



Mayor and Cabinet

Contract Extension for Humankind

Date: February 2023

Key decision: Yes.

Ward(s) affected: All

Contributors: Executive Director of Corporate Resources and/ Substance Misuse Commissioning Team

Outline

The purpose of this report is to seek approval from Mayor and Cabinet to extend the contract for the Primary Care Recovery Service (PCRS) provided by Humankind for a period of two years until March 2025 as provided for by the option in the original contract award.

The existing annual value of this contract is £649,278

This extension can be fully funded through the 2022/23 grant from Public Health England.

1. Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval from Mayor and Cabinet to extend the contract for the Primary Care Recovery Service (PCRS) provided by Humankind for a period of two years until March 2025.
- 1.2 Following extensive consultation on the drug and alcohol treatment service, Mayor and Cabinet gave approval to re-commissioning drug and alcohol treatment services for adults (shared service) in Lewisham on 10th July 2019.
- 1.4 Following an 'open' procurement process, which resulted in a number expressions of interest, selected tenders were submitted. After evaluation of the bids, the tenders were shortlisted. On completion of the evaluation process the contract was awarded to

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the successful provider Humankind by Mayor and Cabinet on the 20th November 2019 for a three year contract starting on the 1st April 2020 with an option to extend for 2 further years.

- 1.5 For reasons set out in this report the recommendation is to exercise the option to extend the contract for two years. During this time there will be a comprehensive review of the service model. The extension of contract will also ensure continuity of the service for vulnerable service users and allow (PCRS) Humankind over the next 2 years to build on the significant improvements in performance to date.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Prevention, Inclusion & Public Health Commissioning Team commissions a range of services to meet the needs of those with a drug and/or alcohol problem and to reduce harm to society as a whole.
- 2.2 The majority of the treatment services provided in Lewisham are funded through the Public Health (PH) grant which contributes £3,412,000 to the overall treatment budget of £3,783,000 for 2022/23.
- 2.3 This system provides medical treatment and rehabilitation programmes as well as intensive support services that promote recovery and encourage individuals to maintain their recovery through engagement in positive activities such as employment, training or volunteering. The service also deliver support through arrangements known as 'shared care' with GPs in the borough and work with community pharmacies on harm minimisation projects.
- 2.4 The current Primary Care Recovery Service was commissioned in April 2020 and is due to expire at the end of March 2023. It is therefore necessary to extend the contract to meet both the needs of Lewisham residents and the requirements of central and regional government funding bodies.
- 2.5 The PCRS contract supports the delivery of a range of outcomes for service users engaged in the adult treatment systems including:
- Freedom from dependence on drugs or alcohol
 - A reduction in crime and offending
 - Preventing drug related deaths and blood borne viruses
 - Sustained employment
 - Ability to access suitable accommodation
 - Improvement in mental and physical health and wellbeing
 - Improved relationships with family members, partners and friends
 - The capacity to be an effective and caring parent
 - The wider benefits of the services include but are not limited to:
 - Reduction of antisocial behaviour
 - Reduction of drug related litter
 - Reduction of children being removed from families due to parental or sibling Substance misuse

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- Reduction of hospital admissions.

2.6 London Borough of Lewisham has a statutory responsibility under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to work with partners to reduce crime, disorder and substance misuse.

3. Recommendations

3.1 It is recommended that the Mayor & Cabinet:

- Award a contract extension for 2 years to Humankind for £696,840 per annum which includes a £47,562 inflationary uplift and is covered entirely by funding from Public Health England.

4. Service Performance & Overview of Approach

4.1 The Primary Care Recovery Service (PCRS) is delivered by Humankind Charity and provides a recovery-orientated model offering support, advice and treatment options for people living in Lewisham whose drug and/or alcohol use is stable enough for them to receive services via General Practice. The service is delivered in partnership with GPs and pharmacists and includes opioid substitute therapy, nurse led alcohol and opiate community detoxification and a range of other psycho-social recovery interventions that include “aftercare” services.

4.2 Humankind has held the contract since April 2020 and are currently in year 3 of a 3 + 1 + 1 contract.

4.3 Lewisham’s outcomes for successful completions across all cohorts are slightly lower than the national average. However officers have developed an action plan with the partnership to increase outcomes across the 4 cohorts.

4.4 Overall rates of successful completion from treatment for the alcohol and alcohol & non-opiate cohort are increasing towards the top quartile for similar areas. Opiate and non-opiate successfully completing treatment at a rate slightly lower to comparable averages. It is worth noting that these outcomes should be looked at in conjunction with the falling representation rates within six months of treatment completion.

4.5 Alcohol successful completions are moving in the right direction with 37.2% completing treatment successful, compared with the baseline of 36.4%.

4.6 Alcohol representations are also moving in the right direction, with fewer alcohol users returning to treatment after completing successfully 8.2% from a baseline of 17.1%.

4.7 It also worth noting that performance has suffered as a result of Covid-19 with an average 18% reduction across London and the Southeast for those clients successfully completing treatment. Therefore, it may take several months before performance is back to where it was pre-pandemic.

5. Policy Context

5.1 The recommendations within this report relate to the following priorities in the Council’s new Corporate Strategy 2022-2026, namely:

- Children and Young People; the renewal of the contract will provide treatment and support to families where substance misuse has been identified as a concern regarding child protection and safeguarding.

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- Safer Communities: the renewal of this contract will support the work within the partnership to combat anti-social behaviour that is linked to alcohol and drug misuse.
- Health and Wellbeing; the services within the contract will provide physical and mental health assessments on all service users and where appropriate refer to primary and secondary NHS services. There will be a strong emphasis on education, training, and leisure activities to support the service users' self-improvement and assist with re- integration into the community.

6. Financial implications

- 6.1 This report describes arrangements for the extension to the (PCRS) Humankind contract for a period of 2 years
- 6.2 The report proposes that the current Humankind Contract, which expires on 31/03/2023, is extended for a period of two years from 01/04/2023 to 31/03/2025.
- 6.3 The current 2022-23 contract value is £649,278. The contract cost is fully funded from the main Public Health Grant. There is no contribution from the councils General Fund budgets.
- 6.4 The new annual contract value will be £696,840 which includes an inflationary uplift of £47,562 which will be funded from the main Public Health Grant
- 6.5 Any savings to main Public Health Grant funding resulting from the new contract value will be reflected in the 22/23 savings process as part of the councils Medium Term Financial Strategy.
- 6.6 There are financial risks in relation to the proposed recommended contract extension from April 2023. The external grant funding for 23/24 and beyond is still to be confirmed by the relevant grant funding bodies. Should any of the grant funding be reduced then the contract will be adjusted accordingly.

7. Legal implications

- 7.1 The value of the individual contract across its term exceeds £500,000, which means that this is a Category A contract for the purposes of the Council's Contract Procedure Rules. The Contract falls under the Light Touch Regime under the Public Contract Regulations 2015 ("PCR 2015") being a Schedule 3 service: (health, social and related services or supply services of domestic help and nursing personnel).
- 7.2 Under rule 17 of the Council's Contract Procedure Rules, variations can be made in certain circumstances, including if they are clearly provided for in the original contract documentation; or are necessary to purchase new services and not included in the original procurement where a change of contractor would cause significant inconvenience or substantial duplication of cost, or a change cannot be made for economic or technical reasons. Changes can also be made to deal with unforeseen circumstances. The changes must not result in an increase in price of more than 50%.
- 7.3 The original award of the contract and the terms of the contract provide an option for extension up to 2 years. Officers have confirmed the reasons for requesting the extension in the body of this report.
- 7.4 The value of the extension means that the decision to extend would be a key decision.

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8. Equalities implications

- 8.1 The drug and alcohol contracts provide services for adults who are requiring drug and alcohol treatment both in the community and in residential settings. Each service is required to abide by equality legislation. The service specifications for the new services incorporate the findings of the DAAT Equalities Impact Assessment and focus on reducing barriers to treatment for all residents in line with the Equality Act 2010, and have considered the potential impact on all of the nine protected characteristics.
- 8.2 The Council's Equalities objectives are addressed in the contract documentation and were part of the tender evaluation criteria.

9. Climate change and environmental implications

- 9.1 There are no environmental implications.

10. Crime and disorder implications

- 10.1 The Humankind Contract relates to the provision of specialist drug and alcohol treatment to Lewisham residents, which is a critical component of Lewisham's substance misuse Adult Treatment Plan and therefore make an important contribution to the work of the Safer Lewisham Partnership and link in directly with the Safer, Stronger Communities outcome to 'minimise harm caused by illegal drugs'.

11. Health and wellbeing implications

- 11.1 The contract extension identified in this report, is required to ensure that continuity of care and support is in place for the service users accessing these services. If this contract is not extended, there is a risk of the Local Authority not fulfilling its statutory duties under the Care Act, and could lead to a significant increase in the number of patients with complex needs attending A&E, Primary and Secondary health services, the risk of neglect through lack of support and a reputational risk to the Council.

12 Social Value

- 12.1 The organisations listed are delivering support to vulnerable residents in the borough independently of local authority funding, promoting a range of social value in the borough.
- 12.2 The council is an officially accredited London Living Wage (LLW) Employer and is committed to ensuring that, where appropriate, contractors and subcontractors engaged by the council to provide works or services within Lewisham pay their staff at a minimum rate equivalent to the LLW rate. Successful contractors will be expected to meet LLW requirements and contract conditions requiring the payment of LLW will be included in the service specification and contract documents
- The incorporation of Social Value into Lewisham contracts will significantly help the Council to deliver on its strategic corporate and Mayoral priorities and deliver added value for the borough as a whole.
- 12.3 Once contracts have been extended officers will agree new social value aims and KPI's with these providers as a condition of the contract.

13. Background papers

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REPORT 2019.docx

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15. Glossary



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