

18 July 2013**Agenda Item: 7****REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH****COMMUNITY INFECTION PREVENTION & CONTROL****Purpose of the Report**

1. Approval of the Public Health Sub-Committee is requested for a project to review the provision of Community Infection Prevention and Control in Nottinghamshire County and implement arrangements for the period 2015 and beyond, including any procurement work which may be required to identify preferred provider(s).

Information and Advice

2. Community Infection Prevention and Control (CIPC) refers to the prevention of infections in people receiving care in either health or social care settings in the community, such as GP practices or care homes. Prevention includes ensuring a combination of good hygienic practice, careful use of antibiotics and improved techniques and devices.
3. Upper tier local authorities have been delegated responsibility for funding Community Infection Prevention and Control, to be funded out of the Public Health grant received by Nottinghamshire County Council.
4. Current arrangements in Nottinghamshire County (and in other areas across England) are inconsistent and need improving.
5. A Project Initiation Document has been drafted which sets out the scope and governance of the proposed project.
6. The progress of the project will be monitored by the Health Protection Strategy Group, chaired by Dr Chris Kenny, Director of Public Health.
7. Assuming satisfactory progress, a recommendation report will be brought to the Public Health Subcommittee in 2014 to request approval for the award of contract to the preferred provider(s). Subject to the agreement of the Subcommittee, there will be no requirement to seek further approval from the Subcommittee prior to submission of the Recommendation report.
8. A similar review of CIPC arrangement is required in Nottingham City. Therefore the project will address the needs of Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County. This will allow exploration of whether additional value might be secured through a joint approach to

procurement of the future service(s). Approval of recommended solutions for Nottinghamshire County shall remain the sole responsibility of the Nottinghamshire County Public Health Subcommittee. Approval of recommendations for Nottingham City shall remain the sole responsibility of Nottingham City Council.

Other Options Considered

9. “Do nothing”

There is currently no robust permanent arrangement in Bassetlaw, and arrangements for the rest of the County lack sufficient capacity on which to provide proper assurance about their resilience and impact.

10. “Decide to provide CIPC using in-house resource (with or without additional capacity to ensure resilience and impact)”

This would avoid the one-off transactional costs associated with a procurement exercise. However, in-house provision is not without problem (e.g. professional isolation for specialists). Furthermore, one would forego the benefit of consulting the market and of testing out what is best value through a competitive procurement process. As a result it would be difficult to assure the Subcommittee that the solution represents best value. Therefore we recommend that in-house provision is properly considered alongside outsourced options.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

11. A review of the requirements and procurement options for provision of CIPC beyond 2015 will provide a reasonable basis on which to advise the Subcommittee about future arrangements.

Statutory and Policy Implications

12. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, 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

13. The cost of the recommendation to be brought to the committee will be funded from within the public health grant. In advance of the needs assessment and procurement activity, the cost of meeting the future needs of Nottinghamshire County residents can only be estimated. The current allocation for CIPC in the public health grant is £160,000 pa. This appears to reflect levels of expenditure since the service was cut back by the former Nottinghamshire County PCT in 2011. As noted in paragraph 9, these current arrangements are neither robust nor comprehensive in their coverage.

Implications for service users and Human Resources Implications

14. Implications for service users relate to changes in the level of protection they experience from healthcare associated infection. There will be implications for the current workforce if it is determined that best value will be secured from a service model in which the CIPC function is provided by another organisation.

RECOMMENDATION/S

1) Approve the request for a project to review the provision of Community Infection Prevention and Control in Nottinghamshire County and implement arrangements for the period 2015 and beyond, including any procurement work which may be required to identify preferred provider(s).

Chris Kenny
Director of Public Health

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Jonathan Gribbin, Consultant in Public Health

Constitutional Comments (SG 24/06/2013)

15. The Committee has responsibility for Public Health under its Terms of Reference and is the appropriate body to decide the issues set out in this report.

Financial Comments (ZKM 03/07/2013)

16. The financial implications of this report are outlined in paragraphs 13 and 14.

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.

Project Initiation Document - Review Provision of Community Infection Prevention & Control.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All