

Decision Pathway – Report

PURPOSE: [Key decision](#)

MEETING: [Cabinet](#)

DATE: 04 July 2023

TITLE	Substance use treatment services re-procurement		
Ward(s)	City wide		
Author: Leonie Roberts	Job title: Consultant in Public Health		
Cabinet lead: Councillor Ellie King Member for Public Health and Communities	Executive Director lead: Hugh Evans, Executive Director Adults & Communities		
Proposal origin: BCC Staff			
Decision maker: Cabinet Member Decision forum: Cabinet			
Purpose of Report:			
<p>To seek approval to extend the current substance use treatment services and procure and award a new contract from 1st April 2025.</p> <p>To seek approval to receive any supplementary funding and to procure, extend, or vary contracts as required in line with conditions of the funding and in line with Bristol City Council procurement rules</p>			
Evidence Base:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Local Authorities are responsible for commissioning substance use treatment services as part of their mandated public health responsibilities 2. Bristol City Council commissions a range of inpatient and community substance use early engagement, treatment, and support services, currently provided by Recovery Orientated Alcohol and Drugs Service (ROADS) and targeted youth service 3. The service was commissioned in 2018 on a 5 years, plus 2 years, plus 2 years contract, and contract extensions were enacted from February 2023 to January 2025. The first extension was invoked. 4. In addition, Bristol City Council has received several supplementary funding grants from 2021 5. A new national strategy From Harm to Hope, was launched in 2021. This sets out a 10-year plan to cut crime and save lives by reducing the supply and demand for drugs and delivering a high-quality treatment and recovery system. 6. The current supplementary grants consist of Housing Support Grant, Supplementary Funding, Inpatient, and Rough Sleeper Drug and Alcohol Treatment grant. 7. The National Strategy aligns with Bristol's existing commitments and ambitions, which are set out in the Bristol Alcohol and Drug Strategy published in 2021. 8. To deliver the requirements of the national strategy and our local ambitions relies on having a high quality and effective prevention, treatment, recovery and harm reduction services and programmes. 9. A health needs assessment was completed in May 2023 which highlighted significant unmet health needs, the need to increase the numbers of people in treatment and changes in alcohol and other drug use over time 10. Subject to the outcome of further engagement and consultation, it is intended that Early Intervention services for children and young people will be in scope for this service. 11. Specialist treatment services for children and young people will be out of scope for the new model of service, 			

This new service will include prevention and early intervention elements for children and young people and will be closely aligned with the young people's specialist treatment services.

12. Children and young people's substance use services have been commissioned separately since 2004. It is proposed that the new service will be all-age substance use service to allow for a more comprehensive, holistic and integrated approach. This will enable prevention, early intervention, continuity of care and personalised treatment across different age groups.
13. The new specification will be informed by evidence, service user and family experience, and extensive engagement

Cabinet Member / Officer Recommendations:

That Cabinet:

1. Authorises the Executive Director Adults and Communities to extend the current substance use treatment and service provision contracts to 31st March 2025 at a cost of £9,042,826 pro rata in accordance with the terms of the contract.
2. Authorises the Executive Director Adults and Communities to extend the current substance use treatment recording database contract to 30th June 2025 to allow for data migration and service reconfiguration, at a cost of £25,000 pro rata in accordance with the terms of the contract.
3. Authorises the Executive Director of Adults and Communities and Director of Public Health in consultation with Cabinet Member for Public Health and Communities to take all steps required to procure and award the contract (which may be over the key decision threshold) for Bristol's prevention and early intervention service for children and young people and specialist drug and alcohol services for adults in line with the procurement routes and maximum budget envelopes outlined in this report.
4. Authorises the Executive Director of Adults and Communities and the Director of Public Health in consultation with Cabinet Member for Public Health and Communities to take all steps required to extend or vary the contracts in accordance with the maximum budget envelopes outlined in this report.
5. Authorises the Executive Director of Adults and Communities and the Director of Public Health in consultation with Cabinet Member for Public Health and Communities to accept and spend supplementary funding up to £6.4million to support the delivery of the contract for specialist drug and alcohol services for adults and prevention and early intervention for children and young people.

Corporate Strategy alignment:

Wellbeing theme of the Corporate Strategy describes the need to embed health in all policies to improve physical & mental health and wellbeing, reduce inequalities and the demand for acute services. It recognises that Public Health is a statutory requirement of local authorities and the need to commission Public Health services to improve the health & wellbeing of our residents. The provision of substance use services is essential to achieve these aims

City Benefits:

Substance use treatment services can have a significant positive impact on the City of Bristol, both in terms of improving health and well-being of its citizens, reducing inequalities, promoting social value and sustainability.

1. Substance use treatment services can help address health inequalities by providing equitable access to care for marginalised communities who may be disproportionately affected by substance use.
2. Substance use treatment services can promote social value by reducing the harm associated with alcohol and other drugs
3. Substance use treatment services can promote sustainability by reducing the social and economic costs of the harms from alcohol and other drugs.

Consultation Details:

There was widespread consultation in the development of the Drug and Alcohol Strategy. The Needs Assessment was also informed by staff working in the services, service user feedback and wider partner engagement. Engagement and consultation will be a key part of the procurement process.

Background Documents:

[Drugs and Alcohol Strategy 2021 \(bristol.gov.uk\)](https://bristol.gov.uk)

Revenue Cost	£9,042,826	Source of Revenue Funding	Public Health Grant; this is recurring annual costs which is based on current contract values and/or budget (for activity contracts budget is included)
Revenue Cost	£6,421,098	Source of Revenue Funding	This is the estimated additional grants that we are due to receive for 2024/25; this will be subject to grant confirmation. And is not yet confirmed for 2024/25
One off cost <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ongoing cost <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Saving Proposal <input type="checkbox"/> Income generation proposal <input type="checkbox"/>	

Required information to be completed by Financial/Legal/ICT/ HR partners:

Finance Advice: This report seeks authority to extend the current substance use treatment and service provision contracts to 31st March 2025 at a cost of c£9m. This is fully funded from Public Health Grant and there are no additional financial implications to the Council.

In addition, the report also seeks approval to accept and spend supplementary substance misuse funding up to £6.4million, to support the delivery of the contract for specialist drug and alcohol services for adults and prevention and early intervention for children and young people. This supplementary funding for 2024/25 is subject to confirmation and whilst indicative amounts have been notified to councils, final confirmation is not yet known. Eligibility for supplemental funding is dependent on maintaining investment in drug and alcohol treatment from the Public Health Grant in line with the outturn expenditure reported in 2020/21.

Finance Business Partner: Denise Hunt, Finance Business Partner 16 May 2023

2. Legal Advice: The procurement process must be conducted in line with the 2015 Procurement Regulations and the Councils own procurement rules. Legal services will advise and assist officers with regard to the conduct of the procurement process and the resulting contractual arrangements.

Legal Team Leader: Husinara Jones, Team Manager/Solicitor 9 May 2023

3. Implications on IT: IT are supportive and available to aid in progressing relevant work and can be engaged through the existing work request process.

IT Team Leader: Alex Simpson Solutions Architect 10 May 2023

4. HR Advice: The report is seeking approval to extend the current substance use treatment services and procure and award a new contract from 1st April 2025. This report does not have any significant HR implications arising for Bristol City Council employees.

HR Partner: Lorna Laing 15 May 2023

EDM Sign-off	Hugh Evans, Executive Director Adults and Communities	17 May 2023
Cabinet Member sign-off	Cllr Ellie King Cabinet Member for Public Health and Communities	25 May 2023
For Key Decisions - Mayor's Office sign-off	Mayor's Office	13 June 2023

Appendix A – Further essential background / detail on the proposal	NO
Appendix B – Details of consultation carried out - internal and external Consultations will be carried out as part of the procurement process.	NO

Appendix C – Summary of any engagement with scrutiny	NO
Appendix D – Risk assessment	NO
Appendix E – Equalities screening / impact assessment of proposal	YES
Appendix F – Eco-impact screening/ impact assessment of proposal	NO
Appendix G – Financial Advice	NO
Appendix H – Legal Advice	NO
Appendix I – Exempt Information	NO
Appendix J – HR advice	NO
Appendix K – ICT	NO
Appendix L – Procurement	NO