

CYP Select Committee		
Report Title	Public health grant cuts: revision to proposal for Health Visiting	
Ward	All	Item No.
Contributors	Executive director for children and young people	
Class		Date: 13/03/19

1. Summary and Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update CYP Select Committee on the revised proposal for the cut to the Health Visiting budget, agreed by Mayor and Cabinet on 13th February 2019, as part of the Public Health grant proposals originally presented to Mayor and Cabinet on 12/12/18.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 CYP Select is asked to note the decision of Mayor and Cabinet on 13th February 2019 to accept the revised proposal for cuts relating to health visiting to balance the cut to the Public Health Grant for 2019/20.

3. Policy Context

- 3.1 The Health Visiting service contributes to the 2018-2022 Corporate Strategy, specifically the following priorities:
- Giving children and young people the best start in life - Every child has access to an outstanding and inspiring education and is given the support they need to keep them safe, well and able to achieve their full potential.
 - Building an inclusive local economy - Everyone can access high quality job opportunities, with decent pay and security in our thriving and inclusive local economy.
 - Delivering & defending: Health, Social Care and Support - Ensuring everyone receives the health, mental health, social care and support services they need.
- 3.2 Lewisham's Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership vision is: "Together with families, we will improve the lives and life chances of the children and young people in Lewisham". This is achieved through a focus upon closing the gaps in outcomes achieved by our children and young people and agreement to ensure that children's and families' needs are prevented from escalating and are instead lowered. The ideal is for all children and young people to require only universal services and where further support is needed this should be identified and provided as early as possible.

4. Background

- 4.1 In the Spending Review and Autumn Statement 2015 the government announced an in-year cut to the ring-fenced Public Health grant, with further cuts for each subsequent year to 2019/20. In Lewisham the grant is £24,325,000 for 2018/19

and the cut for 2019/20 will be £642,000. This will reduce the grant for 2019/20 to £23,683,000 and take the total cuts in the grant to date to £3,985,000.

- 4.2 Proposals for the management of this cut to the public health grant were developed in 2018 and presented to Mayor and Cabinet for review and agreement on 12th December 2018.
- 4.3 Scrutiny from Healthier Select Committee and Children and Young People's Select Committee highlighted concerns from Members on the potential impact of the cut on front line staff and Health Visitor to child ratios in the borough.
- 4.4 As a result, Mayor and Cabinet deferred their decision for reconsideration of the impact on staffing resources for this service.

5. Revised proposal

- 5.1 The proposed cut to the Health Visiting service budget is £196,306 against a budget of £6,096,224. If accepted, this would leave a budget of £5,899,918.
- 5.2 The pricing schedule submitted by Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust in their 2016 tender has a contract value of £6,053,976 in 19/20. This means a reduction in funding of £154,058 to the service should the cut be taken; this would be implemented through a change to the contract with Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust to bring into effect a revised contract value of £5,899,918.
- 5.3 Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust have confirmed that the cut can be taken without being put against the Health Visitor establishment, with the Trust accommodating the cut from overheads.
- 5.4 This will mean that a contract variation is issued for 19/20.
- 5.5 The Trust also welcome an opportunity to contribute to the planned strategic review of Early Help during the coming year.
- 5.6 This reduction, and any future year changes to the public health budgets once announced, will need to be the subject of further officer proposals to ensure expenditure on services matches the available grant.

6. Legal Implications

- 6.1 Legal implications are as set out in the report.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1 Expenditure on public health in Lewisham is funded through the ring-fenced Public Health Grant. In 2019/20 this grant will reduce by £0.642m.
- 7.2 The cut of £196,306 in this report is being taken from the Health Visiting budget line within the Council's Public Health Budget.

7.3 If the cut is taken, it would result in a reduction of £154,058 from the contract value with LGT for 19/20. LGT has confirmed that it will be realised with no impact on the current Health Visiting staffing establishment.

7.4 The cut presented in this report is part of a number of cuts proposals that deliver the level of savings required for the Council to balance its budget as a result of the cut to the Public Health Grant in 19/20.

8. Crime and Disorder Implications

8.1 There are no crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

9. Equalities Implications

9.1 The proposal in this report has been considered for equalities impact and it is considered that there will be no impact in 19/20.

9.2 A full EAA will be undertaken as part of the Early Help Review, including any changes to the Health Visiting service in 20/21 as a key part of any Early Help offer

10. Environmental Implications

10.1 There are no environmental implications arising from this report.