

**Report to:** Cabinet **Date of Meeting:** 27 March 2014

**Subject:** Twelve Month Extension for the Carers Centre Substance Misuse Contract **Wards Affected:** All

**Report of:** Director of Public Health

**Is this a Key Decision?** No **Is it included in the Forward Plan?** No

**Exempt/Confidential** No

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**Purpose/Summary**

That Cabinet is requested to waive the Contracts Procedure Rules and authorise a twelve month contract extension of the Carers Centre contract. This would be an extension from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015 to the current contract with the same terms and conditions.

Currently there are several contracts for substance misuse services which are within the remit for the Substance Misuse review. Establishment Control Panel has recently approved the procurement of external Independent Support for the Substance Misuse Review. The review is essential to fully understanding what services would be required and commissioned for Seftons population. It is aimed that the review will be completed by the end of May 2014 and the commissioners would be in a position to consult on the findings and reconfigure or re commission the Carers Centre Substance Misuse contract.

**Recommendation(s)**

That Cabinet agrees to waive the Contracts Procedure Rules and authorise the 12 month extension of the Carers Centre Contract to enable the review to be completed and the services to be commissioned

**How does the decision contribute to the Council’s Corporate Objectives?**

	<u>Corporate Objective</u>	<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community	√		
2	Jobs and Prosperity	√		
3	Environmental Sustainability		√	
4	Health and Well-Being	√		
5	Children and Young People	√		
6	Creating Safe Communities	√		
7	Creating Inclusive Communities	√		
8	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening Local Democracy	√		

## Reasons for the Recommendation:

This is due to:

- The current contract is due to expire on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014.
- The contracts are part of the Substance Misuse Review
- 12 months contract extension would allow for the review to be completed, the services revised and or re commissioned and mobilisation successfully accomplished.

## Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:

These contracts are required to provide substance misuse support services. At this time it would be unlikely that these specialist services could be ceased and unavailable to Sefton residents during the review and re commissioning.

Additionally it would be unlikely that another service would be available to deliver this service for a period of 12 months only, without negative impact on current service users.

## What will it cost and how will it be financed?

### (A) Revenue Costs

The cost of the contract extensions will be met from within the Public Health budget allocated for this purpose. The total costs for the twelve month extension will be £71,430

There would be no additional in year costs with regard to the council extending the current contract. It is envisioned that the review will identify future costs savings

### (B) Capital Costs N/A

## Implications:

The following implications of this proposal have been considered and where there are specific implications, these are set out below:

<b>Financial</b>		
<b>Legal</b>	Possible risk of challenge from an aggrieved provider who has not been given an opportunity to bid for the service comprised in the extension.	
<b>Human Resources</b>		
<b>Equality</b>		
1.	No Equality Implication	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.	Equality Implications identified and mitigated	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.	Equality Implication identified and risk remains	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Impact of the Proposals on Service Delivery:**

There would be minimal impact on service delivery for the contract extension. It is aimed that 12 months would provide relative stability, whilst the review is being undertaken.

**What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?**

The Head of Corporate Finance and ICT (FD2819/14) and Head of Corporate Legal Services (LD2125/14) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

**Implementation Date for the Decision**

Following the expiry of the “call-in” period for the Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting

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**Background Papers:**

None

## **1. Introduction/Background**

- 1.1 As part of the review of substance misuse services it has been identified that the capacity to undertake this review internally is lacking and therefore funding has been set aside to enable an external independent agency to take this work on. The procurement of external Independent Support for the Substance Misuse Review has been approved by the establishment control panel. The aim of this procurement is to secure a person/persons with a good understanding of drugs and alcohol services along with knowledge of the frameworks governing substance misuse to advise the Council on an evidence based model that would meet the needs of Sefton's population best and would also give us assurance that it provides good value.
- 1.2 The aim of the review is to provide the strategic leads within the council with a comprehensive report including robust assurance of the following:
- The service model we have in place is evidence-based and able to meet the changing needs of our population
  - The model has a focus on prevention of substance misuse and a reduction of drug related harm
  - The model will provide value for money
  - The service is underpinned by good governance and accountability
  - Frameworks for risk management are in place and risks are reported and managed effectively
- 1.3 The review is essential to fully understanding what services would be required and commissioned for Seftons population. It is aimed that the review will be completed, consulted upon and the commissioners would be in a position to cease, reconfigure or re commission the Carers Centre contract.
- The Carers centre currently through this contract deliver services for carers regarding substance misuse and who themselves may substance misuse. As part of the review Sefton would benefit from good understanding of the current activity and clarification of the future needs of carers regarding substance misuse. The current contract is due to expire March 2014.
- 1.4 This matter has been referred to the Cabinet for determination by the Cabinet Member – Older People and Health.