

MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEMBER SIGNING MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 2023, 12:30PM – 1:00PM.

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

ALSO ATTENDING: Rebecca Cribb, Commissioning Officer Adult Social Services, Olga Sevcenco, Business Support Officer, Jon Tomlinson, Snr Head of Brokerage and QA Adult Social Services and Bhavya Nair, Principal Committee Co-Ordinator.

1. FILMING AT MEETINGS

The Chair referred to the notice of filming at meetings and this information was noted.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

3. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5. DEPUTATIONS / PETITIONS / PRESENTATIONS / QUESTIONS

There were no deputations / petitions / presentations / questions.

6. RECTIFICATION TO AN ADMINISTRATIVE ERROR TO THE REPORT (APPROVED BY THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH, SOCIAL CARE AND WELLBEING ON 15 SEPTEMBER 2022) IN RESPECT OF THE GRANT FUNDING FOR SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING FOR SUBSTANCE MISUSE TREATMENT AND RECOVERY AND CONTRACT EXTENSION AND VARIATION OF THE CONTRACT TO HUMANKIND CHARITY

This report sought approval for a rectification to an administrative error to the report (approved by The Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care and Wellbeing on 15 September 2022) in respect of the grant funding for supplemental funding for Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery and Contract Extension and Variation of the Contract to Humankind Charity.

The Cabinet Member requested for an update around how further financial errors could be prevented from reoccurring in the future and to also have discussions around how finances could be aligned.

The Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care, and Wellbeing RESOLVED

1. For The Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care and Wellbeing to approve the correction of an administrative error of the value of £20,000 to section 3.4 (Contract extension to Humankind Charity) of The Cabinet Member Report from 15th September 2022 of the figure £1,779,814.56 rectified to £1,799,814.56. Figures in the earlier report were incorrect due to an administrative error.
2. To rectify section 3.2 and to note that the cost of variation is £918,332 in addition to the value of extension £1,799,814.56. Therefore, the overall total value of the contract including the extension is £2,718,146.56.

Reasons for decision.

Rectification to an administrative error to the Cabinet report from 15th September 2022, section 3.2 and 3.4.

Alternative options considered.

Not applicable

7. VARIATION TO EXTEND THE CONTRACT FOR THE PROVISION OF A HEALTHWATCH HARINGEY SERVICE

This report sought approval of Acceptance of Grant Funding for the Supplemental Funding for Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery and Contract Extension and Variation of the Contract to Humankind Charity.

The Cabinet Member sought clarification on how this project was funded. The officer confirmed this project was fully funded by Community Grant.

The Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care, and Wellbeing RESOLVED

- 1.To approve the receipt of the Office for Improvement and Disparities (OHID) grant 'Supplemental funding for substance misuse treatment and recovery' for the year 2023/24 and 2024/25 in accordance with Contract Standing Orders (CSO) 16.02 and 17.01 The value for the indicative grant will be £1,303,160 for 2023/24 and £2,515,389 in 2024/25.
- 2.In accordance with Contract Standing Orders 16.02 and 10.02 .1 (b), to agree the use some of the grant monies (as outlined in this report) to vary the existing contract with Humankind Charity for Integrated adult substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery services lot two from 1st April 2022 until 31st January 2025 a period of or 31 months) at a total value of £918,332.
- 3.To include the Supplemental grant, financial year 2022/23 £283,290 and subject to OHID agreement 2023/24 £346,387 and 2024/25 £288,655.

4. In accordance with CSO 16.02 and 10.02.1 (b), to agree contract extension of the Humankind contract for Integrated Adult Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery services: lot two, for two years from 1st February 2023 until 31st January 2025, such extension to include the variation referred to in para 2.2 above. Total value of extension £1,779,814.56.

5. To delegate authority to the Director of Public Health to approve a further extension in the total value of £57,731 for a further period of 2 months from 1 February 2025 to 31 March 2025.

Reasons for decision.

Accepting the grant would reduce the impact of drugs and alcohol misuse on adults, families, and the community were a cross cutting Council priority. The Council therefore welcomed a significant uplift in funding for substance misuse treatment. The public health team along with providers and service users have designed the services that this grant will be used for.

Preferred providers - Humankind was an existing provider of Haringey substance misuse services, having successfully bid in an open tender process for the Alcohol service, Young People's service, Recovery services and as a sub-contractor of the criminal justice elements of the Drug service. It had partnered with the Council in several successful bids. It was strongly invested in building a better future for Haringey residents with substance misuse issues. Humankind was one of 4 providers receiving funding from this grant, others included two resident peer led organisation and our NHS substance misuse provider.

There would be continuation elements within the Supplementary Contracts – services within the 2022/23 Supplementary grant were not new, they were contracted within the one-year Universal grant 2021/22 and delivered by Humankind. Before awarding the Universal contract to Humankind, steps were taken to ensure that Humankind would deliver the universal services well. Humankind was a partner, with other agencies, commissioners, and services users in the successful bid for the universal grant. Humankind was still the right organisation to deliver these services well, for it has delivered the Universal contract in line with key performance indicators, overseen by Public Health commissioner's reporting into a steering group.

Projects within the new Supplementary grant were continuations of the Universal grant, there would not be a break in service. Humankind had already recruited into posts, established delivery, and successfully met outcomes. For these services, Humankind was the only viable provider.

New elements – Humankind's Haringey workforce were a major asset, for it was their relationship with clients that made Haringey's treatment system successful. In 2021, with agreement from the Council, Humankind conducted a pay review. All staff were paid London Living Wage, however for many years they have not had pay increases in line with inflation. Providers have needed to keep costs low to be competitive in tenders. Also, we wanted to keep our staff in Haringey, so agreed to benchmark salaries with other competitor services in other local authorities. A pay award had been agreed between the Council and Humankind.

Back dating – requested for the decision maker to agree that the funding to Humankind Charity in respect of the contract variation would be backdated to April 2022. The reason for this was that Haringey’s bid for 2022/23 Supplemental grant included pay increases to staff from April 2022. This was accepted by OHID, but not in time for the funding to be applied from April 2022

Variation of the main contract for Adult Substance Misuse treatment and recovery services, was permitted by Contract Standing Orders.

Extension of main contact - After 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 £7,170,567.54 (for 8 years). This initial term of the contract expired on 31st January 2023. The contract was 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.

- 1.The Cabinet Member could refuse to receive the grant. However, as there was a clear need for this work and strong support to tackle the impact of substance misuse on the community, this option has not been considered.
- 2.The Cabinet Member could choose not to award the grant to Humankind and go to market for the Supplemental projects; however, it was agreed that Humankind was the only viable provider and as co-designers of the bid and existing providers, best placed to ensure services were delivered well.
- 3.The Cabinet Member could choose not to vary the existing contract, however setting up a separate contract would create duplication and avoidable administration costs.
- 4.The Cabinet Member could decide not to allow backdating of the contract, however, the pay award had been agreed by OHID to be paid from 1st April, so it was included within the grant.
5. The Cabinet Member could decide that the main Humankind contract should not be extended, as the existing service was delivering well, going through the disruption of a tender process was not in the interests of residents.

8. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

There were no new items of urgent business.

CABINET MEMBER: Councillor Lucia das Neves

Signed by the Cabinet Member

Date