

Officer Key Decision Record – Approval to Tender for a Mental Health Helpline

Chief Officer taking the decision	John Dixon – Interim Strategic Director, People Group
Date of Decision	13 November 2015

Decision Taken

That the Strategic Director of People Group

1. Approves the tender, negotiations and purchase of a Mental Health Helpline across Coventry and Warwickshire.
2. Approves and authorises the Head of Service for Strategic Commissioning to enter into all relevant contracts for the provision of a Mental Health Helpline on terms and conditions acceptable to the Strategic Director of Resources.

Reasons for Decisions

The County Council's Contract Standing Orders require that for contracts below a certain threshold a formal decision on the commencement of the procurement process be made by the appropriate Strategic Director.

Background Information

Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust (CWPT) currently contracts with Mental Health Matters for the delivery of a Mental Health helpline across Coventry and Warwickshire. The service has been in operation since April 2011.

The current contract value is £147,003 per annum of which Warwickshire County Council contribute £80,000. Through discussions with CWPT it has been highlighted that the sum of £67,003 for the Coventry element of the service is funded by Coventry & Rugby Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

An exemption has been approved for services until the end of March 2016 to allow sufficient time for a replacement service to be retendered and to ensure the new service fulfils the new statutory duties required within the Care Act 2014.

Work is underway with partners to develop a new outcome based service specification to ensure the future service is fit for purpose and is Care Act compliant. A market testing event took place on Tuesday 18th August with potential providers to gather their thoughts/opinions and experiences of both the current service and other models they have knowledge off. All of the feedback has been fed into the future specification for services.

Financial Implications

The current budget for services is £80,000 from Warwickshire County Council and £67,003 from Coventry and Rugby CCG (paid to CWPT). WCC have commitment from both CWPT and Coventry and Rugby CCG for future funding for this service.

The total value for the contract period is £588,012. As the value is over £500,000 approval to tender is required from the Strategic Director.

Report Author	Lisa Lissaman
Head of Service	Chris Lewington
Strategic Director	John Dixon
Portfolio Holder	Councillor Jose Compton

Checklist

Urgent matter?	No
Confidential or Exempt?	No
Is the decision contrary to the budget and policy framework?	No

List of Reports considered

Link to published proposed decision report:

<https://democratic.warwickshire.gov.uk/cm5/CalendarofMeetings/tabid/128/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/645/Meeting/3577/Committee/557/SelectedTab/Documents/Default.aspx>

List of Background Papers

None

Members and officers consulted or informed

Chair, Vice-Chair and Party Spokes of OSC
 Portfolio Holder
 Alison Hallworth
 Belinda Blake
 David Carter
 Paul White
 Virginia Rennie
 Jane Pollard