

TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL

CABINET - 11th DECEMBER 2014

TRANSFER OF 0-5 CHILDREN'S PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSIONING TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES

REPORT OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: HEALTH WELLBEING and PUBLIC PROTECTION

LEAD CABINET MEMBER – CLLR RICHARD OVERTON

PART A) – SUMMARY REPORT

1. SUMMARY OF MAIN PROPOSALS

Public health commissioning responsibilities for 0-5 year olds will transfer from NHS England to local authorities on the 1st October 2015. The transfer encompasses the 0-5 Healthy Child Programme which includes health visiting services and Family Nurse Partnership services; a targeted service for teenage mothers.

The transfer marks the final part of the overall public health transfer, which saw public health responsibilities successfully transfer to local government in April 2013.

The report sets out the approach and seeks approval to delegate responsibility for the transfer to officers in consultation with the lead member.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Members note the transfer of public health commissioning responsibilities for 0-5 year olds from NHS England to Local Authorities on the 1st October 2015

2.2 Members approve delegation of responsibility to the Director of Health, Wellbeing and Care, in consultation with the Director of Children and Family Services; the Cabinet Lead for Health and Wellbeing; and the Cabinet Lead for Children, Young People and Families, to undertake the transfer of commissioning arrangements including all matters relating to any contracts and commissioning.

3. SUMMARY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

COMMUNITY IMPACT	Do these proposals contribute to specific Co-Operative Council priority objective(s)?	
	Yes	Put our children and young people first Improve the health and wellbeing of our communities and address health inequalities
	Will the proposals impact on specific groups of people?	
	Yes	Children aged 0-5 years and their families
TARGET COMPLETION/DELIVERY DATE	1 October 2015	
FINANCIAL/VALUE FOR MONEY IMPACT	Yes	Work is ongoing with NHS England to formally agree this amount of funding to transfer to Telford & Wrekin council and to resolve other transitional issues. NHS England estimate the funding to transfer to Telford & Wrekin in 2015/16 (for period 1 st October to 31 st March 2016) to be £1.246m. It is expected that all ongoing activity transferred will be funded from the Public Health grant.
LEGAL ISSUES	Yes	The Secretary of State will use powers contained at Section 7A of the NHS Act 2006 ("the Act") to transfer the 0-5 children's public health commissioning to local authorities. Accordingly the Council, under Section 6C of the Act, will be required by statute to undertake that commissioning function. Delegated powers are sought at paragraph 2.2 of this report to allow officers to undertake the necessary transitional work to ensure that the timescales for the transfer of the service are met. This could include the novation of an existing contract(s) or the commencement of a new commissioning exercise(s). Any

		contract documentation will be executed by the Assistant Director: Law, Democracy and People Services in accordance with the existing delegated powers. By way of background information, the Cabinet has previously considered reports relating to public health transition issues on 29 th march 2012 and 20 th September 2012 and granted delegated powers for that work to be undertaken.
OTHER IMPACTS, RISKS & OPPORTUNITIES	No	
IMPACT ON SPECIFIC WARDS	Yes	Borough-wide impact

PART B) – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

4. INFORMATION

Public health commissioning responsibilities for 0-5 year olds will transfer from NHS England to local authorities on the 1st October 2015. The transfer encompasses the 0-5 Healthy Child Programme which includes health visiting services and Family Nurse Partnership services; a targeted service for teenage mothers. Only the commissioning responsibility is being transferred. Health Visitors will continue to be employed by their current provider which for Telford and Wrekin is the Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust.

Health visitors have a crucial role in the early years of a child's development providing ongoing support for all children and families; they lead the delivery of the Healthy Child Programme during pregnancy and the early years of life. Health visitors also have a key role in developing communities, in early help and contributing to more complex cases. Transition to parenthood and the first 1001 days from conception to age 2 is widely recognised as a crucial period, impacting and influencing the rest of the life course.

The transfer marks the final part of the overall public health transfer, which saw public health responsibilities successfully transfer to local government in April 2013.

For 2015/16, the transfer of commissioning responsibilities is in effect a 'lift and shift' arrangement. The Department of Health will transfer to Local Authorities the financial resources that NHS England's Area Teams are expecting to contract and spend on 0-5 services at the point of transfer. From 2016/17 onwards the 0-5 baseline will be added to existing local government public health grant allocations to form an overall public health grant allocation.

The Government will legally require local authorities to provide the universal elements of the 0-5 Healthy Child Programme for 18 months, with a review after 12 months.

A transition steering group has been established, chaired by the Assistant Director for Health, Wellbeing and Public Protection with reports of progress to the Early Help Partnership Board and Children and Families Board.

Work is underway with the Area Team and the provider to progress the transfer with a focus on understanding the overall costs, current contractual arrangements, the workforce and identification and mitigation of any risks and issues.

Council officers are working with the Area Team to inform the service pre-transfer to ensure post transfer that the 0-5 services are fit for purpose and maximise their contribution to our overall vision and strategy for delivering Early Help services to children and families. This collaborative approach has been well received by the Area Team, the provider and wider partners.

5. PREVIOUS MINUTES

Cabinet – 29th March 2012 (CB – 115), 20th September 2012 (CB – 40)

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Department of Health - Transfer of 0 – 5 children's public health commissioning to local authorities -

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/transfer-of-0-5-childrens-public-health-commissioning-to-local-authorities>

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