

**Report for:** Cabinet 10th March 2020

**Title:** Extension and Variation of the Children, Young People and Families Substance Misuse Contract as allowed under Contract Standing Order (CSO)  
10.02.1(b)

**Report authorised by:** Dr Will Maimaris – Interim Director of Public Health

**Lead Officer:** Sarah Hart – Senior Public Health Commissioner  
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**Ward(s) affected:** ALL

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

## **1. Describe the issue under consideration**

- 1.1 This report seeks agreement from Cabinet as allowed under Contract Standing (CSO) 10.02.1 (b), (for the extension and variation of the contract held by Humankind for the Children, Young People and Families Substance Misuse to enable a one year extension of the contract to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021. The provider has provided a valuable service with good outcomes for families with substance misuse issues.
- 1.2 Extension and variation of the existing contract is being sought, to bring its end date in line with the completion of the Innovation Fund Project for Children of Alcohol Dependent Parents (CADP). The CADP for which the Council receives external grant funding, is due to end on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021. CADP is logistically being delivered within the service we are seeking to extend.
- 1.3 The annual value of the Children, Young People and Families Substance Misuse contract is £285,000 per year. The total value over the lifetime of the contract inclusive of the extension period will be £570,000.

## **2. Cabinet Member Introduction**

- 2.1 The Council recognises that most young people in Haringey live lives free of substance misuse. However, if a child or young person develops a problem it is clearly important that they and their family have access to specialist young people and family focused support.
- 2.2 The current service Insight Platform plays a central role in identifying substance misuse problems early. For those identified with a problem it provides a whole family service. Its universal level outreach service going into schools, colleges

and youth services, last year reached over eight hundred children and young people and four hundred and forty-one parents and families. Its targeted work links into alternative education, early help and the criminal justice youth service. Each year the number of children and young people needing structured help is increasing, last year the service saw two hundred and thirteen young people under 18 years. Outcomes are impressive with 92% leaving the service in a planned way.

2.3 Sixty-seven local authorities bid to receive the Innovation Fund for Children of Alcohol Dependent Parents; Haringey was one of 9 successful bids. Local estimates suggest that there are 1000 children in Haringey living with a dependent drinker. Nationally 19% of children in need and 52% of child protection cases sight alcohol as a causal factor. Between 2011 and 2014 parental alcohol misuse was recorded as a factor in 37% of cases where a child was seriously hurt or killed. There is strong evidence that parental alcohol use even before it reaches dependency has an impact on the health and wellbeing of children. The project is of great importance to Haringey providing us with resources to pilot new ways of working to find and help children and families affected by parental substance misuse. Our ambition is to do this much earlier, reducing the risk of these families needing statutory services.

2.4 I therefore support the proposed variation and extension.

### **3. Recommendations**

3.1 For Cabinet to agree to the extension and variation of the contract with Humankind Charity for the provision of Children, Young People and Families Substance Misuse services -as allowed under Contract Standing Orders 10.2.1 (b) for a period of up to 1 year from 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 at a maximum value of £285,000. The total cost over the life of the contract is therefore, £570,000.

### **4. Reasons for decision**

4.1. In Haringey since 2010 Humankind has successfully bid for and run Insight Platform Children, Young People and Family's Substance Misuse Service. In 2014 Cabinet awarded a contract to Humankind post an open tender process. Contract performance has been highly satisfactory. It is proposed that Cabinet vary and extend the current contract to enable a further year. An extension and variation would allow Haringey to align this contract with the March 2021 ending of the externally funded Innovation Fund Children of Alcohol Dependent Parents project (CADP), which is delivered by Humankind alongside this contract. Alignment would prevent potential disruption to the CADP were Humankind not successful in bidding for the main service. As the CAPD's grant funding is dependent on delivery of key performance indicators the Council would wish to avoid disruption.

- 4.2. There is in place a timetable for the retendering of this contract during the extension period to allow for the award of a new contract from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021.

## 5. Alternative options considered

- 5.1. The Council is not mandated to provide this service. It could decide to no longer commission this service for its residents. However, there is high demand for this service and no alternative project to refer children, young people and families into. The commissioning of this service is in line with the Council's intention to ensure every child thrives.
- 5.2. The Council could extend the contract for the initial 6 months period as allowed under the contract in order to go out to market. However, a tender process at this time could be disruptive to the CADP, as the current provider might be distracted from the project or could be unsuccessful in securing the new contract potentially setting back CADP delivery timeframes. The impact on the Council of any failure to reach the key performance indicators of the Innovation Grant Agreement, could lead to the withdrawal of funding.

## 6. Background information

- 6.1. *Why the service is needed* - A service for young people with substance misuse problems is required because whilst most young people do not use drugs or alcohol problematically, those that do often need specialist clinical and psychosocial treatment. In 2018/19 young people seeking treatment in Haringey had the following profile:

- Entered treatment with problematic use of cannabis (96%) and or alcohol (29%)<sup>i</sup>
- Were most likely to be referred by education services (56%) followed by mental health services (22%) and youth justice service (20%)
- 15-year olds represented the highest proportion (32%) of young people in treatment in Haringey
- Where there were additional vulnerabilities, the most common vulnerability was children's service involvement (12%), anti-social behaviour or criminal acts (9%), being not in education, employment and training (3%) or experiencing domestic abuse in the family (3%).
- The majority were seen within generic youth services, the rest chose to come to Insight's base which is solely for children, young people and families.

The Haringey service also helps families with different sorts of substance misuse related need:

- Parents with a child who is misusing substances and requires advice
- Parents in the drug and alcohol services who need advice regarding parenting

- Parents with substance misuse issues who are not in contact with the main substance misuse service for whom this is an access point into treatment.

6.2. *Outcomes of the service* - In terms of outcomes, in 2018/19 the service reached its targets and provided the following:

- 821 young people attended a universal awareness raising session
- 441 parents and family members were given advice and information
- 213 young people entered a structured treatment programme
- 92% of young people who left treatment did so in a planned way
- 66 family assessments were completed for families affected by parental substance misuse and a care plan started
- 54 children of substance misusing parents were provided with a service
- 119 professionals were given advice and 22 trained on substance misuse

Healthwatch independently reviewed the service and reported that 'The service is valued by service users, particularly their relationship with their key worker, the flexibility of the service and the holistic approach to support, which includes help with things like housing, benefits and child custody'. (Healthwatch 2017).

In 2017 the Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspected the service, whilst not rating independent standalone substance misuse services, it found the following areas of good practice:

- Staff fully involved clients of all ages in the process of assessing and treating their needs. Clients had clearly defined recovery goals.
- Risk management and safeguarding procedures were effective. Staff worked in partnership with other organisations to reduce the risk of harm to clients.
- Staff in the service had the skills and knowledge to work with clients and families where substance misuse was an issue. The service provided a range of individual and group work interventions to support clients.
- Staff ensured consent to treatment was obtained from clients in accordance with legal requirements.
- Staff were positive about working for the service. They were supported by their managers to provide a high-quality service.
- The service was seen by clients as welcoming and friendly. They said the interventions provided by staff helped them to reduce risks and improve family relationships. They said staff listened to them and acted on their views.

6.3. *Innovation Fund Project for Children of Alcohol Dependent Parents (CADP)*. In 2018 Haringey Council, working with voluntary sector partners Adfam and Humankind successfully bid to the Government's Innovation Fund for Children of Alcohol Dependent Parents. The Council will receive £670,000 over the lifetime of the project to enable it to deliver a system-wide approach which supports the wellbeing of children of alcohol dependent parents, improves family relationships, helps people out of dependency and meets affected

families' wider support needs such as housing, employment, and mental health as well as increasing referrals to alcohol treatment.

For the Innovations project Humankind are commissioned to provide a senior practitioner and two-family workers and Adfam are commissioned to deliver a peer support worker and 12 peers. These staff make up the Insightful family's team which is based within Insight platform.

The Innovations Fund project does not replace or duplicate the Council's contract for Children's, Young People and Family's Substance Misuse service. It has a focus on reaching an estimated 546 alcohol dependent parents with 1038 children, 73% of whom are receiving no family support (PHE June 2018). The key outcome of the project is to help a minimum of 170 children.

## 7. Contribution to strategic outcomes

This service is linked to the Borough Plan, in particular Outcome 5: Happy childhood: all children across the borough will be happy and healthy as they grow up, feeling safe and secure in their family, networks and communities; *Objective (C) 'Children and young people will be physically and mentally healthy and well'* and Outcome 7: All adults are able to live healthy and fulfilling lives, with dignity, staying active and connected in their communities; *Objective (A) 'Healthy life expectancy will increase across the borough, improving outcomes for all communities'*.

## 8. Statutory Officers comments (Chief Finance Officer (including procurement), Assistant Director of Corporate Governance, Equalities)

### 8.1 Finance

Contract provision requires contract extension of one year from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 at a value of £285k. This will be met from resources within Public Health, which is fully funded from the Public Health Grant and assumed to continue in future years. There is sufficient funding to cover the full cost of this contract extension of one year.

### 8.2 Procurement

8.2.1 The services which this report relates to are Schedule 3 services for the purposes of the Public Contract Regulation 2015

8.2.2 The request to vary and extend the contract is permitted both under the Regulations and the Procurement Code of Practice and may therefore be approved

8.2.3 Humankind has been providing a valuable service including inter alia, advice, guidance and treatments with laudable outcomes for vulnerable families and young people at risk. During the extension period the commissioning team will

continue to monitor service delivery to mitigate against any risk and ensure positive outcomes continue to be delivered

### 8.3 Legal

8.3.1 The Assistant Director of Corporate Governance has been consulted in the preparation of this report.

8.3.2 The proposed extension and variation of the contract which this report relates to is not within the scope of the rules on modifications in the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (as amended).

8.3.3 As the proposed extension and variation of the contract would take the aggregate value of the contract over £500,000 the extension and variation may only be approved by Cabinet pursuant to Contract Standing Order 10.02.1(b).

8.3.4 The Assistant Director of Corporate Governance sees no legal reasons preventing Cabinet from approving the recommendations in the report.

### Equality

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 those protected characteristics and people who do not
- Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.

The three parts of the duty applies 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.

This contract was developed to address health inequalities as identified through the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. The objective of the contract is to reduce harm to young people and families caused by substance misuse. The main protected groups who are likely to be affected by the decision are therefore children and young people. The extension of the contract is a measure to meet the needs of certain young people where these differ to the needs of others and accordingly represents a measure that will advance equality of opportunity.

The contract specifications clearly set out the supplier's responsibilities under The Equality Act (2010), including a requirement to have equalities policies in place and to ensure that the service is accessible to all sections of the community. The

contractor's compliance with equalities legislation will continue to be quality assured through regular contract monitoring and service review.

### **Use of Appendices**

N/A

### **Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

Not applicable

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<sup>i</sup> Quarter 4 2017/18 NDTMS