

7th January 2013

Agenda Item: 15

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR, ADULT SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH AND PUBLIC PROTECTION

EXTENSION OF CONTRACT FOR SUPPORT WITH SECTOR LED IMPROVEMENT IN ADULT SOCIAL CARE

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of the report is to request an extension to the temporary post of Programme Director, Sector Led Reform, until the end of March 2013.

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. In addition to this work, in May 2012 a temporary Programme Director post was established to provide strategic support with health and local government transitions and to develop and implement a system of sector-led improvement for adult social care across the region. The corporate director has also overseen this work on behalf of the East Midlands Council.
3. At the Committee meeting in September 2012 a report was submitted requesting the extension of this regional post for 3 months until the end of December 2012, and the recommendation was accepted.
4. As a result of the work undertaken by the regional post there has been a broad consensus around the proposed approach to be taken to sector-led improvement, agreed by statutory Directors of Adult Social Care, Chief Executives and Cabinet Members/Committee Chairs of Adult Social Care across the East Midlands. The approval will be similar to that used in children's services as this is well established and seen nationally as a model of good practice. The core elements to this approach are:
 - self-assessment
 - peer challenges (conducted by a small review team comprising an Adult Social Care Director from another local authority, Assistant Directors or equivalent and an elected Member)
 - peer challenges to be focused, robust and independent (external to Council)
 - peer challenges annual summit
 - potential for leadership development
 - agreed core data set to assist benchmarking

- shared learning approaches
- develop a community of practice.

5. The intention is that there will be 2 pilot peer challenges in March/April 2013.
6. There is still work to do to support the embedding of the sector-led improvement programme. Additional business support to administer and co-ordinate key elements of the programme needs to be commissioned from SDSA, which provides support for the Children's Sector Led Improvement programme. In addition there is a need to ensure senior adult social care expertise to work with SDSA, lead on the completion of the self assessment guidance and provide analysis of the completed self assessments and facilitation of the annual challenge and improvement event. Support is also required to oversee the preparation for and co-ordination of the pilot reviews and the learning arising from these.
7. There is ongoing liaison with the Local Government Association and there will be a need to organise the second programme of peer review training for Directors, Assistant Directors (or equivalent) and Elected Members.
8. The objective is to reach a point as soon as possible where the sector led improvement programme can be sustained without the need for Programme Director input. It is anticipated that input will be required to achieve the work identified in the report over the next few months but that the level of resource can be reduced to a maximum of 2 days per week.

Other Options Considered

9. This is essential cross-regional development work, which has been needed to put local authorities in a strong position to deal with the required national changes. The senior management capacity did not exist within the East Midlands Local Authorities for this work hence the need to pool resources for a regional approach.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

10. The Health and Social Care Bill and sector-led reform represent some of the most significant changes to public services in the last fifty years. The work undertaken by this regional post is essential in order to assist with the successful implementation of the change across the East Midlands.

Statutory and Policy Implications

11. 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

12. The funding for this post is split between the East Midlands Joint Improvement Programme and the Strategic Health Authority, so it is all external funding. Additional funding of £90,000 has now been made available to continue to fund this work into early 2013.

Human Resources Implications

13. It is proposed that Nottinghamshire County Council continues to host the post, and that the Deputy Chief Executive and Corporate Director, Adult Social Care, Health and Public Protection provides oversight of the work of the post-holder.

RECOMMENDATION/S

1) It is recommended that the post of the temporary Programme Director, Sector-led Reform be extended on the basis of 2 days per week or equivalent until 31st March 2013.

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For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (LMc 18/12/2012)

14. The Adult Social Care and Health Committee has delegated authority to approve the recommendations in the report.

Financial Comments (NDR 20/12/2012)

15. The financial implications are set out in paragraph 11 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.

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