

18 May 2015**Agenda Item: 7**

REPORT OF THE CONSULTANT IN PUBLIC HEALTH

HEALTHY CHILD PROGRAMME AND PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING – COMMISSIONING PLANS

Purpose of the Report

1. To update the Committee on proposed plans to commission the Healthy Child Programme for 0-19 year olds and public health nursing.

Information and Advice

Healthy Child Programme (HCP)

2. The HCP¹ was published in November 2009 and sets out the recommended framework of services for children and young people aged 0 -19 years (including during pregnancy) to promote optimal health and wellbeing, to prevent ill health and to provide early intervention when required.
3. The HCP delivers universal services to all children and families, including routine screening and developmental checks. Through the programme, families in need of additional support and children who are at risk of poor outcomes can be identified and the appropriate support provided; a key aim of the HCP is to reduce health inequalities.
4. Effective implementation of the HCP (0-5 years) contributes to: a range of health and wellbeing outcomes such as strong parent-child attachment and positive parenting; care that helps to keep children healthy and safe (e.g. healthy eating, prevention of certain serious communicable diseases, increased rates of breastfeeding); and readiness for school and improved learning.
5. The HCP (5-19 years) aims to improve a range of public health outcomes including improved sexual health and teenage pregnancy outcomes, healthy diet and exercise, educational outcomes, smoking prevention and cessation, alcohol and substance use prevention and awareness, improved emotional health and wellbeing etc. The programme also facilitates the mandatory function for the delivery of the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP).

¹ The HCP comprises three guidance documents: HCP - pregnancy and the first 5 years of life; HCP - the 2 year review; HCP – from 5-19 years. The documents include a programme schedule of age appropriate health and development reviews.

Public health nursing for children and young people

6. The main groups of public health nurses who provide services to children and young people and their families are health visitors, school nurses and family nurses (this final group delivering the Family Nurse Partnership Programme).

Current commissioning arrangements

Health Visiting and Family Nurse Partnership (FNP)

7. Currently the responsibility for commissioning Health Visiting and FNP services is delegated to NHS England. This responsibility will transfer to local authorities by October 2015. Two NHS England teams (previously known as area teams) cover Nottinghamshire. These teams commission Health Visiting and FNP services in Nottinghamshire and Bassetlaw respectively.
8. Health Visiting services and the FNP are currently provided across the whole of Nottinghamshire by Health Partnerships, part of the Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust.

School Nursing

9. As with Health Visiting and the FNP in Nottinghamshire, Health Partnerships currently provide school nursing services.
10. The responsibility for commissioning of School Nursing Services transferred from Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) to Public Health in the Local Authority in April 2013. Currently Nottingham North East Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) leads on the commissioning of services provided by the health provider, Health Partnerships, including school nursing and the National Childhood Measurement Programme (NCMP); and Bassetlaw CCG is leading on the commissioning of the service in Bassetlaw delivered by Bassetlaw Health Partnerships. Public Health is an associate commissioner to the NHS contracts with the current providers. These associate commissioner arrangements are due to end on 31st March 2016.
11. Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC) commission the service for all of Nottinghamshire including Bassetlaw.
12. The Children's Integrated Commissioning Hub (ICH) has completed a review of the Nottinghamshire School Nursing service to inform future commissioning intentions. This has led to a proposed new model for the service which has undergone a consultation exercise which ended on 31st March 2015.

Proposed commissioning arrangements

13. Once commissioning responsibility has transferred to NCC, Health Visiting services and FNP will be commissioned by the ICH, which currently leads commissioning of School Nursing and NCMP. By bringing commissioning of all public health nursing services together, it will be possible to integrate these services more effectively and also align them with the operating model for Children, Families and Cultural Services (CFCS). It is envisaged that this will lead to improved working across

children's services in local areas, providing better value, improved service quality and better outcomes for children, young people and families.

14. The current contract with Health Partnerships for Health Visiting and School Nursing Services expires in March 2016, requiring NCC to undertake a procurement exercise, in order to award a new contract during 2016-17. Timescales for this provide an opportunity to align the commissioning of Health Visiting and School Nursing, with the aim of having an integrated 0-19 HCP service in place from October 2016.
15. The current contract for FNP expires in August 2015. The scope to integrate commissioning of FNP is limited due to the programme's licence restrictions. Additionally, FNP is due to be expanded and this means timescales for re-commissioning Health Visiting and School Nursing will differ.

Proposed commissioning timetable for HCP 0-19

16. The proposed commissioning timetable is as follows:

	Target Date
Serve 12-month notice on School Nursing (including NCMP) associate contract	March 2015
Transfer of Health Visiting and FNP commissioning to NCC	1 st October 2015
Serve 12-month notice on Health Visiting	1 st October 2015
Notification of intention to award NCC contract extension of Health Visiting and School Nursing (including NCMP) contract for 6 months between April and September 2016	1 st October 2015
Procurement process for Healthy Child Programme 0-19 (Health Visiting, School Nursing and NCMP)	1 st October 2015 – 30 th April 2016
Health Visiting and School Nursing (including NCMP) associate contract end.	31 st March 2016
Mobilisation period	1 st May 2016 – 30 th September 2016
New contract start date	1 st October 2016

Other Options Considered

17. An options appraisal will be developed to inform decision making processes regarding possible integrated commissioning of Children's Centres with the HCP. These include the separate commissioning of the services or postponing the procurement of the HCP to fit in with Children's Centres procurement plans. Should any other options appear to deliver increased benefits, options will be presented to the Committee.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

18. The Committee ought to be kept informed of Public Health commissioning plans for services for children and young people, in particular, for Health Visiting and School

Nursing as they have a key part to play in improving outcomes for children and families.

Statutory and Policy Implications

19. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working 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

20. The commissioning budget for the Health Visiting Service and the FNP is due to transfer to NCC on 1st October 2015, with the transfer of commissioning responsibility. The Health Visiting budget will be combined with the School Nursing Budget when commissioning the 5-19 HCP.

Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults Implications

21. Safeguarding is a key element of all commissioning plans for these services.

Implications for Service Users

22. There will be improved health and wellbeing outcomes for children and young people. Nearly 2,000 young people were consulted when reviewing the School Nursing Service to help inform commissioning of the service to meet their identified needs.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the Committee notes the proposed commissioning timetable for the Healthy Child Programme 0-19 (Health Visiting, School Nursing and National Child Measurement Programme).

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Constitutional Comments

23. As this report is for noting only, no Constitutional Comments are required.

Financial Comments (SS 23/04/15)

24. The financial implications of the report are set out in paragraph 20 above.

Background Papers and Published Documents

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.

Nottinghamshire School Nursing Review and proposed new model, September 2014 – implications for commissioners (including Appendices 1-3) available at www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/schoolnursing

‘Nottinghamshire School Nursing Review’ Nottinghamshire Children’s Trust Board – 5 September 2013
<http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/caring/childrenstrust/about-the-childrens-trust/childrenstrustCommittee/>

Nottinghamshire School Nursing Review – implications for Commissioners, Children’s Trust Board - 6th November 2014
<http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/caring/childrenstrust/about-the-childrens-trust/childrenstrustboard/?entryid217=431744&p=2>

‘Healthy Child Programme and Public Health Nursing for Children and Young People’ Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board – 8 January 2014
http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/dms/Committees/tabid/62/ctl/ViewCMIS_CommitteeDetails/mid/381/id/505/Default.aspx

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

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