

**3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014****Agenda Item: 8****REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR, ADULT SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH  
AND PUBLIC PROTECTION****REPORT TO EXTEND CONTRACT FOR SUPPORT WITH 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 2015.

**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 co-ordination and oversight of regional improvement programmes such as the Sector-Led Improvement Programme. All ten councils across the East Midlands have signed up to and made a strong commitment to this Programme. The annual self-assessment, dataset analysis, peer challenge programme, individual interviews with Directors of Adult Social Services, and the Challenge Summit constitute a comprehensive and creative contribution to sector led improvement in the region. To date, four peer challenges have taken place as scheduled. As part of this programme the Local Government Association (LGA) have delivered three training sessions for officers and Members during the year. Training specifically for Members was delivered in September jointly across East Midlands, West Midlands and Eastern regions.
4. East Midlands Councils (EMC) commissioned work to examine the future funding of adult social care, the implications of current and future trends for councils in the East Midlands and potential strategies for managing the issues.
5. Oxford Brookes University produced a Self-funders toolkit for the region which is aimed at local authority commissioners, market development managers and procurement teams and offers a set of approaches to understanding and engaging with those people who self-fund their own social care. This was a part of the national programme to deliver Care Markets for Quality and Choice.

6. Other areas of work include support to the East Midlands Regional Adult Safeguarding Board, overseeing the Personalisation Network and regional plan, In addition to on-going support given to a number of regional improvement networks such as Reablement and Assistive Technology. Organising events such as the joint Health and Social Care 'Making it work Across the NHS and Local Government' conference in September 2013 and the Autism and the Criminal Justice conference in October 2013.
7. In the immediate future, the implementation of the Care and Support Bill 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**

8. 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.
9. 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 at Nottinghamshire County Council is that the authority is alerted early on to any national and regional developments as well as enabling the authority'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**

10. The implementation of the Care and Support Bill and continuation of sector-led improvement 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**

11. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, 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**

12. The funding for these posts is drawn from legacy funding of the Joint Improvement Programme and sector-led improvement funding via the LGA, so it is all external funding.

### **Human Resources Implications**

13. It is proposed that Nottinghamshire County Council continues to host these posts, and that the Corporate Director, Adult Social Care, Health and Public Protection provide oversight of the work of the post-holders.

### **Ways of Working Implications**

14. As the posts are currently hosted by Nottinghamshire County Council they are already accommodated within existing office resources.

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 1) It is recommended that the posts of the temporary East Midlands Joint Improvement Programme Manager (22 hours per week, Hay Band F, scp 56-61) and Business Support (18.5 hours per week, NJE Grade 4, scp 19-23) be extended until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015.

### **DAVID PEARSON**

**Corporate Director, Adult Social Care, Health and Public Protection**

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### **Constitutional Comments (KK 12/02/2014)**

15. The proposal in this report is within the remit of the Adult Social Care and Health Committee.

### **Financial Comments (KAS 11/02/2014)**

16. The financial implications are contained within paragraph 12 of the report.

### **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.

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

**Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

All.

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