won our appeal to receive an additional £1.124m, which was the 12.7% shortfall. The new public health grant for Thurrock for 2013/14 is now £8.538m

All public health services will be reviewed for value for money throughout 2014/15. A further HOSC paper will be produced in September 2014 to brief the HOSC on the results of this exercise which will inform the future of the remainder of the public health services.

The governance process for public health commissioning intentions is reported to the Public Health Strategy Board (PHSB). The PHSB reports quarterly to the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB).

1. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1.1 **For the members of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to note the contents of the report and support the process for undertaking the service reviews agreed by the Public Health Strategy Board in September 2013.**

2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The public health services commissioned in 2014/15 are sexual health services, 5 – 19 (school nursing) service, drug and alcohol service, adult weight management, children’s weight management, NHS health checks and smoking and tobacco control services, these services are currently commissioned with North East London Foundation Trust, we also have a range of smaller services with Southend Hospital, Basildon Hospital and we also hold contracts for Sexual Health, Smoking Cessation and Health Checks with Thurrock GPs, and pharmacists.

We have reviewed the services that we feel we need a different model of care in line with the priorities of the JSNA and the APhR and produced the commissioning intentions which are attached as appendix 2.

Public Health Contracts Prioritisation Exercise

The services we have served notice to our provider NELFT from October 2013 are listed below

- Children’s Weight Management Services – current concerns that the service is not offering a full 0 – 19 year service with psychology input and school engagement, which was requested in January 2013. Provider has been piloting a new model but numbers are very low.
 - Adult Weight Management Services, low uptake and high numbers of drop outs throughout the current programme. therefore not representing good value for money and little evidence of quality outcomes
 - 5 – 19 Service, the service is not currently offering a public health preventative service

The Public Health Strategy Board approved these recommendations on the 9 September 2013

3.0 ISSUES, OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS:

- 3.1 We are now advising relevant key Boards of this decision to get engagement in the new models in preparation for tendering for a new service for 1 April 2015.

A project plan has been approved by the PHSB to undertake benchmarking, value for money exercises, consultation, tendering and procurement and reporting progress to various Boards to the council and partners. The timeline

for the service reviews, benchmarking procurement and contracting is attached as appendix 1.

As part of the reviews efficiencies will be sought. The services will be provided within the public health grant.

Adult Weight Management / Children's Weight Management

The process is being managed through the Healthy Weight work stream which reports into the PHSB. We have already held a Healthy Weight stakeholder engagement conference where over 60 stakeholder and community representatives attended, we have produced consultation packs, held group sessions with a range of stakeholder and partners and surveyed GPs, Schools and the community to consult on the needs of a new service.

5 – 19 (School Nursing) Service

Letters were sent to all schools in Thurrock, plus a survey was sent to each school requesting details around what is currently working well and where schools would like to see change. We have received 17 returns. We have visits planned with schools throughout January and February 2014 and recently met with to Head Teachers to discuss both school nursing and weight management on 21 January 2014.

There are some concerns being raised for ensuring that safeguarding is paramount in the new services. Draft service specifications will be shared with the safeguarding leads to ensure that any new services are robust around safeguarding.

4. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION:

- 4.1 Public Health is now the responsibility of Thurrock Council. The commissioning intentions and service reviews undertaken for 2014/15 have been agreed to ensure that the services are shaped to deliver tailored services for the local residents of Thurrock.

Obesity is a priority identified in the HWB priorities in Thurrock over the next 3 years. By undertaking this exercise we will ensure that we provide more local tailored services to ensure that we halt the rise in obesity in Thurrock.

5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1 Full consultation plans have been planned as part of the reviews, see attached appendix 1 to show timelines for each consultation

6. IMPACT ON CORPORATE POLICIES, PRIORITIES, PERFORMANCE AND COMMUNITY IMPACT

- 6.1 The actions being taken as part of the service reviews to benchmark and review the three services will contribute to the delivery of the corporate priority to 'to improve health and wellbeing of Thurrock people.

7. IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Financial

Implications verified by: **Mike Jones**
Telephone and email: **01375 652772**
Mxjones@thurrock.gov.uk

There are no financial decisions that relate to this report. The new services will not exceed the current public health grant. Efficiencies will be sought as part of the new services.

7.2 Legal

Implications verified by: **Michael Henson-Webb**
Telephone and email: **0208 7243800**
Michael.Henson-Webb@bdtlegal.org.uk

There are no legal considerations arising from this report. Full tendering and procurement policies will be adhered to.

7.3 Diversity and Equality

Implications verified by: **Samson DeAlyn**
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SDeAlyn@thurrock.gov.uk

Each service review will take into account the diversity needs of the local populations. As part of the review consultation with a range of groups will be completed to inform the new pathways.

7.4 Other implications (where significant) – i.e. Section 17, Risk Assessment, Health Impact Assessment, Sustainability, IT, Environmental

There are no other implications.

BACKGROUND PAPERS USED IN PREPARING THIS REPORT (include their location and identify whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

APPENDICES TO THIS REPORT:

See Attached

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