

Report Title:	Commissioning of Sexual Health Services
Contains Confidential or Exempt Information?	NO
Member reporting:	Cllr Stuart Carroll, Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health
Meeting and Date:	Cabinet, 31 January 2019
Responsible Officer(s):	Hilary Hall, Deputy Director Strategy and Commissioning and Tessa Lindfield, Strategic Director of Public Health
Wards affected:	All

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REPORT SUMMARY

1. The Royal Borough, as part of its public health duties, is mandated to provide open access sexual and reproductive health services for local residents.
2. Following a sexual health needs assessment, a service specification for an integrated sexual and reproductive health service across the three East Berkshire authorities was developed to improve access to services. This approach will deliver the services in the most cost-effective way, delivering on quality and efficiency across the health economy in the Royal Borough.
3. Following a joint competitive tendering process involving the Royal Borough, Bracknell Forest Council and Slough Borough Council, approval is sought to award the contract to Bidder 1.

1. DETAILS OF RECOMMENDATION(S)

RECOMMENDATION: That Cabinet notes the report and:

- i) **Approves the award of contract for the provision of an integrated sexual and reproductive health service to Bidder 1 over three years from 1 July 2019, at a total cost of £5,604,851 for three years across the three local authorities in East Berkshire.**
- ii) **Delegates authority to the Deputy Director Strategy and Commissioning, in consultation with the Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health, to finalise the details of the contract award in relation to the Royal Borough.**

2. REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S) AND OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 The Royal Borough, as part of its public health statutory duties, is mandated to provide open access sexual and reproductive health services for local residents. A sexual health needs assessment was carried out in order to ensure that the services to be procured would be responsive to current needs and flexible enough to adapt to changing needs. In order to secure greater cost efficiencies, a joint procurement exercise has been undertaken with Bracknell Forest Council and Slough Borough Council. The procurement was

subject to the "Light Touch Regime"; the opportunity was advertised in OJEU and on the South East Business Portal and Contracts Finder in June 2018.

- 2.2 The deadline for tenders was Monday 2nd August 2018. Six organisations expressed an interest and two tenders were received. Tenders were assessed by the tender evaluation team against an agreed evaluation criteria, which had been approved as part of the procurement plan, with a price:quality weighting of 60:40.
- 2.3 The new service will increase access to online testing, which is expected to reduce the number of residents accessing services outside of Berkshire and thus reduce costs. Increasing use of online testing could increase demand for testing and treatment initially, as residents can easily order tests to be sent to their home address.
- 2.4 Although the new service specification expects the provider to offer a range of contraception choices, it is made clear that repeat provision of routine oral contraception and injections should be carried out within GP practices, rather than through this provider.
- 2.5 The tender was based on a block price for all three authorities, as in the current contract. The cost of the contract is split between the three authorities according to the percentage of attendances made by their residents. Based on current attendances, the Royal Borough's share of activity is 29.7% which would equate to an annual cost of between £551,000 and £557,000 over the next three years which is within the current budget.

Options

Table 1: Options arising from this report

Option	Comments
Award the contract for three years from 1 July 2019 to Bidder 1. This is the recommended option	The costs submitted by the provider represent the best value for money and offer high quality services for local residents which will ensure that the Royal Borough meets its statutory duty to provide open access sexual health services.
Not award the contract Not recommended	Not awarding the contract will leave the Royal Borough open to legal challenge for not meeting its statutory duties.

3. KEY IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The key implications are set out in table 2.

Table 2: Key Implications

Outcome	Unmet	Met	Exceeded	Significantly Exceeded	Date of delivery
Local residents access	Less than 90%	90-95%	95-100%	N/A	30 June 2022

Outcome	Unmet	Met	Exceeded	Significantly Exceeded	Date of delivery
sexual and reproductive health services on line or in the borough.					

4. FINANCIAL DETAILS / VALUE FOR MONEY

- 4.1 The tender is based on a block price for all three East Berkshire authorities. Costs are split between the three according to the percentage of attendances made by their residents. The Royal Borough's current rate of activity is 29.7% and based on this rate, the likely cost to the Royal Borough each year for the three years is between £551,000 and £557,000.
- 4.2 As these figures are within the budget of the public health grant, there are no financial implications of approving the new contract.
- 4.3 The tendered price for the block and likely annual cost based on expected activity is set out in table 3.

Table 3: Financial Impact of report's recommendations

REVENUE COSTS	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Additional total	£0	£0	£0
Reduction	£0	£0	£0
Total contract value	£1,873,946	£1,855,276	£1,875,629
Net Impact for the Royal Borough*	£557,000	£551,000	£557,000

* based on 29.7% activity

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and the Local Authorities (Public Health Functions and Entry to Premises by Local Healthwatch Representatives) Regulation 2013, the council is mandated to provide open access services to local residents for the provision of contraception and treatment of sexually transmitted infections. Awarding the joint contract will enable the council to meet its statutory obligations in the most cost effective way.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 6.1 The potential risks and proposed controls are set out in table 4.

Table 4: Impact of risk and mitigation

Risks	Uncontrolled Risk	Controls	Controlled Risk
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Risks	Uncontrolled Risk	Controls	Controlled Risk
More people will wish to access the online services than have attended face to face services.	High	Constant monitoring of the contract and monthly data releases.	Low
Demand for long acting reversible contraception (LARC) will continue to increase	High	The Royal Borough continues to commission GPs to provide LARC.	Low
Out of area costs (residents accessing sexual health services in other local authority areas) will continue to increase.	High	Provision of online testing will enable Royal Borough residents to access sexually transmitted infection testing without going out of area. Continued review of out of area invoices to ensure payment methods are demonstrating value for money.	Low

7. POTENTIAL IMPACTS

- 7.1 There are no staffing implications of the proposed award as Bidder 1 is the existing provider and TUPE will, therefore, not apply.
- 7.2 An Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed and is available on the council's [website](#).
- 7.3 A Privacy Impact Assessment has been completed and is available on the council's [website](#).

8. CONSULTATION

- 8.1 The report will be considered by the Adults Services and Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 30 January 2019 and their comments will be reported to Cabinet.

9. TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

- 9.1 Implementation date if not called in: Immediately. The full implementation dates are set out in table 5.

Table 5: Implementation timetable

Date	Details
February to June 2019	Negotiations with provider and set up of new contract.
1 July 2019	Implementation of new contract

10. APPENDICES

10.1 This report has no appendices:

11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

11.1 This report is supported by two background documents:

- Equalities Impact Assessment.
- Privacy Impact Assessment.

12. CONSULTATION (MANDATORY)

Name of consultee	Post held	Date sent	Date returned
Cllr Stuart Carroll	Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health	28/12/18	04/01/19
Russell O'Keefe	Acting Managing Director	28/12/18	28/12/18
Rob Stubbs	Section 151 Officer	28/12/18	01/01/19
Elaine Browne	Interim Head of Law and Governance	28/12/18	28/12/18
Nikki Craig	Head of HR and Corporate Projects	28/12/18	28/12/18
Louisa Dean	Communications	28/12/18	10/01/19
Andy Jeffs	Executive Director	28/12/18	03/01/19
Kevin McDaniel	Director of Children's Services	28/12/18	31/12/18
Angela Morris	Director of Adult Social Services	28/12/18	01/01/19

REPORT HISTORY

Decision type:	Urgency item?	To Follow item?
Key decision: 14 November 2018	No	No
Report Author: Siân Smith, Service Lead Public Health Contracts and Commissioning, 01628 685815		