

2 March 2015**Agenda Item: 9****REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR, ADULT SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH
AND PUBLIC PROTECTION****REPORT TO EXTEND CONTRACT FOR SUPPORT TO THE EAST
MIDLANDS IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME IN ADULT SOCIAL CARE****Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of the report is to request a 12 months extension to the temporary posts of East Midlands Joint Improvement Programme Manager and Business Support Administrator, until the end of March 2016.

Information and Advice

2. Members will recall that Nottinghamshire County Council hosts the regional Joint Improvement Programme for adult social care in the East Midlands, with funding from the Department of Health. The Corporate Director oversees this work on behalf of East Midlands Councils.
3. The regional posts provide coordination and oversight of regional improvement programmes such as the Sector-Led Improvement programme, Care Act implementation and Transforming Care (was Winterbourne View).
4. The initial Sector Led Improvement programme will be completed at the end of February 2015 with all local authorities in the region having had a peer challenge, submitted two annual self-assessments and taken part in two annual peer challenge summits. The full programme will be reviewed in March to build on and develop the work across the region with for example consideration being given to involving 'experts by experience' in the second programme.

Care Act 2014 Implementation:

5. Leadership of the programme is through the Care Act Leads meeting which has all 10 councils represented and engaged and is chaired by Caroline Baria, Service Director at Nottinghamshire County Council. To support individual councils the regional programme is using the existing networks to provide peer learning and support, sharing developing knowledge and experience between councils and identifying from the network members themselves what would be the most useful activities to bring forward regionally.

6. An extremely well attended regional Consultation event on the Care Act draft regulations and guidance was organised jointly with the National Programme Office in June 2014 for local authorities, together with partners from the voluntary and community and commercial sectors. A second event to consult on Part Two of the draft regulations and guidance is being organised for the 26th February 2015.

Care Act Workshop Events:

- **Prisons**, 18 November 2014 at HMP Whatton, all day with local authorities, prisons, healthcare providers, NHS England, National Offender Management Service (NOMS) and, for the morning session, serving prisoners either with disabilities or long term health conditions or involved in providing peer support to them.
- **Public Communications**, 11 December 2014, facilitated by Public Health England with local authority communication leads to share how the national programme will be delivered, introduced the tools that will be available for councils to download and to discuss what councils need to be putting in place to complement the national activity.
- **Other workshops planned** include an Eligibility workshop on Monday 2 February 2015 and Managing Market Failure Workshop on Tuesday 10 Feb 2015 with the Care Quality Commission.

Personalisation:

7. In Control were commissioned with funding from Think Local Act Personal (TLAP) to deliver a programme of work with seven out of ten Local Authorities on the Personal Outcomes Evaluation Tool (POET) Survey and Making it Real throughout 2014 and early 2015. This will be followed by a regional workshop in March to showcase good practice in the region as well as from the rest of the country.

Other regional activity:

8. A number of Regional Workshops and Networks have been progressed covering Safeguarding, Transforming Care, Autism, Assistive Technology and Learning Disability. A new regional Mental Health Leads network was established during the year.
9. A **seminar** with Directors of Adult Social Care and Directors of Children's Services, Lead Members for Children's and Adult Social Care and Independent Chairs of Adult Safeguarding Boards was held in November 2014 to cover Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) legislation and transition issues (16-25) and learning from regional pathfinders. This was followed by a joint meeting to update Lead Members and Independent Chairs on Sector Led Improvement, Better Care Fund and the Care Act.
10. A joint **Performance Leads** meeting with the Eastern Region was held at the end of June 2014, in order to share good practice and discuss issues around collaboration.
11. A regional event to showcase innovative **dementia projects** in Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire was held in early June 2014.
12. In the immediate future, the implementation of the Care Act presents a major challenge for local authorities. The continuation of regional networks such as Assistant Director

and Programme Leads to identify areas where regional working will create efficiencies and add value is essential.

Other Options Considered

13. This essential cross-regional improvement and development work, continues to be needed to put local authorities in a strong position to respond to the challenges facing Adult Social Care. The regional work provides significant opportunities for learning and the sharing of best practice as well as efficiencies in service delivery.
14. If the post was to be discontinued then this work would come to an end together with the loss of regional expertise and regional networks. The benefit to the post being based here is that the authority is alerted early on to any national and regional developments as well as enabling Nottinghamshire's good practice to be more readily showcased across the region. If the current arrangement is ended then another Local Authority would need to be identified to host this post and the current post holders transferred to another authority.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

15. The implementation of the Care Act, the continuation of Sector-Led Improvement and transforming care represent major challenges for local authorities. The work undertaken by these regional posts is essential in order to assist with the successful implementation of change across the East Midlands based on sharing of good practice and scope for efficiencies in delivery.

Statutory and Policy Implications

16. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, the public sector equality duty, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

17. These posts are externally funded from some legacy funding from the Joint Improvement Programme, together with regional Sector-Led Improvement and Care Act funding via the Local Government Association and Department of Health.

Human Resources Implications

18. It is proposed that Nottinghamshire County Council continues to host these posts, and that the Corporate Director, Adult Social Care, Health and Public Protection together with Branch Chair of the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services will provide oversight of the work of the post-holders.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1) It is recommended that the posts of the temporary East Midlands Joint Improvement Programme Manager (Grade F, 22 hours per week) and Business Support Administrator (Grade 4, 30 hours per week) be extended until 31 March 2016.

JON WILSON

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For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (SG 30/01/2015)

19. The proposals in this report fall within the remit of this Committee. The Committee has responsibility for the approval of relevant staffing structures.
20. The Employment Procedure Rules provide that the report to Committee include the required advice and HR comments and that the recognised trade unions be consulted on all proposed changes to staffing structures (and any views given should be fully considered prior to a decision being made).

Financial Comments (KAS 28/01/15)

21. The financial implications are contained within paragraph 17 of the report.

Background Papers

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

[Report on the extension of the Programme Director, Sector Led Reform post, 3rd Sept 2012](#)

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.