

The Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care and Wellbeing considered the attached report, which sought approval for the acceptance of external funding of £200,000 from Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) for Workplace Cardiovascular NHS Health Checks pilot.

In order to successfully deliver the programme, an approval to vary the existing contract for the provision of NHS Health Checks delivered by Haringey GP Group Limited trading as Haringey GP Federation to provide workplace Cardiovascular NHS Health Check pilot was recommended.

In response to questions from the Cabinet Member, the following information was provided:

- Given the clear objectives set out for delivery in the next 12 months for the expenditure of this grant funding for NHS health checks from the Department of Health, there was not the option to go out to a tender process. The most efficient way to access this funding as soon as possible and deliver this service was to vary the contract with the GP Federation.
- The Haringey GP Federation were already providing this service and this additional funding allowed a consolidation of resources.
- The variation of the contract also allowed the federation to continue to build and consolidate capacity for this service.
- The Council were only one of six councils in London to be successful in obtaining this funding.

The Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care and Well-being,

## **RESOLVED**

1. To grant approval to accept external funding estimated to be £200,000 for Workplace NHS Health Checks pilot in accordance with Contract Standing Order (CSO) 17.1; and
2. To vary the existing contract for the provision of NHS Health Checks delivered by Haringey GP Group Ltd t/a Haringey GP Federation to provide workplace Cardiovascular NHS Health Check pilot with a target start date in July/August 2024 for a period of 9 to 12 months at the maximum cost of £200,000 (exclusive of VAT). The proposed variation is allowed under CSO 10.02 and CSO 16.2. The total contract value for the duration of the existing contract is

£495,080. The aggregated total value of the contract will be a maximum of £695,080 including the above proposed variation.

### **Reasons for decision**

Accepting this external funding will help the council to upscale its current outreach NHS Health Checks with target to workplaces for eligible population for NHS Health Checks and/or those outside of the 40 to 74 year old age range including workers from out of the area as specified in the grant specification. This model also open opportunities to engage with eligible population but less likely to take it up (e.g. men and younger age groups). Furthermore, the checks involve Mini cardiovascular disease (CVD) checks for some individuals who may not be ready to engage with a full NHS Health Checks.

The NHS Health Checks will spot the early signs of cardiovascular disease, (which is the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest cause of mortality after cancer in Haringey), such as heart disease and provide people with the information they need to reduce their risk of having a heart attack, stroke or developing diabetes. This workplace project would also contribute to a reduction in sickness absence and worklessness, associated costs of staff turnover, loss of skill base, downtime, recruitment and re-training.

### **Variation to the current NHSHC contract is a viable option:**

The confirmed funding is expected to be spent on Workplace Cardiovascular NHS Health Checks within very short timeframe (e.g. by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025). Due to such a tight deadline, a procurement process is not appropriate and will not be a realistic alternative. Furthermore, this potential contract opportunity is unlikely to be of interest to other suppliers as it's a one-off project for a very short period and has clinical requirements which would be a challenge for most potential bidders.

Recently, the Public Health Team conducted an open and competitive tender for the Integrated Lifestyle Change Programme, known as One You Haringey (OYH) which involves NHS Health Checks as one of its service components. Following a robust evaluation process, the contract was awarded to Haringey GP Federation. Furthermore, Haringey GP Federation has been successfully providing another NHS Health Checks contract since 2023 and Public Health is of the view that they will be able to satisfy the requirements of the proposed variation. Therefore, the variation of the current NHS Health Checks contract with the GP Federation is a viable option for various reasons including avoiding duplication, helping to consolidate resources, service integration, and collaboration.

The public health team has discussed the opportunity with Haringey GP Federation, and they expressed their interest, provided their financial model along with key deliverables and targets that they can achieve. They have showed full confidence that they will meet the requirements required through this contract variation and able to engage individuals in workplaces and deliver increased number of NHS Health Checks as well as Mini CVD Checks.

### **Alternative options considered**

The Council could decide not to accept the grant. As such the council will lose the opportunity to provide NHS Health Checks or Mini CVD checks for Haringey workforce in their workplaces which provides them an opportunity to have checks on their CVD risk factors particularly those economically disadvantaged groups (by targeting the service in those workplaces with employees who are likely in low paid jobs) and those outside eligible population. Therefore, it is in the Council's interest to accept the funding in order to deliver the service against the commitments set out in the Council Corporate Delivery Plan 2022/23 and 2023/24.

Going to tender or not to vary the existing contract – going to tender would not be a viable option due to limited time available as well as not be able to attract good market due limited period of funding as well as the need for clinical requirements which would be a challenge to meet requirements. Also, setting up a separate contract would create duplication and avoidable administrative costs as well as losing the benefits from service integration, improving access, reducing health inequalities and facilitating choice and achieving greater value for money.

**Report for:** Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care, and Wellbeing

**Title:** Request to grant permission to accept funding from Department of Health and Social Care and vary the contract for the provision of NHS Health Checks to deliver workforce NHS Health Checks pilot.

**Report authorised by:** Susan Oti, Assistant Director of Public Health

**Lead Officer:** Bezuayehu Gubay, Public Health Strategist and Commissioner, [bezuayehu.gubay@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:bezuayehu.gubay@haringey.gov.uk)

**Ward(s) affected:** All

**Report for Key/Non-Key Decision:** Key Decision

**3. Describe the issue under consideration**

- 3.1. This report seeks approval for the acceptance of external funding of £200,000 from Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) for Workplace Cardiovascular NHS Health Checks pilot.
- 3.2. In order to successfully deliver the programme, this report request an approval to vary the existing contract for the provision of NHS Health Checks delivered by Haringey GP Group Limited trading as Haringey GP Federation to provide workplace Cardiovascular NHS Health Check pilot.

**4. Cabinet Member Introduction**

- 4.1. Not applicable.

**5. Recommendations**

- 5.1. For the Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care and Well-being:
- 5.1.1. To grant approval to accept external funding estimated to be £200,000 for Workplace NHS Health Checks pilot in accordance with Contract Standing Order (CSO) 17.1; and
- 5.1.2. To vary the existing contract for the provision of NHS Health Checks delivered by Haringey GP Group Ltd t/a Haringey GP Federation to provide workplace Cardiovascular NHS Health Check pilot with a target start date in July/August 2024 for a period of 9 to 12 months at the maximum cost of £200,000 (exclusive of VAT). The proposed variation is allowed under CSO 10.02 and CSO 16.2. The total contract value for the duration of the existing contract is £495,080. The aggregated total value of the contract will be a maximum of £695,080 including the above proposed variation.

**6. Reasons for decision**

- 6.1. Accepting this external funding will help the council to upscale its current outreach NHS Health Checks with target to workplaces for eligible population

for NHS Health Checks and/or those outside of the 40 to 74 year old age range including workers from out of the area as specified in the grant specification. This model also open opportunities to engage with eligible population but less likely to take it up (e.g. men and younger age groups). Furthermore, the checks involve Mini cardiovascular disease (CVD) checks for some individuals who may not be ready to engage with a full NHS Health Checks.

- 6.2. The NHS Health Checks will spot the early signs of cardiovascular disease, (which is the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest cause of mortality after cancer in Haringey), such as heart disease and provide people with the information they need to reduce their risk of having a heart attack, stroke or developing diabetes. This workplace project would also contribute to a reduction in sickness absence and worklessness, associated costs of staff turnover, loss of skill base, downtime, recruitment and re-training.

#### **Variation to the current NHSHC contract is a viable option:**

- 6.3. The confirmed funding is expected to be spent on Workplace Cardiovascular NHS Health Checks within very short timeframe (e.g. by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025). Due to such a tight deadline, a procurement process is not appropriate and will not be a realistic alternative. Furthermore, this potential contract opportunity is unlikely to be of interest to other suppliers as it's a one-off project for a very short period and has clinical requirements which would be a challenge for most potential bidders.
- 6.4. Recently, the Public Health Team conducted an open and competitive tender for the Integrated Lifestyle Change Programme, known as One You Haringey (OYH) which involves NHS Health Checks as one of its service components. Following a robust evaluation process, the contract was awarded to Haringey GP Federation. Furthermore, Haringey GP Federation has been successfully providing another NHS Health Checks contract since 2023 and Public Health is of the view that they will be able to satisfy the requirements of the proposed variation. Therefore, the variation of the current NHS Health Checks contract with the GP Federation is a viable option for various reasons including avoiding duplication, helping to consolidate resources, service integration, and collaboration.
- 6.5. The public health team has discussed the opportunity with Haringey GP Federation, and they expressed their interest, provided their financial model along with key deliverables and targets that they can achieve. They have showed full confidence that they will meet the requirements required through this contract variation and able to engage individuals in workplaces and deliver increased number of NHS Health Checks as well as Mini CVD Checks.

## **7. Alternative options considered**

- 7.1. The Council could decide not to accept the grant. As such the council will lose the opportunity to provide NHS Health Checks or Mini CVD checks for Haringey workforce in their workplaces which provides them an opportunity to

have checks on their CVD risk factors particularly those economically disadvantaged groups (by targeting the service in those workplaces with employees who are likely in low paid jobs) and those outside eligible population. Therefore, it is in the Council's interest to accept the funding in order to deliver the service against the commitments set out in the Council Corporate Delivery Plan 2022/23 and 2023/24.

- 7.2. Going to tender or not to vary the existing contract – going to tender would not be a viable option due to limited time available as well as not be able to attract good market due limited period of funding as well as the need for clinical requirements which would be a challenge to meet requirements. Also, setting up a separate contract would create duplication and avoidable administrative costs as well as losing the benefits from service integration, improving access, reducing health inequalities and facilitating choice and achieving greater value for money.

## **8. Background information**

- 8.1. Prevention is one of the foundations of the Council's public health programme to reduce health disparities in Haringey residents and those working in Haringey. Premature mortality and poor health disproportionately affect people lower down the socioeconomic scale. Our residents and staff continue to face significant health challenges.
- 8.2. For those living in deprived areas of London cardiovascular disease (CVD) is a leading cause of morbidity, disability, mortality and health inequalities. For example, in Haringey CVD remains the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest cause of mortality after cancer, and this is significantly higher than its statistical neighbours, London or England averages. CVD is also associated with a substantial cost to the health system and costs of sickness absence and worklessness associated with working age ill-health.
- 8.3. The NHS Health Checks role is to spot the early signs of cardiovascular disease (CVD) such as heart disease and provide people with the information and support they need to reduce their risk of having a heart attack, stroke or developing diabetes. The existing scheme is limited to provision of NHSHC to residents only as well as being only for people aged 40-74. This limits the opportunity to offer employers of a whole organisation and people aged under 40. So, we are pleased that Haringey council has been successful in securing funding from the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) to provide Workplace NHS Health Checks pilot in Haringey from a target start date in July/August 2024 for period of 9 to 12 months. The funding has created a realistic opportunity for the council to build on the experience the current outreach NHSHC delivery model but targeted to workplaces for eligible population for NHS Health Checks and/or those outside of the 40 to 74 year old age range including workers from out of the area. Furthermore, the grant also includes provision of a Mini CVD checks for some individuals who may not be ready to engage with a full NHSHC. This workplace checks would also be able to contribute to a reduction in sickness absence and worklessness, associated costs of staff turnover, loss of skill base, downtime, recruitment and re-training.

- 8.4. The provider is expected to forge strong partnerships with local employers and employees to ensure better identification of people with high risk factors for CVD and provision of the NHSHC and mini-CVD checks. These include but not limited to:
- Wholesale and retail trades
  - Accommodation and food services
  - Administrative and support services
  - Construction
  - Transport and storage (e.g., local bus garages)
  - Manufacturing (e.g., industrial states)
  - Local public or private offices (e.g., council offices, real estates)
- 8.5. The service by its nature provides support to people working in Haringey, targeting those with high risk factors to CVD. Therefore, it is likely to have a positive impact and promoting health equity in people working in Haringey. For example, the project contributes to the reduction of morbidity and premature death caused by CVD.
- 8.6. In May 2022, the Council had undertaken an open tender process to commission Public Health Commissioned General Practice Prevention Service, however insufficient tenders were received across all Lots including for the NHS health checks. Subsequently, in October 2022, the Council requested expressions of interest from the GPs who did not submit a tender, but once again there was a lack of response.
- 8.7. Given the lack of success in two previous procurement attempts and the new model being co-designed by the GP Federation, the Council considered that the GP Federation would be the most suitable to deliver the service and decided to award the contract for the provision of NHS Health Checks. The contract was awarded for an initial period of two (2) years, from 24<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at a cost of £123,770, with an option to extend for a further period(s) of up to six (6) years. The total aggregated value of current contract would be £495,080 for the maximum 8 years.
- 8.8. Haringey GP Federation has been providing NHS Health Checks contracts since 2023 and will likely satisfy the proposed variation to provide workplace health checks contract. The variation of the current NHS Health Checks contract with the GP Federation is a viable option for various reasons including avoiding duplication, helping to consolidate resources, service integration, and collaboration.
- 8.9. Furthermore, the public health team has discussed the opportunity with Haringey GP Federation, and they expressed their interest, provided their financial model along with key deliverables and targets that they can achieve. They have showed full confidence that they will meet the requirements required through this contract variation and able to engage individuals in workplaces and deliver increased number of NHS Health Checks as well as Mini CVD Checks.
- 8.10. Commissioners will continue to manage the contract and monitor the programme's Key Performance Indicators via monthly and quarterly

monitoring meetings, site visits, reports, as well as through independent reviews.

- 8.11. The DHSC has confirmed to the Council that the funding application for this grant has been successful. However, the DHSC has now paused further work on the workplace CVD checks programme due to the upcoming general election. Notwithstanding this, approval is now requested for the variation to avoid any undue delays with the programme. The progress on the variation will continue after the election once further confirmation is received from the DHSC.

## **9. Contribution to strategic outcomes**

- 9.1. The NHSHC contributes to the Council Corporate Delivery Plan 2022/23 and 2023/24, in particular, Theme 4: Adults, Health and Welfare under Healthy and Fulfilling Lives. The delivery plan speaks of a Haringey 'where all adults are able to live healthy and fulfilling lives, with dignity, staying active and connected in their communities'.

## **10. Carbon and Climate Change**

- 10.1. N/A

## **11. Statutory Officers comments (Director of Finance (procurement), Assistant Director of Legal and Governance, Equalities)**

### **11.1. Finance**

- 11.1.1. The council has been awarded a grant of £200,000 from Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) for Workplace Cardiovascular NHS Health Checks pilot, to be spent in 2024-25.
- 11.1.2. The report is seeking to vary the existing contract for the provision of NHS Health Checks, which is delivered by Haringey GP Group Ltd t/a Haringey GP Federation and funded through the Public Health Grant, to include workforce cardiovascular health check. The total value of the health checks contract is £495,080 across a six-year period. The 2024-25 budget for this service is £91,000 per annum, or £546,000 for the six-year period with the assumption that the current budget level remains.
- 11.1.3. The acceptance of the Workforce Cardiovascular NHS Health Check pilot grant of £200,000 and variation of the contract for this amount, to include workplace cardiovascular health checks, will have no impact on the council's general fund as it is fully grant funded. A variation of £200,000 in line with the grant award will bring the total contract value to £695,080.

### **11.2. Procurement**

- 11.2.1. The service is within scope of the Provider Selection Regime 2023. Which provides that contracts may be modified during term if the variation meets the requirements of Regulation 13 which states, inter alia that a modification made at the discretion of the Council which does not make the contract materially



different in character, nor the cumulative value of the modification exceed 500k, may be permitted.

11.2.2. The current contract with the Provider is to provide health checks and the additional requirement brought about by extra funding is for the same provision albeit for the workforce; there is no change of scope, and the value of the modification is under £500k it is therefore permissible under Regulation 13 of the Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023.

11.2.3. The request also complies with CSOs 17.1 (grant acceptance) 10.02.1 (approval of variation of contract above 500k) and 16.02 (Member decision).

### 11.3. **The Assistant Director of Legal & Governance (Monitoring Officer)**

11.3.1. The Assistant Director of Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer) has been consulted in the preparation of this report.

11.3.2. The Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023 (the Regulations) is a relatively new set of Regulations for the procurement of healthcare services. The modification of the NHS Health Checks contract may be achieved through the use of Regulation 13 1 (d) i.e the modification is attributable to a decision of the relevant authority and both of the criteria in paragraph (2) are met.

(2) The criteria are—

(a) the modification does not render the contract or framework agreement materially different in character, and

(b) the cumulative change in the lifetime value of the contract or framework agreement since it was entered into or concluded is—

(i) below £500,000; or

(ii) less than 25% of the lifetime value of the original contract or framework agreement when it was entered into or concluded.

From the information provided to the Assistant Director of Legal Services it appears that the first limb of Regulation 13 (2) (b) is satisfied.

11.3.3. The overall value of the contract including the variation is in excess of £500,000 and is a Key Decision. The extension would fall to Cabinet to approve under CSO 10.02.1 b (contracts valued at £500,000 or more). However, in-between meetings of the Cabinet, the Leader may take any such decision or may allocate to the Cabinet Member with the relevant portfolio (CSO 16.02).

11.3.4. The Cabinet Member also has power to approve the receipt of the grant under CSO 17.1.

11.3.5. The Assistant Director of Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer) confirms that there are no legal reasons preventing the Cabinet Member for Health Social Care & Wellbeing from approving the recommendations in this report.

### 11.4. **Equality**

- 11.4.1. The council has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:
- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act.
  - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share protected characteristics and people who do not.
  - Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.
- 11.4.2. The three parts of the duty apply to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty.
- 11.4.3. Although it is not enforced in legislation as a protected characteristic, Haringey Council treats socioeconomic status as a local protected characteristic.
- 11.4.4. This report seeks the approval of a grant and a decision to vary the current contract for the NHS Health Checks contract with Haringey GP Federation for provision of Health checks to workers in Haringey. Although the NHS Health Check is universal for those aged 40-74, this service is targeted more to workplaces for eligible population for NHS Health Checks and/or those outside of the 40 to 74 year old age range but with increased risk to CVD. This model also open opportunities to engage with eligible population but less likely to take it up (e.g. men and younger age groups).

Therefore, the service by its nature provides support to people working in Haringey, targeting those with high risk factors to CVD and is likely to have a positive impact and promoting health equity in people working in Haringey contributes to the reduction of morbidity and premature death caused by CVD as well as keeping them healthy and productive as it would reduce sickness absence and worklessness associated with working age ill-health.

- 11.4.5. The provider's compliance with equalities legislation will continue to be quality assured through regular contract monitoring and service review. As an organisation carrying out a public function on behalf of a public body, the Haringey GP Federation will be obliged to have due regard for the need to achieve the three aims of the Public Sector Equality Duty as stated above. Appropriate contract management arrangements will be established to ensure that the delivery of the major works does not result in any preventable or disproportionate inequality.

## **12. Use of Appendices**

- 12.1. None

## **13. Background papers**

- 13.1. None