

TITLE	The Healthy Child Programme
FOR CONSIDERATION BY	The Executive on Thursday, 28 January 2021
WARD	None specific
LEAD OFFICER	Director, Children's Services - Carol Cammiss
LEAD MEMBER	Executive Member for Children's Services - UllaKarin Clark

PURPOSE OF REPORT (INC STRATEGIC OUTCOMES)

- 1) To propose the approval to proceed with the procurement of the Healthy Child Programme for Wokingham alongside West Berkshire and Reading Local Authorities.
- 2) To outline the internal governance and oversight of the procurement process and subsequent service monitoring.
- 3) To propose delegated authority, as described within the recommendations below.

RECOMMENDATION

The Executive is asked to agree:

- 1) to the procurement of the healthy child programme in collaboration with West Berkshire and Reading Local Authorities;
- 2) that the authority to proceed with necessary governance and process decisions to enable the award of contract be delegated to the Director of Children's Services, the Chief Executive and the Head of Public Health, in consultation with the Lead Member for Children's Services.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

One of the statutory duties of the Local Authorities for children is the commissioning of the Healthy Child Programme. We are requesting approval to proceed with the procurement of the Healthy Child Programme alongside West Berkshire and Reading Local Authorities. This will enable combined purchasing power to attract large providers with resilience. Only the procurement route is alongside Berkshire West Local Authorities. The service design, delivery and monitoring will all remain Wokingham specific, catering for the needs of Wokingham children and families. The procurement process and subsequent contract will be overseen by an internal Wokingham Children's Services/Public Health working group.

The Executive is asked to agree to this request and to delegate the necessary authority, to proceed with governance and process decisions to enable the award of contract, to the Director of Children's Services, the Chief Executive and the Head of Public Health, in consultation with the Lead Member for Children's.

BACKGROUND

One of the statutory duties of the Local Authorities for children is the commissioning of the Healthy Child Programme. The service will be aligned to Wokingham Borough Council's Wellbeing Board priorities, the Children & Young People's plan and the Council Plan.

The Healthy Child Programme is an evidence-based programme of best practice which incorporates –

- **Health Visiting:** supporting children from 0-5 years and their families, providing antenatal and postnatal support, encouraging the development of healthy lifestyles, safeguarding and protecting children
- **School Nursing:** working across education and health, providing a link between school, home and the community. Supporting Mental Health in Schools, reducing childhood obesity and providing sexual health support and guidance.

The Healthy Child Programme is a universal programme available to all children and aims to ensure that every child gets the good start they need to lay the foundations of a healthy life. This includes safeguarding children and working to promote health and development.

BUSINESS CASE

Please see Business Case attached as Appendix A.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION

The Council faces severe funding pressures, particularly in the face of the COVID-19 crisis. It is therefore imperative that Council resources are focused on the vulnerable and on its highest priorities.

	How much will it Cost/ (Save)	Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	Revenue or Capital?
Current Financial Year (Year 1)	Up to £1.94 million	Yes	Revenue
Next Financial Year (Year 2)	Up to £1.94 million	Yes	Revenue
Following Financial Year (Year 3)	Up to £1.94 million	Yes	Revenue

Other Financial Information

A commercial model for this procurement is being developed so the precise anticipated cost over the term of the contract is not currently known but will fall within the costs outlined above.

Stakeholder Considerations and Consultation

Consultations with Stakeholders and local families will be conducted as part of this procurement.

Public Sector Equality Duty

An Equality Impact Assessment will be completed on the new service specification once it has been finalised and after full consultation with key partners. The new service works

to address inequalities and ensure equitable provision of services. No detrimental impacts are anticipated.

Climate Emergency – *This Council has declared a climate emergency and is committed to playing as full a role as possible – leading by example as well as by exhortation – in achieving a carbon neutral Wokingham Borough by 2030*

This will have a neutral impact.

List of Background Papers

Appendix A included

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