

NOTIFICATION OF DECISION FOR URGENT IMPLEMENTATION

(Decision either included or not included on the current Forward Plan but needs to be implemented immediately by virtue of the urgency of the actions that need to be undertaken. This decision will not be subject to call-in.)

ORIGINAL DECISION DETAILS

Name & Contact details:

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DETAILS OF THE REPORT

Title and brief description of the nature of the business to be considered:

Gateway 2 - Contract Award Approval: Access to London e-service for online sexual health testing

This report seeks authority to:

- Join the Inter-Authority Agreement between the City of London Corporation and Southwark Council that enables Southwark to access the Pan London Sexual Health e-Service awarded to Preventx.
- Extend the current contract with SH:24 for sexual health e-services, effective from 1 October 2017, as an interim solution due to delays in the commencement of the pan-London sexual health e-service, to be delivered by Preventx.
- Spend a maximum of £1,339,155 on sexual health e-service activity costs and £139,689 on non-activity costs (e.g. governance) in the 2-year period from 1 October 2017 to 30 September 2019; funded entirely by the Public Health Grant, through reductions in sexual health contract costs, in line with plans to transform and reduce the cost of sexual health services for Southwark.
- *Why has this decision been delayed until now?*

Notification of the decision to be taken was sent to the chair of overview and scrutiny committee on 23 August 2017. However, on the same day, the Council received information in relation to the new Pan-London Sexual Health e-Service, specifically, that the service would not be mobilised within the original timeframe expected. The Strategic Director of Environment and Social Regeneration requested that the report be amended to reflect the new information and interim solution required. The interim solution is to extend the current contract, which has required negotiation between the provider, SH:24, and Lambeth Council, who contract on behalf of Lambeth and Southwark. Final prices were only agreed w/c 18 September 2017.

- *Why can't the decision be reasonably deferred?*

An interim e-service solution needs to be in place from 1 October 2017. The normal decision making process would not allow the decision to be implementable until after this date.

- *How long has the department known the decision was to be taken?*

The department has been working towards the award of this contract since June 2017, however due to the issues set out above, the decision has been delayed.

- *If scheduled on the forward plan for a particular period, what's changed to make it so urgent now?*

The decision was subject to a general exception notice in August 2017. In order to ensure there is no gap in service the contract needs to be extended from 1 October 2017.

- *Why is it important that this decision is taken now?*

To enable the continuation of the service.

- *What is the potential cost to the council if the decision is delayed?*

The contracts with our genitourinary medicine providers, Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust (GSTT) and King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (KCH), are based on these clinics being supplemented by an e-service. The financial modelling of these services is based on having an e-service that the Trusts use to generate capacity to manage more complex cases in clinic. If there is no e-service in place, we would be in breach of our contracts with GSTT and KCH. Additionally, residents who would not be able to access an e-service would elect to use sexual health clinics outside the borough, which have significantly more expensive tariffs (£157 in clinic vs. £16 - £56 online, per resident, per test) and would clearly cost Southwark Council more.

Date decision to be taken on: **No later than 29 September 2017**

Declaration

I agree with the Chief Officer/Head of Service that the proposed Decision is reasonable that it can be treated as a matter of urgency.

Signed



Dated 28/09/2017

Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Please note reasons for refusal, additional points or further action required (as appropriate)