

7th March 2016

Agenda Item: 12

**REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR, ADULT SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH
AND PUBLIC PROTECTION****EXTENSION OF CONTRACTS 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 fixed term posts of East Midlands Improvement Programme Manager and Business Support Administrator, until 31st March 2017.

Information and Advice

2. Nottinghamshire County Council hosts the regional 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 Second Tier Councils.
3. The regional Improvement Programme Manager post provides coordination and oversight of regional improvement programmes such as the Sector-Led Improvement Programme, Care Act 2014 implementation, Learning Disability and Transforming Care, Better Care Fund (BCF) and Delayed Transfers of Care (DToC).
4. The initial Sector Led Improvement Programme was successfully completed at the end of March 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 was reviewed by Directors of Adult Social Care and a number of changes were agreed to build on and develop the work across the region. These include a revised Memorandum of Understanding, the involvement of 'experts by experience', and the completion of a 'balanced scorecard' by each local authority. The schedule for the second round of peer challenges for 2016/18 has been agreed and is now underway.
5. A major area of work over the past 12 months has been supporting the implementation of the Care Act 2014 at a regional level. The regional Assistant Directors network was tasked by Directors of Adult Social Care to undertake this work together with local Programme Leads and Ian Anderson, the Regional Care Act Director.

6. The network has delivered an extensive programme of workshops as well providing a forum to share information, explore emerging responses to the challenges and opportunities of the Act and to take an overview of the work of other relevant regional networks. Over the past year there have been five national Care Act Stocktakes with a 100% return from all ten local authorities in the region and the overall level of confidence with respect to implementation is good.
7. There have been 11 regional events covering different aspects of implementation. These have included master classes to share emerging good practice around eligibility and workforce modelling led by Nottinghamshire County Council. There have been two workshops with social care providers with the aim of building a shared understanding of the Care Act and of strengthen working relationships between commissioners and providers. Other workshops addressed the issue of Information and Advice, one of which included a presentation on citizens' experience of using local authority websites based on 'mystery shopping' exercises.
8. There are a number of regional improvement networks led by a Director of Adult Social Care or a Service Director and these include:
 1. Workforce Development
 2. Safeguarding Adults
 3. Learning Disability and Transforming Care
 4. Market Shaping and Commissioning
 5. Mental Health Leads
 6. Delayed Transfers of Care (DToC)
 7. Personalisation Leads (led by Nottinghamshire County Council).
9. During 2015 there was a follow up Workforce Symposium held in collaboration with the East Midlands Leadership Academy, the outcome of which will inform a regional action plan. A Personalisation Workshop was organised by InControl to share good practice from within the region together with examples from elsewhere in the country.
10. The issue of transitions was addressed with a seminar involving Directors of Adult Social Care, Directors of Children's Services, and Lead Members for Children's and Adult Social Care to consider 'All age approaches to disability, including transition' and to support the development of consistently good services across the region. This was followed by a wider 'A Whole Life Approach to Disability Services' event organised by Nottingham City Council, Nottinghamshire County Council and InControl.

Other Options Considered

11. 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.
12. In addition the National Joint Programme Board with officers from the Local Government, the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services and the Department of Health has worked very effectively with the regions over the past 18

months and recognises the importance of regional structures in delivering national programmes and priorities e.g. Delayed Transfers of Care (DToC). The expectation for 2016/17 is that regional structures will continue to play a key role in delivering the Care and Health Improvement Programme.

13. 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 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

14. The Care and Health Improvement Programme which encompasses 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

15. 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

16. These posts are externally funded from some legacy funding from the Joint Improvement Programme, together with Care and Health Improvement Programme funding via the Local Government Association and Department of Health. The region has been allocated £132,200 for 2016/17 to support staff development and culture change which embeds the Care Act and will enable learning networks and other regional activity to take place in the region.

Human Resources Implications

17. 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) That the posts of the temporary East Midlands Joint Improvement Programme Manager (Band F, 22 hours per week) and Business Support Administrator (Grade 4, 30 hours per week) be extended until 31st March 2017.

David Pearson

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Constitutional Comments (LM 04/02/16)

18. The recommendations in the report fall within the Terms of Reference of the Adult Social Care and Health Committee.

Financial Comments (KAS 04/02/16)

19. The financial implications are contained within paragraph 16 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 to Extend Contract for Support with the East Midlands Improvement Programme in Adult Social Care – Adult Social Care and Health Committee, 3rd March 2014

<http://ws43-0029.nottsc.gov.uk/dmsadmin/meetings/tabid/70/ctl/viewmeetingpublic/mid/397/meeting/3096/committee/480/default.aspx>

Report to Extend Contract for Support with the East Midlands Improvement Programme in Adult Social Care – Adult Social Care and Health Committee, 2nd March 2015

<http://ws43-0029.nottsc.gov.uk/dmsadmin/meetings/tabid/70/ctl/viewmeetingpublic/mid/397/meeting/3303/committee/480/default.aspx>

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

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