

TITLE	Extension of Health Visiting, Family Nurse Partnership (FNP) and School Nursing
FOR CONSIDERATION BY	The Executive on 31 March 2016
WARD	None Specific
DIRECTOR	Stuart Rowbotham, Director of Health and Wellbeing Judith Ramsden, Director of Children’s Services
LEAD MEMBER	Julian McGhee-Sumner, Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing Charlotte Haitham Taylor, Lead Member of Children Services

OUTCOMES/BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY

Extension of the existing provision of Health Visiting, Family Nurse Partnership (FNP) and School nursing to enable a full re-modelling of the 0-19 service offering.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Executive accepts both a 6 and potential 12 month extension of the Health Visiting, School Nursing and FNP service, giving a new expiry date of either April or September 2017, this will allow a period of time to work on the integration plans jointly; Public Health, Children’s services and key stakeholders, both extension times have been requested to ensure that the integration is fully completed.

SUMMARY OF REPORT

Proposed 6 and 12 month extension of Health Visiting, FNP and School Nursing summary of services below:

All services have a role in delivering early health for children and families as recorded in the early help and innovation strategy, the key areas within the strategy are:

- Help in the early years of a child or young person’s life (including pre-natal interventions);
- Anticipating where need may arise in priority groups, often by an understanding of wider family and community risks;
- Providing early response services at the right time to meet family’s needs and to keep them in control of resolving their issues and problems;
- Stepping in to prevent escalation of children, young people and families needing any sort of specialist service;
- When specialist intervention is needed, delivering permanent resolution in good time.

The Health Visiting and FNP services are the foundations for good health and wellbeing, particularly for those most disadvantaged and aim to:

1. Improve the health and wellbeing of children and reduce inequalities in outcomes as part of an integrated multi-agency approach to supporting and empowering children and families;
2. Ensure a strong focus on prevention, health promotion, early identification of needs, early intervention and clear packages of support;
3. Ensure delivery of the Health Care Professional HCP to all children and families, including fathers, starting in the antenatal period;
4. Identify and support those who need additional support and targeted interventions, for example, parents who need support with parenting and women suffering from perinatal mental health issues including postnatal depression in accordance with NICE guidance;
5. Promote secure attachment, positive parental and infant mental health and parenting skills using evidence based approaches;
6. Promote breastfeeding, healthy nutrition and healthy lifestyles;
7. Promote 'school readiness' including working in partnership to improve the speech, communication and language of babies and toddlers and working with parents to improve the home learning environment;
8. Work with families to support behaviour change leading to positive lifestyle choices;
9. Safeguard babies and children through safe and effective practice in safeguarding and child protection. This will include working with other agencies to intervene effectively in families where there are concerns about parenting capacity, adult mental health, alcohol or substance misuse, domestic abuse or child abuse;
10. Develop on-going relationships and support as part of a multi-agency team where the family has complex needs e.g. a child with special educational needs, disability or safeguarding concerns;
11. Deliver services in partnership with local authorities to support 'troubled families' and be 'lead professional' or 'key worker' for a child or family where and when appropriate. Link with work undertaken by FNP nurses to ensure seamless delivery of care to families;
12. Improve the Health and Wellbeing journey for children, families and local communities through expanding and strengthening Health Visiting Services to respond to need at individual, community and population level.

School Nursing, aims to:

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 though 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).

Background

The foundations for health and wellbeing are established in early childhood. Ensuring every child has the best start in life is one of PHE's seven key priorities.

The 0-19 Healthy Child Programme is fundamental to improving the health and wellbeing of Wokingham's children, young people and their families and offers the opportunity to integrate services to meet their needs. The 0-5 element is led by health visiting services and the 5-19 element is led by school nursing services. These professional teams provide the vast majority of Healthy Child Programme services.

The universal reach of the Healthy Child Programme provides an invaluable opportunity from early in a child's life to identify families that are in need of additional support and children who are at risk of poor outcomes.

Commissioning responsibility for the 5-19 element of the Healthy Child Programme has been the responsibility of Wokingham Borough Council since 2013. Commissioning responsibility for the 0-15 element of the programme transferred to the authority on 1st October 2015. Funding for the whole 0-19 programme is now part of the Public Health Grant allocation.

Analysis of Issues

The current public health contract with BHFT for Health Visiting, School Nursing and FNP is due to expire on 30th September 2016.

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

A Berkshire-wide 'Health Visitor and Family Nurse Partnership Transition Board' was established to ensure a smooth and safe transition of these services to local authorities. The board, led by Public Health shared team, included representation from each local authority, the NHS, Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust (BHFT, the provider) and other stakeholders worked in collaboration to agree service specifications, financial and reporting requirements under six individual contracts with each local authority. This was successfully completed and Wokingham Borough's Public Health service is now responsible for all public health services for children and young people from 0 to 19 years of age.

Discussions have been held with the other local authorities through the Transition Board and the decision was taken that going forward each authority will procure a new service.

Wokingham Borough Council are now free to fully review delivery of services for children and young people and gives us the opportunity to integrate children's and young people's health services in line with the Early Help Strategy with wider Children's Service and develop a more efficient, integrated and user-focussed service that is fit for the 21st Century Council.

In order to procure the new service we will be required to extend the existing contract by both a 6 and potential 12 month period, this will allow a longer period of time to fulfil the

longer terms vision of an Integrated 0-19yrs service, involving the Children's and Young people partnership and Children Services.

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)	£915,499.98 for 6 months Health Visiting and FNP £165,075 for 6 months school nursing	Yes	Revenue
Next Financial Year (Year 2)	£915,499.98 for 6 months Health Visiting and FNP £165,075 for 6 months school nursing	Yes	Revenue
Following Financial Year (Year 3)	0	0	0

Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision

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.

Cross-Council Implications

None specific to the extension.

List of Background Papers

None

Contact Darrell Gale	Service Public Health
Telephone No 0118 974 8293	Email Darrell.gale@wokingham.gov.uk
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