

Wards Affected:*'All Wards'***ITEM 5****PROCUREMENT AND COMMISSIONING****7 FEBRUARY 2017****INVITATION TO TENDER - COMMUNITY HIV PREVENTION AND SEXUAL HEALTH PROMOTION SERVICE PH0140**

Responsible Cabinet Member: Councillor O'Neill (Cabinet member for Healthier and Stronger Communities)

Report Sponsor: Muriel Scott (Director of Public Health)

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Executive Summary:

This report is seeking approval to commence the tender process for a Community HIV Prevention and Sexual Health Promotion Service, for a three (3) year contract, with the possibility of extension for two (2) years, subject to satisfactory performance and mutual agreement. The estimated budget for the contract will be in the region of £100,000 per annum.

The current contract is expiring on 30 September 2017. The new contract will be for a service that targets sexual health promotion, HIV prevention and HIV testing for all residents at increased risk of acquiring HIV, including Men who have Sex with Men (MSM) some disproportionately affected Black and Minority Ethnic Groups (BME), Sex Workers and People who Inject Drugs (PWID).

1. Recommendation(s)

- 1.1 That the commencement of an open tender process for the procurement of a Community HIV Prevention and Sexual Health Promotion Service be approved.

2. Background

- 2.1 The procurement of a Community HIV Prevention and Sexual Health Promotion Service is required in order to meet Milton Keynes Council's Public Health responsibility for commissioning sexual health services.

This report requests approval to obtain tenders for the provision of a Community HIV Prevention and Sexual Health Promotion Service.

2.2 Consultation

Initial consultation was via the Public Health Senior Management Team. The specification will be developed in partnership with the relevant Cabinet Member and the following key stakeholders: service users, members of the Milton Keynes Sexual Health Strategy Group which includes all relevant local providers and regional facilitators.

- (a) A review of the current contract identified the following:
 - (i) Lessons learned – The current contract has not focussed on HIV prevention or testing and has prioritised only some of the ‘at risk’ groups. In addition the focus was on support for HIV positive people and their families rather than prevention. This has been addressed and rectified in the new specification.
 - (ii) Areas of change / improvement needed - As HIV is now a manageable long term condition and given improvements in HIV treatment, it is felt that a shift towards self-management is more appropriate. The need to engage in HIV Prevention, Sexual Health Promotion and Community HIV testing for ‘high risk’ groups is more in line with current guidelines.

2.3 Specification

- (a) The procurement seeks to deliver the following service objectives:

To ensure that HIV prevention services in Milton Keynes achieve commissioned outcomes, with provision delivered in accordance with the most current need, standards and guidelines:

- (i) To Increase the knowledge and understanding about STI’s, HIV infection and transmission.
 - (ii) To provide a service that is acceptable and accessible to sub populations who are disproportionately affected by HIV infection. This will be based on up to date sexual health needs assessment.
 - (iii) To prioritise prevention, tackle stigma and discrimination and reduce inequalities for people affected by HIV.
 - (iv) To promote rapid and easy access to prevention, detection and treatment services for those affected by HIV and to reduce prevalence, late diagnosis and onward transmission.
 - (v) To increase the uptake of HIV testing amongst those more at risk of HIV and provide rapid referral to HIV care services following positive diagnosis.
 - (vi) To ensure quality data collection, robust reporting and clinical governance.
 - (vii) To provide opportunities for HIV positive people to manage their own physical, psychological health and their emotional and social wellbeing, either independently or with support.
- (b) Social Value - officers have considered whether this procurement can deliver any element of Social Value and have decided that the following requirements can be built into the Specification / MEAT Criteria

2.4 Evaluation Criteria and Panel

The MEAT evaluation of the tender includes the following tender specific requirements, which are listed below:

Area*	Evaluation Area	Weighting (%)
1	<i>Tender Price</i>	40%
2	<i>Service Delivery: including details of the proposed service and how the organisation will deliver an outcomes focussed service which aims to improve sexual health and reduce inequalities</i>	25%
3	<i>Expertise, experience and governance, including skills and knowledge around HIV prevention and sexual health promotion, including staff training and compliance with National and local protocols</i>	20%
4	<i>Service user involvement: including how the service meaningfully involves service e users in the development and delivery of its services</i>	5%
5	<i>Social Value: including how the service will deliver improvements to the social wellbeing of the Milton Keynes Community</i>	5%
6.	<i>Equalities and diversity: including how the service will engage with hard to reach and disproportionately affected groups in the population</i>	5%

Managers from both Milton Keynes and colleagues within Finance and Legal and Procurement will be engaged to support the tender process.

2.5 Contract Terms and Conditions

- (a) Tenders will be sought for a contract period starting on 1 October 2017 and ending on 31 September 2020.
- (b) The contract will provide for an optional extension of two years.
- (c) The Council's standard Terms and Conditions for contract for Services are to be used. Upon approval of this recommendation we will liaise with the legal department to have the Terms and Conditions issued as a formal contract which will then be sealed and stored in the deeds room.
- (d) The Council's Constitution further requires that all contracts in excess of £100,000 are sealed as deeds with the legal department agreeing contract terms with the client department and making the arrangements

for sending out final Terms & Conditions to Contractors and sealing and storage of the final contract in the deeds room.

2.6 Project Management

Regular project management meetings will take place throughout this process

- (a) The Council's Project Manager for the procurement is The Public Health principal – Sexual health.
- (b) The Council's Senior Client Officer for the procurement is The Director of Public Health and for the management of the contract is Cass Knight

3. **Alternative Options**

HIV prevalence rates in Milton Keynes are high, at 2.97 per 1,000 () 15-59 year olds receiving an HIV diagnosis. A major challenge for Milton Keynes remains the timely diagnosis of HIV infection in order to commence Anti-Retroviral Therapy (ART) and prevent onwards transmission of infection.

3.1 The following options appraisal has been conducted:

- (a) Do nothing: This was not considered a feasible option as the contract will come to an end in September 2017 having already been extended for a further year
- (b) Open (single stage): This was considered the most appropriate option.
- (c) Restricted (two stages): This was not considered necessary due to the limited number of providers available to provide this service.
- (d) Extend current contract: The lack of HIV prevention, testing and engaging with all 'at risk' groups will limit the work to just a small number of communities. Please see item 2.3 (b).

4. **Implications**

4.1 Policy

The award of this contract will progress the following priorities/outcomes within the following Corporate Planning documents;

The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2012 – 15 approved by the Health & Wellbeing Board, outlines Milton Keynes' Strategic Priorities and Key Principles.

“Working in partnership, we will improve both the health and wellbeing of individuals and communities across Milton Keynes”

Drawing from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2011/20121(JSNA), Social Atlas

2011, the Milton Keynes Child Poverty Commission Report 2012 and the Director of Public Health Annual Report 20102(DPHAR), we have identified three key strategic priorities to focus on during the period 2012 /15.

- (a) to Improve Wellbeing;
- (b) to Reduce Early Deaths and Tackle Major Diseases; and
- (c) to Reduce Health Inequalities.

The procurement also seeks to implement / apply the Council's Sexual Health Strategy 2014 -2017.

- (a) to focus resources towards the prevention of sexual ill health; and
- (b) to target work towards groups known to have a higher risk of poor sexual health and face stigma and discrimination, which can influence their ability to access services

The tender seeks to implement the principles adopted by each of these policies/strategies in respect of this service.

4.2 Resources and Risk

The costs of this contract are met from the Public Health Service Budget.

The costs identified within this exercise can be contained within the agreed budget. The estimated budget for this will be in the region of £100,000 per annum. This is £30,000 less than in the current contract due to a change of emphasis from support to prevention as per changes in government guidelines, and the reduced need for large premises.

The Risk Assessment for this contract is available if requested or directly via Members access to GRACE. In summary:

- (a) The key opportunity secured by this contract is a reduction in late HIV diagnosis and a more targeted approach towards HIV prevention aimed at high risk groups. Reducing the social care elements of this contract will allow us to save money. It is assessed that the delivery of this contract provides low likelihood that will secure the opportunity defined providing the Council with a high positive Impact.
- (b) The key threats for this contract have been assessed as:

Risk	Likelihood	Mitigation	Impact after mitigation
Current service users may lack the current level of group support	L	Self-management will be encouraged with pathways in place for referral to other organisations as needed	Clients will self-manage their condition but can also access support from other organisations

The governance measures set out in 2.8 above provide a basis to conclude that these threats, properly managed represent a LOW likelihood with a LOW Impact.

N	Capital	Y	Revenue	N	Accommodation
N	IT	N	Medium Term Plan	N	Asset Management

4.3 Carbon and Energy Management

None

4.4 Legal

Section 12 of the Social Care Act 2012 amended the NHS Act 2006 and created new public health duties for local authorities. Section 2B of the NHS Act 2006 requires the Council to take appropriate steps to improve the health of the population in its area.

This report seeks approval for the commencement of a tender process that will contribute to the improvement of health of people within Milton Keynes through prevention of HIV infection.

The services fall under the Light Touch Regime (LTR) services as specified under the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. The estimated value of the contract over term (including extension) is £500,000 which is below the LTR threshold for advertisement in the Official Journal of European Union. However, the Council must satisfy itself that there is no concrete indication of cross boarder interest in the services. Where there is cross boarder interest then there will be a requirement to publish the tender to the European Market. The principles of fairness, transparency and equality in relation to bidders must be adhered to in the procurement exercise. Additionally, even where there is no requirement to advertise in the European Union due to the estimated value being under threshold, some of the Lord Young reforms which are enshrined in Chapter 8 of the public contracts regulations 2015 such publication of the opportunity in the contracts finder apply to the procurement.

The tender must also comply with the Council's contract procedure rules. In particular, the proposed price element of the tender is 40% which meets the requirements of the Council's contract procedure rules.

4.5 Other Implications

Y	Equalities/Diversity	N	Sustainability	N	Human Rights
N	E-Government	Y	Stakeholders	N	Crime and Disorder
N	Carbon and Energy Policy				

Background Papers:

Service specification available