

EXTENSION OF THE CURRENT DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL IN RELATION TO CONTINUED LEAD COMMISSIONER OF THE HEALTHY SCHOOLS SUPPORT SERVICE IN PETERBOROUGH
Cllr Saqib Farooq Cabinet Member for Adults and Health
March 2023
Deadline date: January 2024

Cabinet portfolio holder:	Cllr Saqib Farooq, Cabinet Member for Adults and Health Jyoti Atri, Director for Public Health
Responsible Director:	
Is this a Key Decision?	YES If yes has it been included on the Forward Plan: YES Unique Key decision Reference from Forward Plan: KEY/13MAR23/01
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

RECOMMENDATIONS
<p>The Cabinet Member is recommended to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Authorise an extension of the delegation of authority to Cambridgeshire County Council to act as the lead commissioner for the Healthy Schools Support Service from 1 September 2023 until 31 March 2025 at a cost to Peterborough City Council of £92,276.66.

1. PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

- 1.1 This report is for the Cabinet Member for Adults and Health to consider exercising delegated authority under paragraph 3.4.3 of Part 3 of the constitution in accordance with the terms of their portfolio at paragraph (e).

2. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	N/A
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3. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

3.1 School settings have a vital role in promoting pupils' physical, emotional and mental health and wellbeing. They are able to support children, young people, their families and carers to become aware of the importance of adopting healthy behaviours.

There is evidence that the adoption of a whole-school approach where the ethos, culture and environment promotes the health, wellbeing and safety of all in the school community, enables schools to contribute to efforts that address health risks. This includes such issues as building resilience in children and young people, unhealthy weight, physical inactivity, tobacco use, poor emotional well-being and adverse childhood experiences.

In 2018, by virtue of CMDN AUG18/CMDN/31 PCC delegated authority to CCC, whereby CCC is the lead commissioner for a Healthy Schools Support service to support schools to embed whole school approaches to embedding health and wellbeing throughout the curriculum, facilitate a network of partners to support schools with all aspects of the health, wellbeing and safety agenda, and provide specific interventions on nutrition and smoking prevention.

The original delegation arrangement between PCC and CCC was from 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2021 and included the option to extend for a further 2 years from 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2023. Concurrently, CCC procured and awarded the contract to Everyone Health Ltd to implement the healthy schools support programme for the same contract period, including extensions, for delivery of this service across both local authority's boundaries.

The Healthy Schools Support service was initially commissioned in recognition that schools have a vital role in promoting pupils' physical, emotional and mental health and wellbeing. There is clear evidence that there is an association between children's health and wellbeing and educational attainment, acknowledging that when children are healthy and happy at school, they can also achieve more. Investing in the health and wellbeing of our children, will pay dividends throughout their lives and investments in the early years have been evidenced to often be the most cost-effective intervention.

It therefore clearly supports the Joint Health and Wellbeing Board/Integrated Care Partnership priority: '***We will achieve better outcomes for our children.***'

Following presentation to the Public Health Commissioning and Governance Group in August 2022, it was agreed that commissioners would seek to extend the administrative arrangement between PCC and CCC, whereby PCC continues to delegate the function to CCC for leading on this commission. To align with the delegation of this function between PCC and CCC, the Public Health Commissioning and Governance Group also agreed that CCC, as lead commissioner, shall extend current provision by way of a direct award and shall engage CCC Procurement and CCC Legal to progress the lead commissioner's preferred option. This would facilitate a review of the evidence of impact and cost benefits. It would also allow an exploration of opportunities for alignment with other children's services, including the Healthy Child Programme, that are currently under review. This additional time period will enable officers to carry out a full review of provision, identify future commissioning needs and intentions, working with wider system partners to ensure alignment with other related services as Peterborough City Council develops a more integrated offer for schools and families.

For the continued period of delegation of this function between PCC and CCC, CCC shall contract with Everyone Health Ltd to deliver the healthy schools support programme across Peterborough and Cambridgeshire between 1 September 2023 and 31 March 2025.

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 Each Council's Legal, Procurement and Finance have been engaged throughout this matter.

A robust consultation with service users, partner organisations and key stakeholders will be critical to informing the future decision making and commissioning intentions. This will take place during 2023/2024.

Continual service development is overseen by a steering group comprised of stakeholders and partners from across statutory, health, and voluntary services. They help to shape the direction and priorities of the service.

5. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

5.1 Subject to governance approval, a further 19-months investment to current service provision will enable officers to ensure effective future evidence-based outcomes-focused commissioning which will improve future service delivery.

Officers intend to use the extension period to focus on the below tasks:

- Analysis of impact and effectiveness of existing provision on 1) schools and settings, 2) partner organisations, 3) key internal and external stakeholders
- Evidence review of all components of the current specification from national and local sources (including evaluations from Family Hubs)
- Research into other Local Authorities who have commissioned such services to understand and take learning from their approaches and specifications
- Conduct a workforce requirement review
- Complete a cost-benefit exercise to better understand value for money of the provision to inform a future financial envelope
- Consultation and co-production work with service users and relevant stakeholders.
- Explore any opportunities for integration across related services and provision.
- Updating the service specification in line with outcomes of the work described above.
- Draft a detailed options paper outlining future commissioning options based on the findings of the work described above, to be presented and available for decision making in March 2024.
- Governance, procurement options, and financial envelopes to be agreed by early summer 2024.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

1. The Economy & Inclusive Growth

Environment:

This decision has a neutral impact on the both the City's and Council's carbon emissions.

Homes and Workplaces:

This decision will support the existing staff team to remain in employment and also the service fosters improved staff wellbeing across the education sector.

Jobs and Money:
See above.

2. *Our Places & Communities:*

Places and Safety (including any rural implications)

One aspect of the service to which this decision relates to is coordination and promotion of Safety Zone – which brings together Fire, Road Safety, and Community Policing colleagues to provide information to schools and pupils on a range of safety-related topics, including:

- Road safety
- Fire safety
- Water safety
- Child exploitation
- Grooming
- County Lines
- Gangs and knife crime

The service is also underpinned by supporting schools and education settings to develop a whole school approach to health and wellbeing which includes anti-bullying/healthy friendships programmes, which contribute to settings being a happy and healthy place to both work and learn.

- *Lives and Work*

See above

- *Health and Wellbeing*

The service to which this relates to is, by definition, supporting the health and wellbeing agenda. Schools settings have a vital role in promoting pupils' physical, emotional and mental health and wellbeing. They are able to support children, young people, their families and carers to become aware of the importance of adopting healthy behaviours.

There is evidence that the adoption of a whole-school approach where the ethos, culture and environment promotes the health, wellbeing and safety of all in the school community enables schools to contribute to efforts that address health risks. This service is commissioned to support schools in addressing the health needs of their school communities and promotion of positive health behaviours and messaging.

3. *Prevention, Independence & Resilience*

- *Educations and Skills for All*

N/A

- *Adults*

N/A

- *Children*

There is clear evidence that there is an association between children's health and wellbeing and educational attainment, acknowledging that when children are healthy and happy at school, they can also achieve more. This service is commissioned to support schools in addressing the health needs of their school communities and promotion of positive health behaviours and messaging.

4. *Sustainable Future City Council*

- N/A • *How we Work*
- N/A • *How we Serve*
- N/A • *How we Enable*

The service to which this decision relates to includes training and upskilling of teaching staff to effectively deliver and teach on key aspects of health and wellbeing.

Further information on the Council's Priorities can be found here - [Link to Corporate Strategy and Priorities Webpage](#)

6. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1 The additional 19 months will enable public health officers to comprehensively explore the evidence base, service offer and future demand/requirements and understanding value for money of this service to determine whether funds should be re-invested in the commissioning of alternative activities/services. This timeframe would also align it with the anticipated end date of the Section 75 agreement for the Healthy Child Programme (HCP), which provides School Nursing services, therefore the linkages and opportunities between the two services will be reviewed concurrently during this period to look at current provision in the light of the Covid experience and to establish whether any gaps existed.

The administrative arrangements between PCC and CCC have worked well throughout this period of delegating the lead commissioning to CCC. The current provider has demonstrated good performance and service delivery throughout the contract, including during the pandemic. Whilst some KPIs had been adversely impacted by school disruption during Covid-19, due to the ability to access schools, this time period accelerated the strengthening and expansion of the Healthy Schools Network of partners to build and develop a comprehensive and coordinated approach to supporting schools in addressing the health & wellbeing agenda in their settings.

Service-specific outputs/outcomes (Sept 2019- Sept 2022):

- 275 schools are registered on the Healthy Schools Website and newsletter distribution list
- 27 schools have completed a Healthy Schools audit tool to identify areas of improvement
- 44 schools have had a 1:1 consultation to specifically discuss their health & wellbeing education/curriculum needs
- 27 schools have completed or are participating in the Healthy Schools award and 18 schools are currently pursuing the Food Smart Award as a standalone accreditation

System-wide impact measures (2019-2022):

- 35 primary schools have participated in the Safety Zone programme, which delivers key road, water and fire safety messages
- 70 primary schools & 63 secondary schools have received key messages on cyber safety, knife crime, criminal exploitation, domestic abuse, gambling and gaming either via the Police CYP team or the East Cambridgeshire District Council's Eyes and Ears toolkit.
- Bikeability courses have been delivered at 191 schools in Cambridgeshire resulting in:
 - 9192 pupils trained at Level 1 (Yr3/4)
 - 19,886 pupils trained at Level 2 (Yr 5/6)
 - 372 pupils trained at Level 3 (Yr 7)

- 55 primary schools have engaged in the Balanceability programme
- 14 primary schools have participated in the Scootability programme
- 26 primary schools have actively engaged with the Junior Travel Ambassador programme involving 5750 pupils
- 7 secondary schools and 6 primary schools engaged in the Public Health funded review of Relationships Education and RSE
- 66 primary schools and 15 secondary schools attended briefings on working with parents concerned about RSE and received supporting resources.
- 325 primary pupils have engaged in the smoking and vaping prevention workshops
- 279 secondary pupils who have accessed advice on stopping smoking and vaping
- 33 schools have received the support of external agencies to address the use of drugs and alcohol.
- 16 schools have reviewed their menu options as a result of participation in the Food Smart or Healthy Schools Award.
- 77 primary schools have participated in the Veg Power programme involving 20,771 students.
- 115 Cambridgeshire HAF Holiday Scheme providers had access to the Healthy Eating resources developed in association with Food Smart (5,539 children in Cambridgeshire have participated across the four holiday periods since the programme was established)
- 68 schools have been supported to achieve 60 active daily minutes through The Daily Mile and Active Classroom initiatives.
- 34 schools that have been supported to complete a Mental Health training needs analysis. 72 schools were represented by staff attending the Mental Health Competency Framework webinars
- 45 schools have accessed the Bounce Forward Teaching Resilience Toolkit for Yrs 6 and 7
- 165 schools have accessed the Personal Development Materials produced by the PSHE Service which support the development of resilience skills

Additionally feedback from schools and partners has been consistently positive, therefore there are no concerns regarding ability to deliver the services and any disruption to provision would have significant ramifications across the system in terms of how services operate and engage with schools.

7. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

7.1 **Cease PCC funding from September 2023:** This option was rejected as the current provision operates county wide and it would be extremely challenging to dis-aggregate the current service model to remove the Peterborough element and this would have significant adverse implications to service delivery. Schools, and conversely pupils, would be severely affected and have reduced access to Health and Wellbeing support offers as would provide a gap in the support provided to schools especially as they are under substantial workload and attainment pressures. Furthermore, this would not provide time for the Service to be fully evaluated and potential ongoing benefits through further integration identified.

Commission a separate service in Peterborough: This option was rejected as the efficiencies we currently benefit from, regarding having a single service provider operating across both Cambridgeshire and Peterborough would be lost, e.g. single website/point of access, countywide workforce, contract monitoring and oversight. Additionally, this would not provide time for the current Service provision to be fully evaluated and potential ongoing benefits through further integration identified.

8. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

- 8.1 Approval has been provided by Cambridgeshire County Council to directly award Everyone Health LTD to provide the Healthy Schools Service for a further 19-month period, 1st September 2023 – 31st March 2025. It is the intention that this will continue to be jointly commissioned between CCC and PCC during this period, at a cost of £235,188.33 to CCC and £92,276.66 to PCC, underpinned with new Delegation and Partnering arrangements in place. Therefore this report is to seek authorisation to proceed with the arrangements outlined above.

Legal Implications

- 8.2 The parties may extend the Delegation and Partnering Agreement upon mutual agreement and evidenced in writing, therefore a Deed of Extension for the period of 1 September 2023 to 31 March 2025 shall be executed by each Council.

The Council relies on powers and the exclusive rights given to local authorities to undertake administrative arrangements of this nature in sections 101 and 113 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Equalities Implications

- 8.3 N/A - an EQIA will be completed as part of the activity outlined in section 5.1

Carbon Impact Assessment

- 8.5 This decision has a neutral impact on both the council and the city's carbon emission and environmental impact as this is purely a decision to continue with existing provision.

9. DECLARATIONS / CONFLICTS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS GRANTED

- 9.1 None.

10. 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.

- 10.1 *List any documents and other information used to write this report. DO NOT include exempt items. Be specific as anything you list here must be available for public inspection for several years after the committee meeting.*

[Decision - Healthy Schools - AUG18/CMDN/31 | Peterborough City Council](#)

11. APPENDICES

- 11.1 None.