

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Continuation of Public Health Functions (Contract Extension)</b>
<b>FOR CONSIDERATION BY</b>	The Executive on 26 March 2015
<b>WARD</b>	None Specific
<b>DIRECTOR</b>	Stuart Rowbotham, Director of Health and Wellbeing
<b>LEAD MEMBER</b>	Julian McGhee-Sumner, Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing

**OUTCOMES/BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY**

Continuation of contract for the provision of chlamydia screening, dental, library, GUM and Family Services and school nursing.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Executive resolves to extend the current contract for the provision of chlamydia screening, dental, Library, GUM and family services and school nursing on the same terms and conditions until 31 March 2016.

**SUMMARY OF REPORT**

Proposed one year extension of the current contracts with Berkshire Health Foundation Trust (BHFT) for the provision of chlamydia, dental Library, GUM & family services and school nursing contract services from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016.

The extension of the contract is for the following provisions:

**Chlamydia Screening Programme**, including the following areas:

- To work to embed Chlamydia screening in core services (primary care including GP practices, sexual and reproductive health(SRH) and Genitourinary Medicine (GUM) services, and Termination of Pregnancy services)
- To ensure screening and treatment is widely accessible to young people through a range of venues and routes, and is widely promoted and publicised
- To ensure a robust system is in place for contacting and treating partners of Chlamydia positive index patients
- To ensure screening is accessible to high risk and target groups
- To ensure sexual health promotion is an integral part of all Chlamydia screening activities
- To provide an appropriate level of service to ensure outcomes are achieved
- To identify local barriers to the delivery of Chlamydia screening and work in partnership to overcome these

**School Nursing**, including the following areas:

1. Provide a core offer of **Universal provision** to all school age children attending state-funded schools, including Free Schools and Academies.
2. Safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people and to implement child protection measures when required.
3. Deliver a targeted service in line with evidence based needs at population and individual level to at-risk and vulnerable groups of children, young people and their families known to the service and registered with a Berkshire school.
4. To provide a skilled and experienced team of staff that work flexibly across a range of settings and localities to ensure that parents and schools have access to the services and support they need.
5. To support a range of public health initiatives to meet identified priority health needs and populations as decided jointly with the local authority through local monitoring and performance management arrangements (see performance monitoring framework).
6. Provide a flexible, accessible and proactive service, in and out of school hours and terms, using technology and other approaches to ensure the service is readily accessible directly by the children and young people who attend the Berkshire schools and their families.
7. Record information and data as agreed with the commissioner to monitor progress, outcomes and improvements in the health of school age children and young people.
8. Ensure that children with identified health needs have continuity of support throughout their school career and where appropriate are communicated to partner agencies (e.g. schools, colleges, social care).

**Dental Health Services**, including the following areas

- Develop healthy eating policy and snack guidelines
- Integrate oral health with other health promotion activities
- Encourage each setting to have oral health champions
- Provide training in oral health for people who work with children including prevention of decay, erosion and dental injuries
- Encourage involvement of parents in early years and primary school interventions
- Signposting to NHS dental services

## **Background**

The current public health contracts with BHFT for sexual health chlamydia screening programme, dental services Library, GUM & family services and school nursing are due to expire on 31 March 2015.

These contracts are managed on behalf of the Council by the Berkshire Public Health shared team at Bracknell Forest Borough Council in line with the joint agreement.

The contracts with BHFT need to be extended for one year so that the provision of service can continue. Bracknell Forest Borough Council is now asking each local authority to provide written confirmation that the Council has agreed to extend these contracts.

In order for the public health contracts with BHFT to be extended from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016 and ensure these essential services are able to continue, an extension must be agreed by the executive as this is a second extension on the existing contract.

This extension will be an interim measure for one year whilst procurement options are considered and implemented.

## **Analysis of Issues**

Due to the late instructions to extend the contract and the procedures for a further one year extension this report has had to come to the Executive.

The factors below describe the issues that have been faced around the key services and therefore meaning the contract has not been re-tendered.

- Chlamydia Screening Programme – The Three Berkshire West Councils working together with the Public Health shared team successfully tendered the main Sexual Health Contract during 2014/15 (preferred provider is RBH). The Chlamydia Screening Programme sits outside of this contract and is now subject to a formal review of how this is delivered across Berkshire.
- School Nursing Service – This is a major service issue for the Council in that it is now complimented with the transfer of the Health Visitor service from the 1st October 2015. The procurement options for both of these services are being reviewed currently.
- As we work across the 6 authorities timescales are decided with all authorities in mind, meaning local authority procedures are not always taken into account.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION**

***The Council faces severe financial challenges over the coming years as a result of the austerity measures implemented by the Government and subsequent reductions to public sector funding. It is estimated that Wokingham Borough Council will be required to make budget reductions in excess of £20m over the next three years and all Executive decisions should be made in this context.***

	How much will it Cost/ (Save)	Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	Revenue or Capital?
Current Financial Year (Year 1)	£432,175	Yes	Revenue
Next Financial Year (Year 2)	0	0	0
Following Financial Year (Year 3)	0	0	0

<b>Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision</b>
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The costs associated with the extension are being met from existing ring fenced budgets within Public Health and have been included into next year's budget as previously planned.
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<b>Cross-Council Implications</b>
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None specific to the extension.
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<b>List of Background Papers</b>
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None
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