

## **APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A S76 AGREEMENT WITH THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP**

Councillor Lynne Ayres, Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education, Skills and the University

**Deadline date: May 2020**

Cabinet portfolio holder: Responsible Director:	Councillor Lynne Ayres, Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education, Skills and the University Wendi Ogle-Welbourn, Executive Director for People and Communities
Is this a Key Decision?	NO
Is this decision eligible for call-in?	YES
Does this Public report have any annex that contains exempt information?	NO
Is this a project and if so has it been registered on Verto?	N/A

### **R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S**

The Cabinet Member is recommended to:

1. Authorise the Council to enter into a Section 76 Agreement under the National Health Service Act 2006 with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group for the payment of £250 000 for an annual payment relating to 2020/21 relating to the speech and language therapy services (SALT) across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

#### **1. PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT**

- 1.1 This report is for the Cabinet Member for Children's Services to consider exercising delegated authority under paragraph 3.4.3 of Part 3 of the constitution in accordance with paragraph (b) of their portfolio.
- 1.2 This report seeks approval from the Cabinet Member for Children's Services to enter a Section 76 agreement with NHS Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group (CPCCG), relating to the payment of £250 000 funding to be paid to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group to deliver an integrated SALT service to children and young people in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.
- 1.3 The agreement would seek to cover the period April 2020 to March 2021. This request is for a one year period. A review of the Occupational Therapy Service and Physiotherapy service is underway, and it is the intention that a longer term arrangement will be sought for a joint commissioning arrangement for these therapies collectively.

## 2. TIMESCALE

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	<b>NO</b>	If Yes, date for relevant Cabinet Meeting	<b>N/A</b>
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## 3. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 In 2016/17 a service review was undertaken for the Speech and Language Therapy (SALT) provision across Peterborough and Cambridgeshire. This was in response to increasing demand for services to children and young people, and subsequent long waiting times for families to access the services.
- 3.2 As a result of the review, the SALT service was redesigned, which included developing appropriate pathways to services and placing a focus on early intervention. The redesign also focused on a single delivery model across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, bringing together a consistent service delivery model for the two neighbouring authorities. This was, in part achieved through jointly commissioning the Speech and Language Service between Cambridgeshire County Council, Peterborough City Council and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group. The service is based on the “Balanced Model”, supporting the delivery of services at a universal, targeted and specialist level. It is based on the principle of early identification, identifying any issues early and enabling the right support to prevent escalation to more specialist services, whilst ensuring that those children and young people who do need a specialist service receive appropriate assessment and support.
- 3.3 This approach is wholly consistent with the current direction of travel, in terms of aiming to deliver integrated models of support for children, young people and families across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, focusing on early identification and prevention that builds resilience in families and communities. This approach is also in line with the aim to create models of delivery that change the fragmented and complex commissioning arrangements within public services, as well as increasing efficiencies, reducing duplication and responding to the resource pressures by looking to do things differently and more effectively.
- 3.4 The new integrated delivery model was launched in early 2018 and since this implementation, there have been significant improvements in waiting times to access SALT services, particularly in Peterborough. For example, the service is now meeting the 90% waiting time target of referral to treatment, which ensures that there is timely intervention. The introduction of community based drop-in clinics coupled with staff training programmes with Early Years providers, schools and health visitors has supported demand management and community resilience. Schools are also being supported through the provision of link therapists.
- 3.5 The funding allocated to be paid to the Clinical Commissioning Group [lead commissioner] via a Section 76 arrangement will be a £250,000.00 contribution from Peterborough City Council. This funding is from the dedicated schools grant [high need block], and supports the whole system of support for speech, language and communication needs, including those areas of delivery detailed above. Approval for this arrangement is being requested until March 202. There is currently a review being undertaken on Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy, and it would be the intention to bring arrangements together under one Section 76 agreement once completed.

## 4. CONSULTATION

4.1 The review and redesign of this service included county wide consultation with a variety of key stakeholders and partners. Stakeholders were invited to participate in surveys and stakeholder events. Stakeholders included:

- Secondary, primary and special schools
- All Early Years Settings
- Children's Centres
- Employees at Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council including the Special Education Needs and Early Years practitioners
- Employees of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Foundation Trust and Cambridgeshire Community Services
- Parents
- Representatives of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group
- Speech and Language therapists from Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

4.2 The Service providers continue to proactively seek feedback on their service provision, to ensure that the services, including the drop in clinics and training programme meets the needs of children, young people and their families are being met.

## **5. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES**

5.1 Funding from the Council will support the continued integrated provision of SALT services for children, young people and their families through joint commissioning arrangements. Over the last year the waiting lists for the service has now reduced, and the introduction of the drop in clinics, training and support in schools is receiving positive feedback. The service will continue to be monitored to address the longer term impact of changes.

## **6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

6.1 The Section 76 agreement will enable the delivery of an integrated and consistent Speech and Language Therapy for children, thereby improving outcomes for children and young people.

## **7. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

7.1 To do nothing – this has been rejected as the joint agreement between Peterborough City Council, Cambridgeshire County Council and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough CCG has led to improved outcomes as detailed in section 3.4.

## **8. IMPLICATIONS**

### **8.1 Legal Implications**

Section 76 of the National Health Service Act 2006 (as amended by the Health and Social Care Act 2012) and the National Health Service (Conditions relating to Payments by Local Authorities to NHS Bodies) Directions 2013 permit payments to be made by a local authority to a clinical commissioning group. This is for expenditure incurred or to be incurred in connection with the performance of prescribed functions which includes the services set out in this report.

### **8.2 Financial Implications**

Funding has been allocated for this service in 2020/21.

### **8.3 Equalities implications**

This service is for children and young people with speech, language or communication difficulties. Without these skills, a child will not be able to reach their full potential. Therefore provision of SALT services helps reduce inequalities for those children in need of support.

#### **8.4 Carbon Impact Implications**

Following completion of the Carbon Impact Assessment, there have been no specific implications identified

#### **10. DECLARATIONS / CONFLICTS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS GRANTED**

10.1 None.

#### **11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 and The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

11.1 Approval to enter a Section 76 agreement with Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group - AUG17/CMDN/33

11.2 Decision to enter into a Section 76 Agreement for the delivery of integrated Speech and Language Therapy Services FEB18/CMDN/91