

ADULT CARE & HEALTH COMMITTEE (JOINTLY COMMISSIONED SECTION 75) BUSINESS

Agenda Item 52

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	Integrated Community Equipment Service		
Date of Meeting:	20th January 2014		
Report of:	Executive Director of Adult Services		
	Chief Operating Officer, Brighton & Hove Clinical Commissioning Group		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Anne Richardson-Locke	Tel: 29-0379
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Ward(s) affected:	All		

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 The report provides an update to Committee on the joint work that is taking place between Brighton & Hove City Council (B&HCC) and Brighton & Hove Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Sussex Community NHS Trust (SCT) to determine the future of the Integrated Community Equipment Service (ICES).
- 1.2 The equipment service is commissioned jointly between B&HCC and the CCG. The service has been provided via a Section 75 agreement with SCT since 2004. SCT manages the integrated service, delivering daily living and community health equipment to adults and children.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That Committee note the contents of the report that B&HCC and the CCG will be named in the OJEU contract notice published by WSCC as an authority that may utilise the contractual arrangements that WSCC will put in place, during the life of the contract; and that whilst this provides an opportunity to benefit from the procurement process run by WSCC, this does not mean a commitment on the part of B&HCC or the CCG to purchase any particular services.
- 2.2 That Committee agree for Commissioners to continue to work closely with SCT to enable B&HCC and the CCG to measure their current performance against the targets in the service specification and also to identify accurate unit costs and the costs of an alternative building, as set out in section 4.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 A report on ICES was presented to Adult Care & Health Committee in September 2013 setting out various options for the future delivery of the service. The report recommended Option 4 which was to formally approach West Sussex County Council (WSCC) to discuss the feasibility of working in collaboration to tender for a new service model for the provision of community equipment services. This

option highlighted the time pressures as WSCC were recommending to their Cabinet in December 2013 that they commence a tender for an equipment service and this could be a good opportunity to collaborate.

- 3.2 Members asked for more information and were keen that a map be included in a future report and this is attached as Appendix 1. There were also questions about the Shoreham Harbour development and the impact this may have on the ICES building. The Shoreham Harbour Development Manager has reported that in terms of timescales for the development the earliest proposals are estimated to come forward in 3-5 years. Members also asked about the tracking and recycling of equipment and how it is collected and reported on and this data is still outstanding, see 3.5.2 below.
- 3.3 Committee agreed the following:
- (1) That Option 4 of the report be agreed: To enable Adult Social Care and Brighton and Hove Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to formally approach West Sussex County Council to discuss the feasibility of working in collaboration to tender for a new service model for the provision of community equipment services.
 - (2) That until such time as a new contract is awarded, it is agreed that services shall continue to be delivered with Sussex Community NHS Trust (SCT), and that commissioners will work with SCT to develop the requirements of the existing service specifications.
 - (3) That a further report be presented to the Committee at its meeting on 25 November. In the meanwhile, a site visit should be arranged for Members.
- 3.4 A visit to the ICES store was arranged for Members on 19th November and was attended by 4 Members. Members were given a tour of the building by the Service Development Manager, Assistant Manager and Operations Manager and saw the main storage area and decontamination area.

West Sussex County Council tender

- 3.5 Discussions have started with WSCC as agreed by Committee, and although some early conversations have proven to be helpful, Adult Social Care and the CCG are not in a position to actively participate in the competitive dialogue process being run by WSCC at the present time due to the timing of that process. Nevertheless WSCC are proposing to procure a Framework Contract, which would enable B&HCC and the CCG to call off a contract from that Framework at a later date.
- 3.6 To enable this possibility BHCC is to be named on the WSCC OJEU Contract Notice tender. If Committee did wish to pursue this option in the future the advantage would be that BHCC wouldn't have to engage in a full procurement exercise. This would therefore be more cost effective. It must be emphasised that this does not commit BHCC to purchase any particular services under the WSCC Framework, but it permits this potential option being available alongside all other options for consideration at a later date. Not including BHCC would remove the possibility of utilising the WSCC Framework at any point in the future.
- 3.7 WSCC intend to commence the tender process in January 2014, award the contract in September 2014 and start the new contract in April 2015.

- 3.8 A recommendation about whether or not to use the WSCC Framework can only be made once we have been able to obtain accurate information about the unit costs of the current service, together with details of recycling and expenditure against specific items and by specific teams. SCT has agreed to work collaboratively with the commissioners to help identify this information.
- 3.9 Consultation with current and future customers and prescribers is required to identify what the local needs are, particularly around self assessment and self purchase, and soft market testing is also needed to identify what providers are in the market and any potential costs.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 4.1 As agreed by Committee Commissioners from B&HCC and the CCG are continuing to work closely with ICES to develop the requirements of the existing service specification. Discussions about the performance of this service have been taking place since 2011 and a service specification with Key Performance Indicators was produced in 2012 and refreshed in 2013. Commissioners will closely monitor performance against this specification before making a recommendation about the future of the service.
- 4.2 The September Committee paper reported a 30% initial recycling rate which was a figure produced by SCT as at the time 70% of the equipment that they were purchasing was new rather than recycled. SCT have also reported that in the region of 90-95% of items are recycled but on further investigation this figure relates to the recycling of items that are collected and therefore is a lower figure. More recent data indicates that the recycling levels have improved but further analysis is needed before producing accurate collection and recycling data.
- 4.3 B&HCC and the CCG will explore what equipment services will be required in the future .This will include talking to current and future customers and prescribers.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

- 5.1 No community engagement or consultation has been carried out other than the regular service user satisfaction surveys and prescriber surveys collected by ICES.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 That further joint work is needed with SCT to identify their current performance, accurate unit costs and the costs of an alternative building before making decisions about the future of the equipment service.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 7.1 The 2013/14 jointly commissioned budget for ICES is £1.420m, of which £0.799m (56%) is funded by Health and £0.641m (44%) by Adult Social Care.

As noted in the report, further work is needed to fully understand the unit costs of the ICES service in order to help make an informed decision on any change in future service provision.

Finance Officer Consulted: Mike Bentley

Date: 17/12/13

Legal Implications:

- 7.2 When reviewing service provision, the Council has a legal duty to deliver Best Value. Members need to take into account the overall value of the service, including economic, environmental and social value,
- 7.3 The EU Procurement Rules also require that the principles of fairness and transparency are applied to any process leading up to the award of a new contract for services of this nature.
- 7.4 It is considered that the Recommendations set out above comply with these requirements.

Lawyer Consulted:

Name Jill Whittaker

Date: 06d/01/14

Equalities Implications:

- 7.5 An Equalities Impact Assessment will be carried out to ensure that equalities issues are considered in the development of any future model.

Sustainability Implications:

- 7.6 There are sustainability implications within this report. The decontamination and recycling of equipment is essential for any equipment service and commissioners will continue to work with SCT to identify accurate collection and recycling data. In addition, sustainability implications will need to be considered when deciding on the future of any buildings and delivery system.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendix 1

1. Map locating ICES building.

