

\*Part 1 – Open to the public

ITEM NO.

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REPORT OF  
Director of Public Health  
TO  
Procurement Board  
ON  
3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019

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TITLE: Approval for an Extension of Contract for Sexual and Reproductive Health Service Salford and Bolton

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RECOMMENDATION:

That the Procurement Board:

- (1) Approve the extension of Contract for Sexual and Reproductive Health Service Salford and Bolton as detailed in the table below:

Detail required			
<b>Contract Reference</b>	Sexual and Reproductive Health Service		
<b>Title/Description of Contracted Service/Supply/Project</b>	Bolton NHS Foundation Trust		
<b>Name of Contractor</b>	654913421		
<b>Type of organisation</b> <i>(to be supplied by Corporate Procurement)</i>	Choose an item.		
<b>Status of Organisation</b> <i>(to be supplied by Corporate Procurement)</i>	Non-SME		
<b>Value of Contract Extension</b>	£3,239,391 (£1,750,000 from Salford)	Per Annum (estimated average)	
<b>Existing Contract Term</b>	01/07/2016	to	30/06/2019
<b>Extension Period Requested</b>	01/07/2019	to	30/06/2021
<b>Contact Officer (Name &amp; number)</b>	Kate Shethwood (0161 793 3537)		
<b>Lead Service Group</b>	Public Health		
<b>Funding Source</b>	Combination of Above (please detail below)		

Salford Council contribution is held in the Adults Integrated Pooled Fund (previously Public Health Grant)  
Bolton Council also contribute

(2) Note that prior to the end of the period of time covered by the exception as indicated in (1) above, the Strategic Director will determine whether the service is to be decommissioned or, in consultation with the Corporate Procurement Team, will agree to undertake a compliant procurement process to re-let the contract by the end of the exception period.

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#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to seek request an extension to contract for the provision of sexual and reproductive health services

There is provision within the current contract to extend the agreement for a further period from 01/07/2019 to 30/06/2021

Bolton Council have requested a variation to the contract to reflect changes to their specification. No variation is proposed for provision in Salford but service development proposals have been developed with the provider and partners for the extension period.

#### BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

Procurement Board: **Request for Approval for Award of Public Health contract for the Sexual and Reproductive Health Service Salford and Bolton.** 17/02/2016 – Approved.

Extension and Sexual Health Improvement Briefings:

Service and Finance Group – 20<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Lead Member Briefing – Adults, Health and Wellbeing – 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019 – Approved.

Leadership Meeting – Children’s – 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Lead Member Briefing – Children’s – 14<sup>th</sup> March 2019

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#### KEY DECISION:

\*Yes

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## DETAILS:

### 1. Background:

1.1 Following the Health and Social Care Act 2012, the Local Authority adopted a mandated responsibility for the commissioning of some of the sexual health services for our residents. These services are commissioned at a local level to meet the needs of the local population, including:

- sexually transmitted infections (STI) testing and treatment including Chlamydia screening and HIV testing;
- comprehensive sexual health services which provide contraceptive services and prescribing costs, excluding GP additionally-provided contraception;
- specialist services, including young people's sexual health, teenage pregnancy services, outreach, HIV prevention, sexual health promotion, services in schools, college and pharmacies.

1.2 The provider provides:

- Detection and treatment of STIs and HIV and promotion of sexual health and STI prevention, including chlamydia screening in young people. Timely detection and treatment is key to reduce spread and potential outbreaks
- Reduce late diagnosis of HIV and encourage routine testing
- Reduce unintended conceptions (adults and young people) through prescribing and promotion of contraception
- Outreach to sex-on-premises venues
- Educational outreach, group and 1:1 support in young people's settings and professional training provision
- Tier 3 'hub' located at Goodman Centre / Lanceburn Health Centre
- Community clinics located across Salford (x5)

1.3 Salford contribute £1,750,000 per annum to this contract, and Bolton Council previously contributed £1,600,000 per annum. The difference in investment from the two local authorities was because Salford commissioned a specialist young person's sexual health service within this contract, whereas Bolton service is purely adult provision. Furthermore this difference in investment is also due to differing levels of need for sexual health services which results in different levels of attendances at these services. A review of historical activity levels formed part of the service design.

1.4 It should be noted that £500,000 was removed from the sexual health budget during the redesign that formed the current contract, including over £200,000 from this area of provision.

### 2 Procurement

2.1 Bolton Council, as a prerequisite of their partnership, requested that the procurement exercise was carried out as an open tender. Although Salford would have preferred to procure this using the Salford Public Health Services Framework (thereby reducing the procurement process and the number of potential tender submissions), the advantages of collaborating with Bolton Council in this tender outweighed the benefits of using the framework.

2.2 An open tender exercise was undertaken with expressions of interest invited through the Official Journal of the European Union and advertised on The Chest on 14th October 2015.

- 2.3 The tender exercise was managed through 'The Chest' portal with all the relevant documentation uploaded on to the system for organisations to access. The documentation included the service specification and qualification questionnaire for completion and submission by tenderers.
- 2.4 Tenderers were permitted to seek clarification of the specification and the questions asked of them through The Chest ahead of submitting their bids in 4<sup>th</sup> December 2015.
- 2.5 Salford City Council received a total of two bids for the tender which were evaluated by a panel consisting of sexual health commissioners and public health consultants from Salford City Council and Bolton Council along with consultants with backgrounds in sexual and reproductive health and genitourinary medicine.

### **3 Variation:**

- 3.1 Bolton Council propose a variation agreed with the provider. Bolton Council will now contribute £1,489,391 resulting in a total contract value of £3,329,391
- 3.2 The change in Bolton Council's contribution is due to closure of three community clinics and reduced access at the specialist hub and a move to online only sexual health testing. All efficiency options were considered locally but were not felt to be acceptable to the public, likely to increase inequalities and to be not cost-effective as they would be likely to have a negative impact on outcomes, with associated costs to the system in future.

### **4 Performance and Service Development:**

- 4.1 This provider is considered to perform well, with any issue addressed appropriately. The services are well utilised and maintain standards for appointment access:
  - Average 1500 adult patients per month (18,000 per year) plus additional 1400 annual under 19 attendances.
  - 100% of urgent patients offered 48 hour appointment.
  - 99.9% of other patients offered appointment within 2 weeks.
  - 84% of booked appointments seen within 30 minutes; 92% of walk-ins seen within 90 minutes.
- 4.2 The young people's service delivers 1:1 and group education and outreach in young people's settings. In Q3 18/19 alone 51 sessions were delivered reaching 924 young people in a broad range of settings, not limited to schools and colleges. This is an area for proposed development in the extension period and the provider is developing proposals with Youth Services, Vulnerable Young People's Nursing Teams and School Nursing. Professional training sessions have also been delivered to staff from a variety of services in Salford with good feedback.
- 4.3 Since contract awarded the service has implemented a number of service improvements: online booking, full STI screen postal testing kit pilot, open walk-in access for young people, opt-out scheme for HIV testing (as part of STI screen), HPV Vaccination for MSM. The service has been recognised as leaders in PrEP trial recruitment (HIV prevention). The provider is a key partner to broad sexual health improvement proposals.

4.4 As such, this extension period is sought to allow system developments to be made across Salford and Bolton, in line with other sexual health contracts locally and in Greater Manchester. This will allow further embedding of the services, testing what works and will support Greater Manchester-wide review of need and service requirements being led by the Health and Social Care Partnership, with support from Sexual Health Commissioners, DPHs and the formal partners to the Partnership, with a view to re-commissioning in 2 years across all sexual health provision.

## **5 Social Value:**

5.1 The tender process had a strong focus on a social value approach to the delivery of future services; social value had a weighting of 10% of the overall score tender submission score. Bolton NHS Foundation Trust demonstrated a good understanding of social value and provided practical examples of how they have and will provide this for Salford.

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### **KEY COUNCIL POLICIES:**

Procurement policies.

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### **EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND IMPLICATIONS:**

Equality and Diversity are taken into account during the tendering process.

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### **ASSESSMENT OF RISK:**

Medium – these are mandated services to help people prevent, identify and treat sexually transmitted infections, improve sexual health and wellbeing, manage conditions and adhere to treatment, avoid unwanted pregnancy and promote safe and positive sex and relationships. Not extending these contracts would affect on the ground delivery of prevention, care and support including testing and prescribing in clinics.

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### **SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

Integrated Adults Pooled Fund (Public Health Budget)

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**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:** Submitted by: Tony Hatton, Principal Solicitor, tel. 219 6323

When commissioning contracts for the provision of goods, services or the execution of works, the Council must comply with the provisions of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (the Regs) and its own Contractual Standing Orders (CSO's) as set out in the Constitution, failing which the award of a contract may be subject to legal challenge.

It is an established principle that an existing public contract is capable of being extended (or modified providing any modification does not affect the overall nature of the contract), and CSO's also allow for contract extensions to be made, where the parties agree and where the original contract makes provision for such an extension of the original term. In view of the value of the extension exceeding £150,000, the approval should be made by Procurement Board.

When the contract was originally put out to tender by way of a fully compliant open OJEU process, and subsequently awarded to the Bolton NHS Foundation Trust, it was made clear in the documentation that the original term would be subject to a potential extension, hence any risk that the proposed extension would be subject to realistic challenge by an aggrieved provider, on the basis that it ought to have been put out to tender and advertised in accordance with public contract regulations and CSO's, is extremely low, and the option to extend within the contract is now being properly exercised.

Once approved the extension will commit the Council to the period outlined in the report.

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**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:** Submitted by: Michelle Cowley, Finance Manager, Tel: 0161 778 2520

This report requests approval to extend the contract for the Sexual and Reproductive Health Service to Bolton NHS Foundation Trust. The contract extension is for 2 years from 1st July 2019, and has an annual value of £1,750K for Salford, funded through the Adults Integrated Pooled Fund (previously Public Health Grant). Future allocations have not yet been confirmed and the award of this contract should allow for potential changes in funding to be managed effectively.

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**PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS:** Submitted by: Christopher Conway, Procurement Category Manager, tel. 0161 686 6248

Procurement are happy to approve the recommendation to take up the option to extend the current contract for an additional 24 months for period 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> June 2021 as the current contract has the option to take up the additional extension option requested.

Initial discussions have been held with Kate Shethwood from Public Health with regards to Salford Procurement undertaking a Financial/contractual review with Bolton Foundation Trust and aims to undertake this between April to June 2019.

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**OTHER DIRECTORATES CONSULTED:**

Adults, Health and Wellbeing

Children's Services

CCG Service and Finance Group and ICJC

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CONTACT OFFICER: Kate Shethwood

TEL. NO. 0161 793 3537

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WARD(S) TO WHICH REPORT RELATE(S):

All

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