

Report to:	Cabinet	Date of Meeting:	Thursday 7 March 2019
Subject:	Medically Managed Residential Drug & Alcohol Detoxification Service		
Report of:	Head of Health and Wellbeing	Wards Affected:	(All Wards);
Portfolio:	Cabinet Member - Health and Wellbeing		
Is this a Key Decision:	Yes	Included in Forward Plan:	Yes
Exempt / Confidential Report:	No		

Summary:

In March 2016, Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust were awarded a contract to provide Medically Managed Residential Detoxification Services with effect from 1st July 2016. The contract was awarded for three years with an option to extend for up to a further two years.

Medically Managed Residential Detoxification Services are highly specialised services and few exist outside of NHS Trusts. After Mersey Cares' Liverpool-based Hope Centre, the nearest provision for medically managed detoxification is in Manchester and does not meet the specified criteria of delivering a service within fifteen miles of Sefton boarder.

Consideration is now required on exercising continuation options as the main contract is due to expire on 30th June 2019.

Recommendation(s):

Cabinet to grant authority to exercise the option to extend the current contract for a period of two years from the 1st July 2019.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

Delegation in the previous Cabinet Paper, 1st October 2015, authorised the Interim Director of Public Health and Chief Finance Officer to award the contract for its core period from 1st July 2016. Authority is now required to exercise the extension options outlined in the tender exercise.

For the past two and a half years, Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust have provided Medically Managed Residential Detoxification Services that meet or exceed contractual and performance targets. For example, the threshold for successful detoxification completions is set at 80%. In Quarter 4 2017/18 the service achieved 81%, in Quarter 1 2018/19 86% and in Quarter 2 2018/19 90%. The threshold for service users rating their satisfaction as good or excellent is set at 80%. In July, August and September 2018 the

service achieved 100%. Public Health Commissioners have no concerns over the quality, performance or governance of the current service.

Mersey Care have recently invested heavily in a refurbishment and upgrade of the Hope Centre Detoxification Centre. The Centre now offers modernised accommodation, bespoke therapy rooms and a Barnardo's approved children's area.

Authority to exercise a two-year extension option rather than a one-year extension is now recommended to ensure on-going service stability and improvements in outcomes / performance being sustained in the longer-term.

Medically Managed Residential Detoxification services are highly specialist and experience from previous tender exercises show choice within the local and regional market to be extremely limited.

Conducting a full procurement exercise at this point would not bring about any significant benefits for Sefton Council or for users of the detoxification service and exercising the option to extend the current contract by one-year would only bring about temporary short-term stability. Exercising both twelve-month extension options together at this point provides the best opportunity for continued service stability and service improvement within an environment of uncertainty and change.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

The available options are:

- i) Exercise one year extension / continuation option. This option would provide a degree of continuity and stability and the value would be within the threshold for Cabinet Member Authorisation. However, any continuity / stability derived from exercising this option would be limited to twelve months at which point the Council would still need to consider exercising the second extension / continuation option or re-tender the service.
- ii) combine both twelve-month extension / continuation options and exercise an extension to the existing contract for a period of two years. This option would provide a longer period of service stability and reduce cost to the Council from engaging in a procurement exercise. The value of a two-year extension would exceed the threshold for Cabinet Member Authorisation and a decision would need to be sought from full Cabinet.

Conducting a full procurement exercise would not bring about any significant benefits for Sefton Council or for users of the detoxification service.

Considerable savings were realised throughout the 2016 procurement exercise with a contract value reduced from £510,522 per year to £374,900 per year. The contract was awarded following robust assessment and evaluation procedures and it was clear that there were only a limited number of acceptable options available within the open market. Medically Managed Residential Detoxification Services are highly specialised services and few exist outside of NHS Trusts. After the current service provider, the nearest provision for medically managed detoxification is in Manchester and does not meet the specified criteria of delivering a service within fifteen miles of Sefton boarder.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

The cost of the service will be met from within the Public Health budget allocated for Medically Managed Residential Detoxification for alcohol and other drug use of £374,900.

(B) Capital Costs

There are no capital costs for the Council associated with this Service.

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets): The proposals aim to offer maximum value for money while ensuring stability in the drug and alcohol treatment system. The cost of the service will be met within the existing Public Health budget allocation.
Legal Implications:
Equality Implications: There are no equality implications.

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: Medically managed detoxification services target the most vulnerable groups whose alcohol and other use problems compound physical and mental ill health and increase risk among disadvantaged sections of the community.
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: Medically managed detoxification service help individuals to live an independent and drug free life and help people to achieve meaningful integration within their community.
Commission, broker and provide core services:
Place – leadership and influencer: Not applicable
Drivers of change and reform: Not applicable
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: Not applicable
Greater income for social investment: Not applicable
Cleaner Greener Not applicable

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Head of Corporate Resources (FD5549/19) and the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer (LD4673/19) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

(B) External Consultations

Not applicable

Implementation Date for the Decision

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

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Appendices:

There are no appendices to this report

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection

1. Background

- 1.1. Detoxification services are an integral part of any substance use treatment system and an essential element in enabling people with substance use problems to realise a drug and alcohol-free life.
- 1.2. Successful recovery from addiction and dependency on substances including alcohol requires sustained and co-ordinated care across services. Evidence points to effective and integrated treatment programmes as being central to enable individuals to sustain longer periods of abstinence. An integrated system increases efficiencies by reducing duplication between services, improves access to a range of services appropriate to the needs and requirements of service users, optimises treatment and recovery outcomes and improves the safety of individuals, their children and families and the communities in which they live.
- 1.3. Sefton's integrated system includes referrals from a range of sources such as GPs and Primary Care, Adult Social Care, Community Mental Health Teams, Hospital and Specialist Secondary Care, Prison and Probation Services as well as self-referrals. The pathway includes assessment, treatment, detoxification, stabilisation, relapse prevention and recovery support, and can be delivered in a variety of settings both community and residential.
- 1.4. The type and level of detoxification required is determined by a combination of assessment of health and social care need. Validated assessment tools along with a comprehensive assessment of health history, home and social circumstances, as outlined in National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) guidance, informs the type of detoxification (medically or non-medically managed) and the environment where interventions should be undertaken.
- 1.5. The majority of alcohol detoxifications can be achieved without risk or complication, and within a relatively short time-scale (usually between 5 – 9 days). Detoxification from heroin, methadone and other opiate-type substances can be achieved in similar clinical environments but usually over longer periods of time and following a period of opiate substitution treatment (OST), stabilisation and / or dose reduction.
- 1.6. Within Sefton Integrated Substance Misuse Treatment Service, the first-line detoxification offer is community detoxification within the adult treatment service. Where increased risk is indicated, residential in-patient detoxification may be the safest and most effective treatment plan. Medical input and supervision can be provided by a community GP overseeing the detoxification plan.
- 1.7. Where severe dependency, complex physical and / or mental health needs are indicated, medically managed residential in-patient detoxification under the close supervision of specialist substance misuse doctors and other clinical staff can provide the most suitable clinical environment to manage risk and health needs.
- 1.8. Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust provide integrated adult treatment services including assessment and care planning, opiate substitution treatment either on a reduction or maintenance basis, community detoxification (pharmacologically and non-pharmacologically) assisted, psychosocial interventions, recovery support and relapse prevention.

- 1.9. Medically managed residential detoxification services are commissioned from Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust and comprise of an integrated drug and alcohol detoxification unit based at the Hope Centre (Smithdown Health Park) Liverpool and include:
- 1.10. Outcomes to date have been good with the service reaching or exceeding its expected targets. Successful detoxification completions have increased 81% in 2017/18 to 90% in 2018/19. In 2017 the number people waiting longer than three weeks for an alcohol detoxification was 33.3% by 2018/19 no one was waiting longer than three weeks and 100% of service users asked rated the service as good or excellent.
- Provision of a medically managed detoxification service staffed by trained specialist Addictions Doctors and Nurses skilled in providing care for those with substance use related health care needs and clinically managing the risk associated with detoxification from a range of substances.
 - Therapeutic and psychosocial interventions provided by qualified staff, including after care and relapse prevention plans which increase the chances of an individual sustaining abstinence over longer periods of time, avoiding relapse and making positive progress towards recovery goals – education, training, and or employment.

2. Integration with the wider alcohol and drug recovery and rehabilitation system

- 2.1. Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust Medically Managed Residential Detoxification Service promotes recovery through collaboration with the wider alcohol and drug rehabilitation and recovery system.
- 2.2. For individuals wanting to pursue their post-detoxification recovery within their own community, pathways can be developed to include access to the Mersey Care Life Rooms and Recovery College in both Southport and Bootle offering a range of education, employment skills and education opportunities.
- 2.3. Robust pre and post- detoxification care planning processes and referral pathways for Residential Rehabilitation exist with Sefton Council Adult Social Care Substance Use Assessment to ensure that where a post-detoxification residential rehabilitation placement is indicated a seamless process of transfer and on-going care can be seamlessly facilitated enabling an individual to carry on her/his recovery in an appropriate residential setting.