

Report of Consultant of Public Health & Sexual Health Lead**Report to Director of Public Health****Date: 12 December 2018****Subject: Request to initiate contract extensions with BHA Skyline and Yorkshire MESMAC to enable key preventative public health services to be maintained in accordance with Contracts Procedure Rules 21.1 (contract extensions) for HIV Prevention and Community Testing Services.**

Are specific electoral wards affected? If yes, name(s) of ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for call-in?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, access to information procedure rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

This report is seeking to initiate the first 2 x 12 months out of a possible 4 x 12 months extension provision within the contracts with both BHA Skyline and Yorkshire MESMAC to deliver: HIV prevention and community testing services for black African communities and men who have sex with men. These contract extensions will ensure service continuity until 31st March 2021.

Both services were previously subject to a competitive procurement process and are meeting all KPIs by delivering high quality outcomes for the council and service users. It is therefore considered that extending the current service provision represents the best value for money for the council. The annual value of these contract extensions is £276,370.

Recommendations

The Director of Public Health is recommended to approve:

- 2 x 12 month extensions of the contract (YORE-9BWCET – Lot 1) held with BHA Skyline for the delivery of HIV prevention work and community HIV testing with Black African communities, in accordance with Contract Procedure Rule (CPR) 21.1.

- 2 x 12 month extensions of the contract (YORE-9BWCET – Lot 2) held with Yorkshire MESMAC for the delivery of HIV prevention work and community HIV testing with men who have sex with men, in accordance with CPR 21.1.

1. Purpose of this report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to set out the rationale for seeking 2 x 12 months contract extensions to the current contracts delivered by BHA Skyline and Yorkshire MESMAC in accordance with Contracts Procedure Rules (CPRs) 21.1 (Contract extension).

1.2 Full details of the contracts are as follows;

Provider	Contract name	Contract reference	Annual contract value	Current Expiry date	Available Extension
BHA Skyline	HIV PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY TESTING – LOT 1: BLACK AFRICAN COMMUNITIES	YORE-9BWCET	£114,770	31 st March 2019	4 x 12 months
Yorkshire MESMAC	HIV PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY TESTING – LOT 2: MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN	YORE-9BWCET	£161,600	31 st March 2019	4 x 12 months

2. Background information

2.1 HIV is a long term medical condition and for many is effectively managed via treatment. Early diagnosis plays a massive role in both the quality of life for the individual and the prevention agenda, heavily reducing the likelihood of onward transmission and improving the health outcomes for those testing positive. HIV testing is at the heart of any effective strategy for tackling HIV in the UK, ensuring early diagnosis of HIV through ethical, accessible and appropriate testing in a range of settings. Evidence suggests that HIV testing in the community, whether in drop-in centres or other easy to access settings, is attractive to potential users of the service and results in significant HIV positive diagnoses.

2.2 HIV infection in the UK disproportionately affects men who have sex with men (MSM) and Black Africans. Prevention work needs to tackle much wider determinants than just the actual transmission and diagnosis of HIV infection. Using the evidence based practice and new research, it is possible to develop tailored and targeted work that will be effective in delivering improved sexual health. (*DOH, 2003; CHAPS, 2011*). Interventions need to empower and educate those communities at risk by providing the knowledge and skills to make informed choices. Interventions may include work delivered directly to individuals, community work, partnership working (with other sectors) and working with policy makers (*CHAPS, 2011*). Both service providers are required to effectively work with these two at risk groups must be specialist organisations experienced in accessing these communities, being culturally sensitive to their needs and understanding of the wider determinants underpinning their work.

2.3 After an open and competitive procurement process, BHA Skyline were awarded the contract to deliver HIV prevention work and community HIV testing for Lot 1: Black African communities and Yorkshire MESMAC were awarded the contract for Lot 2: Men who have sex with men. These contracts started on 1st June 2014.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 The extension period detailed in the contracts are for 4 x 12 months however, the proposed periods are for an initial 2 x 12 months, at current contract annual value, from 1st April 2019. This means that the contracts will expire on 31st March 2021.
- 3.2 Continuity of these services is required to maintain progress towards meeting the public health responsibilities of the Council, and towards meeting the priorities set out in the health and wellbeing strategy. Key priorities are to:
- reduce the HIV prevalence rate in Leeds, which is currently the highest in the region,
 - reduce diagnosis rates at a late stage of infection, to below 25% (PHOF indicator 3.04). Leeds current rate is 49.1% (2014-2016).
- 3.3 If these services do not continue, there would be disruption to service users. As the target groups that these services work with are disproportionately affected by HIV, progress towards the above priorities would be compromised, as could the wider public health agenda, by increasing the risk of further transmission and sequelae.
- 3.4 The Council is proposing to keep all other contractual terms and conditions unchanged for the remainder of the contracts.

4 Corporate considerations

4.1 Consultation and engagement

- 4.1.1 Consultation about the contract extensions has been undertaken with the Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing & Adults, the Public Health leadership team and the providers.

4.2 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration

- 4.2.1 An Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration Screening assessment (see Appendix 1) has been undertaken in regard to this decision to extend these contracts.

4.3 Council policies and best council plan

- 4.3.1 Continuity of the HIV prevention and community testing services provided by BHA Skyline and Yorkshire MESMAC supports the delivery of the council's public health responsibilities and priorities, which will help to deliver:
- Vision for Leeds 2011 to 2030
 - Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016 - 21
 - Best Council Plan 2018/19-2020/21
 - Leeds Health and Care Plan
 - Public Health Outcome Framework, specifically indicator: 3.04, HIV late diagnosis.

- Health promotion for sexual and reproductive health and HIV: Strategic action plan, 2016 to 2019 (PHE)
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/488090/SRHandHIVStrategicPlan_211215.pdf
- A Framework for Sexual Health Improvement in England (DoH, 2013)
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/142592/9287-2900714-TSO-SexualHealthPolicyNW_ACCESSIBLE.pdf
- Sexual and reproductive health and HIV: applying All Our Health (PHE Guidance, 2018) <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sexual-and-reproductive-health-and-hiv-applying-all-our-health/sexual-and-reproductive-health-and-hiv-applying-all-our-health>

4.4 Resources and value for money

- 4.4.1 The cost of these contract extensions is met by revenue Public Health funding. No changes to the annual contract values are proposed as part of the contract extensions.
- 4.4.2 The contract extensions are required to ensure continuity of these key preventative public health services. Both services were subject a competitive procurement process and are working well as are meeting all KPIs, providing high quality outcomes for the Council and service users. Quarterly contract monitoring will continue throughout the extension period to ensure value for money is being achieved.

4.5 Legal implications, access to information, and call-in

- 4.5.1 The extension of the contracts is a key decision due to the annual value of both the contracts and is subject to Call In. There are no grounds for treating the contents of this report as confidential with the Council's Access to Information Rules.
- 4.5.2 Contract Procedure Rule 21.1 allows a contract to be extended before its expiry date where it is in accordance with its terms and proves to deliver value for money.
- 4.5.3 Although there is no overriding legal obstacle preventing the extension of this contract the contents of this report should be noted. In making their final decision, the Director of Public Health should be satisfied that the course of action chosen represents best value for the Council

4.6 Risk management

- 4.6.1 The approval of the 2 x 12 months contract extensions will enable continuity of service provision and increased certainty for providers, whilst providing flexibility to review the service prior to the initiation of the final available extension provision (2 x 12 months).
- 4.6.2 If the extension is not approved there is a risk that the existing services will cease and service users will no longer be able to access this service.
- 4.6.3 If the extension period is not approved there will not be sufficient time to resolve the issues highlighted in this report. This may result in a contract that is not fit for purpose.

5 Conclusions

- 5.2 The contract extensions are required to ensure no disruption to current services, which are delivering high quality outcomes for the Council and service users in terms of HIV prevention and community testing services, alongside best value for money.
- 5.3 Throughout the 24 month extension period, these contracts will continue to be closely contract managed to ensure robust performance monitoring and value for money is being achieved for the Council.

6 Recommendations

- 6.2 The Director of Public Health is recommended to approve:
- 2 x 12 month extensions of the contract (YORE-9BWCET – Lot 1) held with BHA Skyline for the delivery of HIV prevention work and community HIV testing with Black African communities, in accordance with Contract Procedure Rule (CPR) 21.1.
 - 2 x 12 month extensions of the contract (YORE-9BWCET – Lot 2) held with Yorkshire MESMAC for the delivery of HIV prevention work and community HIV testing with men who have sex with men, in accordance with CPR 21.1.

7 Background documents¹

None

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.