

MINUTES OF CABINET MEMBER SIGNING MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 14TH NOVEMBER, 2022, 1.30 - 1.55 PM

PRESENT: Councillor Lucia das Neves, Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care, and Wellbeing.

In attendance: Sarah Hart, Senior Commissioner, and Fiona Rae, Acting Committees Manager.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF CONTRACT EXTENSION OF THE CONTRACT TO HUMANKIND FOR INTEGRATED ADULT SUBSTANCE MISUSE SERVICES - LOT 3 DRUG AND ALCOHOL RECOVERY SERVICE

The Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care, and Wellbeing considered the report which requested approval from the Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care, and Wellbeing for an extension of contract with Humankind for Integrated adult substance misuse services - lot 3 drug and alcohol recovery service.

The Cabinet Member enquired about the outcomes of the contract. The Senior Commissioner noted that the purpose of the Haringey Recovery Service (HRS) was to ensure that, in addition to the clinical services delivered by the drug and alcohol service, that treatment included a strong element of recovery. It provided services which included relapse prevention, counselling, employment support, and peer support. During the pandemic the service was severely disrupted but remained open, moving rapidly to a combination of face to face and virtual services. Despite disruption in 2021/22, the HRS still provided 640 residents with recovery interventions against a target of 750. In 2022/23, the service was on course to reach set targets which included 1,000 residents active in recovery services, 168 counselling sessions, and 750 residents receiving recovery one to one support. Residents and their workers self-accessed success of the service at exit; so far this year, 90% reported improvement in health, psychological wellbeing, and quality of life. Surprisingly for a substance misuse service, over 50% of those using the service were women; this was likely due to the program having women only groups and a whole family approach. Diversity in the service reflected Haringey's community: white other, Black African and Caribbean groups were well represented and HRS always had a Polish worker or volunteer. Data also demonstrated that the service had been used by people with a number of disabilities, including those with a hearing impairment, learning disability, and mobility

impairment. The age span was 18 years to 81 years and the majority were aged between 40-60 years.

The Cabinet Member also asked about the performance of the contract. The Senior Commissioner noted that this service was part of a treatment system within the borough which was measured nationally on successful completion. Haringey performed in line with national and London averages in terms of successful outcomes. In 2019-2020, 329 residents left treatment successfully; in 2021-2022 to date, this was 281. Successful treatment meant abstinence in terms of Class A drugs and reliability improved/ safe limits for alcohol and cannabis and not re-presenting to treatment within six months.

The Senior Commissioner explained that HRS worked with people still in treatment. In terms of reducing harm, it was noted that being in treatment was proven to be protective and that leaving or abstaining was not necessarily beneficial or sustainable. It was highlighted that substance misuse was known to be a relapsing condition and that, importantly, people could always return to the service and there were no barriers to re-entry.

It was also noted that changing or re-tendering this contract would not be recommended unless there were issues with the contract or performance because this client group benefitted from consistency of locations, times, relationships, and services. It was added that the service users who had been involved with the original tender were still present and were now Strategic Co-Producers.

The Cabinet Member RESOLVED

1. In accordance with Contract Standing Order (CSO) 16.02 and 10.02.1 (b), to agree to extend the contract with Humankind for an Integrated Adult Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery service; lot 3, for a period of two years from 1st February 2023 to 31st January 2025.
2. To note that the value of the extension over 2 years is £1,025,582.78 or £512,791.39pa.
3. To note that the total value of the contract from inception to January 2025 is £3,039,349.

Reasons for decision

Following an open tender process in October 2018, Cabinet awarded a contract to CDP Blenheim (who became Humankind Charity), for Integrated Adult Substance Misuse treatment and recovery services.

The award was for a period of four years with an option to extend for 2 years and a further period of 2 years total value £4,064,932.67 (for 8 years). The initial term of the contract expires on 31st January 2023.

The contract is performing satisfactorily, and it would not be in the Council or residents' interest to go out to the market at this stage for a new provider.

Alternative options considered

The Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care, and Wellbeing could decide that the main Humankind contract should not be extended, as the existing service is delivering well, going through the disruption of a tender process is not in the interests of residents.

CABINET MEMBER: Cllr das Neves

Signed by Cabinet Member

Date ...17 November 2022.....