

Open Report on behalf of Debbie Barnes, Executive Director of Children's Services

Report to:	Councillor Mrs P A Bradwell, Executive Councillor responsible for Children's Services
Date:	29 July 2016
Subject:	Early Years Service Model and Commissioning Plan and Contractual Arrangements for Children's Health Services
Decision Reference:	I011705
Key decision?	Yes

Summary:

Children's Strategic Commissioning Service is reviewing early years and children's health services that are currently outsourced, further details of which can be found in the background section of this report. Expenditure on these services in 2016/17 is £13,998,367. A savings target of £450,000 in 2017/18 has been set although further savings are being sought where possible.

The findings of the review to date and options for future service models have been presented to a variety of boards and groups (Children's Services Executive Directorate Management Team, Corporate Management Board, Women and Children's Board and a Members working group with representatives invited from both Children and Young People and Health Scrutiny Committees). A preferred model for new services was provisionally agreed. Further public engagement, via an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) questionnaire, is taking place to understand any positive or negative impacts the preferred model may have and following this due consideration will be given to any further changes that may be needed. As well as the final service model, the commissioning route for new services also needs to be agreed.

Early years and children's health services are currently commissioned separately and the preferred model continues to uphold this. Changes to the preferred early years service model are not significant but current contractual arrangements are due to cease on 31st March 2017, with few options to extend. In order to establish the new early years service by 1st April 2017 and consequently meet the savings target in 2017/18, a decision is sought from the Executive Councillor responsible for Children's Services at this time to agree the final service model and preferred commissioning route.

In October 2016, the Council's Executive will be asked to agree the final service model and commissioning route separately for children's health services. Given the greater extent of changes, this is to allow sufficient time to undertake in-depth research into commissioning options and provide Members with detailed information from which to make their decisions. The current contractual arrangement is due to cease on 31st March 2017 with an option to extend to 30th September 2017. Pending agreement of the final model and commissioning route in October 2016, this would mean the re-commissioning of the new service could commence in January 2017 at the earliest. Given the complexity of the service and extent of changes the Council may realistically need to extend the current contractual arrangement up to 31st March 2018 to ensure enough time for a smooth implementation. A decision is sought from the Executive Councillor responsible for Children's Services at this time to extend the current Section 75 Agreement with Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust (LCHS) up to 31st March 2018.

Recommendation(s):

That the Executive Councillor responsible for Children's Services:

- 1 Approves the final model for the early years service set out at Appendix A Section 3.
- 2 Approves that the new early years service including bi-lingual support is commissioned through re-procurement by means of an open competitive tender.
- 3 Approves an extension to the current Section 75 agreement with Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust (LCHS) for Health Visiting, School Nursing, Antenatal Weight Management and Family Nurse Partnership up to 31st March 2018.
- 4 Delegates the Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Executive Councillor responsible for Children's Services, the authority to agree to any further changes to the early years service model that may be required as a result of findings from the EIA and authority to take all steps and make all decisions necessary to give effect to paragraphs 1 to 3 above including determining the form and content and approving the entering into of all necessary legal documentation.

Alternatives Considered:

1. Decide on a different model for the early years service and/or not delegate the Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Executive Councillor responsible for Children's Services, the authority to agree to any further changes to the early years service model that may be required as a result of findings from the EIA.

The recommended model is based on review findings and is in line with the views of various Boards. Not agreeing to the model or changing the model risks altering/removing services where there is a clear rationale for needing them. If any changes are legitimately needed not agreeing for the delegated authority to make these changes will delay new services being in place and thus savings being realised.

2. To agree another commissioning option for the new early years service.

It is believed re-procurement by means of an open competitive tender is the best approach to securing value for money services from experienced providers that services users will engage with. Other commissioning options would not achieve this as successfully.

3. To allow the current Section 75 agreement with Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust (LCHS) for Health Visiting, School Nursing, Antenatal Weight Management and Family Nurse Partnership to end on 31st March 2017.

It is believed this would not be desirable and it would expose the Council to a number of risks if new services were not able to be implemented in time.

Reasons for Recommendation:

- The final model for the early years service set out at Appendix A was developed taking into account review findings and engagement feedback from the public and professionals. Further model options have already been explored with a variety of boards and the final model is deemed to provide the best offer to families within available resources.
- Further changes to the final model resulting from feedback via the EIA questionnaire, are likely to be minor because the model does not propose significant changes that would have a negative impact on service users. For this reason, it is requested that the Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Executive Councillor responsible for Children's Services, can approve any further changes to the preferred model particularly as these decisions can be taken in a timely manner to allow for commissioning to commence by September 2016.
- The external provider market for early years services has been tested previously with a good level of interest. It is felt the market has the skills to deliver the new service successfully and to provide value for money. There are no significant benefits to the Council providing these services at this time. For these reasons it is recommended to commission the new early years service through re-procurement by means of an open competitive tender.
- An extension to the current Section 75 Agreement with LCHS up to 31st March 2018 will allow sufficient time to ensure new children's health services can be implemented smoothly minimising the risk of disruption to service users. The final model and commissioning route will not be agreed until October 2016 and so if the service was to be re-procured by means of an open competitive tender for example, this would not commence until

January 2017. Following contract award this would only leave 6 months to implement a new complex service with a number of changes, which is a risk to services users and the Council. An extension would allow the Council the option to take further time to manage implementation successfully.

1. Background

The Council's Children's Services Directorate has the lead commissioning function for the services set out below, all of which are being reviewed:

Services	Service Category
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Visiting • Family Nurse Partnership • Antenatal Weight Management • School Nursing 	Health £11,279,040 (16/17)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Years Service for Children's Centre Communities • Locality Services - Participation and Engagement • Locality Services - Crèche • Locality Services - Skills Development • Locality Services - Adult Learning • Locality Services - Bi-lingual support • Locality Services- additional commissioning • Locality Services- Witham Family Centre 	Early Years £2,719,327 (16/17)

These services cover a broad range of health and early childhood based support for children and young people aged 0-19 and their families. The new collective commissioning of services through Children's Services provides an opportunity to review current service provision holistically for the first time and to re-shape services as required. The financial challenge that the Council faces also means that achieving savings is a priority whilst still improving services. The requirements of the review are as follows:

- To understand what type of services families in Lincolnshire need to help their children have the best start in early life, be ready for school and continue to lead happy and healthy lives in preparation for adulthood.
- To agree what support all families should be entitled to and what support only certain families should receive based on their particular needs and then re-design services accordingly.
- To ensure any re-designed services comply with statutory responsibilities and also offer best practice within available resources.
- To identify interdependencies with other services outside of the scope of the review and work with other stakeholders to ensure clear inter-linking pathways are established.
- To establish greater integration of services by ending duplication of support, co-locating services, sharing information, sharing costs and joint case working.
- To ensure best use of staffing, financial and building resources and where cost savings can be identified consider if any re-investment is needed.
- To make it clearer to families how to access the support they need.

- To decide who is best placed to deliver any services e.g. Local Authority, health provider, outsourced.
- To encourage a rich market place of health and social care service providers in Lincolnshire from who services can be commissioned using clear contracting arrangements.

The strategic outcomes the services will support are:

- Joint Health and Well-being Strategy for Lincolnshire 2013-2018:
 - Theme: Improve health and social outcomes for children and reduce inequalities
 - Outcome: Ensure all children get the best possible start in life and achieve their potential
- Lincolnshire Children and Young People's Plan 2013-2016:
 - Children and Young People are healthy and safe.
 - Children and Young People develop their potential in their early years and are ready for school.

Appendix A - Section 2 sets out a summary of review findings to date in relation to early years services including:

- Statutory duties
- Needs summary
- Engagement results
- Evidence

Early Years Service Current Commissioning

The current combined annual expenditure for services in the early years category of the review in 2016/17 is £2,719,327. It is proposed that just under £2m p/a is required to deliver the new early years service model.

The Early Years Service for Children's Centre Communities contract, currently delivered by CfBT Education Trust (CfBT) and run through children's centres, is due to end 31 March 2017 (a further 12 month extension can be invoked). The service provides activities in 47 children's centres across Lincolnshire with the main aim of facilitating child development and ensuring school readiness underpinned by Early Years Foundation Stage principles. The service provides Parenting Early Education Programme (PEEP) Activities and locally tailored PEEP Plus Activities primarily for children aged 0-5 and their families, with the expectation that a minimum of 6 families attend each session. There is an emphasis on engaging vulnerable families.

There are also 28 Locality Service contracts due to end 31 March 2017 with no contractual option to extend. These are delivered by 6 different providers (Children's Links, Lincolnshire Pre-School Learning Alliance (PLA), PAB Translation, Priory Witham Academy, The Learning Curve and the Council's Learning and Development Team):

- Participation and Engagement services (Children's Links and PLA) engage children under 5 years old and their families to increase registration and participation in children's centres services, with a focus on the most vulnerable. This can be delivered through home visiting, first steps groups that should transition families into PEEP and PEEP Plus sessions, pop up events, work with existing community groups and holiday activities.
- Bi-lingual Support services (PAB Translation) in Boston, South Holland and Lincoln promote children's centre services to ethnic minority families as well as other services and encourage the take up of 2 year old childcare funding. Delivery includes running events for ethnic minority families, home visits and supporting families with translation to understand processes such as Team Around the Child, Child In Need and Child Protection.
- Skills Development services (PLA and The Learning Curve) support parents and carers of children aged under 5 years old into learning, volunteering, apprenticeships and employment, with a focus on the most vulnerable. Delivery includes recruitment of participants, building links with learning providers, Job Centre Plus and volunteering providers and then tracking progress.
- Adult Learning services (Council's Learning and Development team) work with parents in children's centre reach areas to provide good quality adult learning opportunities and support them into volunteering or paid employment.
- Crèche services (PLA) are provided whilst parents attend activities such as training, parenting programmes and employment preparation. Delivery includes offering play and learning activities during sessions. In some parts of the county crèche services are spot purchased as required.
- Witham Family Centre (Priory Witham Academy) has been the only children's centre in Lincolnshire not managed by the Council. The service includes participation and engagement, skills development, adult learning and crèche. The Council received a contractual notice from the service provider and a decision was taken that the Council would also pick up the management of this centre from 1st September 2016. As such, commissioned services must include an offer to children and families who access the Witham Family Centre.
- Locality teams undertake additional commissioning for any services that their local area may particularly need throughout the year.

Further information on current services is in Appendix A - Section 1.

Preferred Early Years Service Model

Appendix A - Section 3 sets out the preferred service model for early years services which the Executive Councillor responsible for Children's Services is asked to formally agree. A brief overview is set out below:

The model for early years services is heavily focussed on working alongside health to identify women that are pregnant as early as possible and provide integrated antenatal support alongside health, to women and their partner/network to help them prepare for parenting. The service will make available lots of support to all families during the first year of a child's life, in particular for vulnerable families. Sessions will be high quality and evidence based but also tailored to meet the needs of vulnerable individuals that may feel overwhelmed by attending structured group sessions; thus there will be flexibility to run sessions at outreach venues,

including the home. Having consistent teams of workers in locality areas will be important in helping vulnerable families to have known and friendly faces that they can turn to with concerns. Families will see the same professionals for their antenatal support, activities with their children, their skills development courses and crèche so they will feel that consistent professionals are part of their family's journey. As children get older sessions will focus on supporting them to be ready to learn and for those children that are still attending sessions after age 3, being ready for school.

The preferred model is based on commissioning a single early years service combining elements of current Locality services and Early Years Services in Children's Centre Communities together, with the exception of bi-lingual support due to specialisms required. There are a number of benefits to this:

- All of the services are already working with the same age group in/around children's centres and so there is a lot of synergy across services already.
- Families will have to engage with fewer professionals from different organisations and instead will receive holistic support in their locality area. This will enhance the locality team approach where families have a known team around them from antenatal support, early years sessions with their children to skills development support to aid them into education, employment or training.
- Instead of paying for numerous overhead, management, estate and other costs efficiencies are likely to be found through a single approach that could be then reinvested back into front line service delivery.
- All staff will be trained to the same standard and there will be a greater consistency across the county between services and their quality.
- Increased reliability of service delivery, particularly in more rural areas, resulting from staff being able to be deployed across the county to cover recruitment issues/sickness absence.

Commissioning Options

The options considered for the commissioning of early years services including bi-lingual support were:

- a) Do nothing-** this means continuing with current contractual arrangements and not altering services or funding.
- b) Decommissioning-** this means not commissioning any services beyond existing contracts and that services would effectively cease.
- c) Influencing/Partnership-** this means not commissioning any services beyond existing contracts but working with other agencies to try secure the continuation of services through them acting either as a commissioner/co-commissioner or provider/co-provider.
- d) Insourcing-** this means bringing the services within the Council with staff potentially being subject to TUPE rights and then being employed and managed by the Council.
- e) Re-procurement-** by means of an open competitive tender- this means going out to the market, by means of a competitive tender process, with the intention of continuing to outsource the service to meet the requirements of service users.

a) Do Nothing

Current contractual arrangements for all Locality Services will end on 31st March 2017 with no option to extend further. The existing Early Years Services for Children's Centre Communities contract will end on 31st March 2017 but there is an option to extend the agreement by a further 12 months. Doing nothing would mean contracts would expire and so at the very least an extension to current services would be needed with an exception to the Council's Contract and Procurement Procedure Rules required for all Locality services. Any extensions would be on the current terms and conditions and would not realise any savings or make service improvements which the review has identified are needed. This is not a legitimate option for consideration.

b) Decommissioning

The services commissioned support the Council in fulfilling its statutory duty under section 3(2) of the Childcare Act 2006 (see Appendix A for further detail of statutory duties). The Council does not have a specific duty to commission the exact services that are being reviewed although they are very clearly early childhood services. If services were to be decommissioned the Council would have a duty to consult on this, with the very likely impact being significant reputational damage and public opposition. There would also be a risk of legal challenge with the Council needing to be very clear about the early childhood services it is securing locally to meet its statutory obligations.

Decommissioning is not recommended because there is strongly evidence that offering support services in very early childhood, particularly for vulnerable families, can help improve parenting which in turn is vital for a child's brain development and their later life chances. If a child's development falls behind within the first year of their life that they are more likely to fall even further behind in subsequent years.

There are no benefits to children and families in Lincolnshire of totally decommissioning these services and the likely result would mean the most vulnerable families would not be identified quickly and supported with problems and this would have a negative impact on their children's development and place increasing pressure on Early Help and Social Care teams.

c) Influencing/Partnership

There is no requirement for any organisation, other than the Council, to commission or provide these services. The responsibility for commissioning clearly lies with the Council. Commercial aspects of the service cannot be delivered without funding and it is not feasible to think that these services could be delivered through influence/partnership alone. Part of the preferred model seeks to influence/work together with children's health services, childcare settings and others to ensure that services dovetail successfully. This is not a legitimate option for consideration.

d) Insourcing

It is legally possible for the Council to provide the early years service. There would undoubtedly be some implications under Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) (TUPE). Staff could be employed on their existing terms and

conditions but the Council would have to offer access to the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) which would make it more expensive to employ them. The result would be less funding available for services. It would also limit the Council's ability to outsource services again at a later date because many providers may be put off bidding if they need to offer a comparable pension scheme to LGPS for transferring employees. Existing providers already work well with the Council's locality teams and so benefits of integration if these services were to be insourced are fairly limited. Current providers do not charge excessive management and overhead costs and so the Council would not be able to achieve significantly more savings by providing the services themselves. The Council is also likely to incur further premises costs because desk space in many locality areas is already limited. The Council does not currently provide any bi-lingual support services and arguably would be reliant on transferring staff to provide the expertise needed. Anecdotally, vulnerable families report that they like to engage with non-Social Care providers for these services.

Benefits:

- Greater budget control.
- Greater control and flexibility over service delivery.
- Greater oversight of service performance.
- More scope to integrate with other services e.g. Early Help.

Dis-benefits

- There is a strong early years market of providers that would lose business. The destabilisation of early years market providers may be possible resulting in their potential closure and the loss of other non-council funded services.
- Increased staffing costs are likely due to needing to give transferring employees' access to LGPS which will mean future outsourcing options are restricted.
- The Council is more likely to receive negative media attention caused by the public perception that the service is now a social care service which may impact on engagement- most likely of vulnerable families.
- The Council is not an experienced provider of bi-lingual support services and would need to rely on any transferring staff or newly recruited staff to establish a service.

e) Re-procurement

As part of the service review, a number of other Local Authorities were contacted to establish their commissioning arrangements for delivery of early years and children's health services. It was evident that most Local Authorities are also undergoing a review of their services as a result of the commissioning transfer of public health services for 0-5 year olds. Conversations at regional events indicate that most authorities are in a similar position with timescales to Lincolnshire thus making it difficult to identify existing models of best practice.

Some areas have combined early years and children's health services into one large contract in order to generate greater market interest. The implications of this are that health providers are invariably best placed to win contracts over early years providers because they can more easily offer Care Quality Commission registration, NHS terms and conditions and a comparable pension schemes.

Brighton is an example of this approach. Feedback suggested the health services have thrived but the early years services have struggled to reach the same standard. In Lincolnshire there is a strong early years market that has been tested and in order to ensure high quality across all services it is recommended to separately commission early years and health services.

Lincolnshire's market of early years providers is strong and competitive. In 2012, the Early Years Services in Children's Centre Communities was procured through an open competitive tender exercise based on a maximum 5 years contract. 8 bids were received, all from organisations that already operated in Lincolnshire and the majority also operated nationally too. Any opportunity for this market to bid again on a higher value/longer term contract is very likely to attract a similar number of bids.

The same market responded differently for Locality Services commissioning though. The Council's ability to agree budgets for more than one year consecutively has been very limited over recent years. For Locality Services commissioning this has resulted in short term contracts being awarded with annual procurement exercises being undertaken once budgets have been agreed. It is evident from this that the market is less inclined to bid; for 2015/16 contracts for example, only 1 contract had more than 2 bidders. Short term contracts have also not made bidding appealing for new entrants to the market.

Any procured contract will be considered high value and long term (recommended maximum of 5 years) which should generate more interest from the existing market and new entrants thus providing more options from which the Council can select. The scale of the contract shouldn't preclude small medium enterprises from being able to bid and may encourage consortium bids.

Benefits:

- Continue to support an experienced market that can also attract funding from outside of the Council and thus strengthen Lincolnshire's economy.
- Clear understanding of how funding is being used as a result of providers being required to submit a detailed budget breakdown during the tender process and also required to provide regular detailed financial reporting.
- Staffing costs will remain comparable instead of increasing if in-sourcing was agreed.
- Reduced likelihood of negative media attention.
- Reduced likelihood of poor public perception that services are now run by social care.

Dis-benefits

- Reduced direct control of budget, performance and flexibility over service delivery.

Children's Health Services

Commissioning of Local Authority public health services for 5 to 19 year-olds (up to 25 for young people with Special Educational Needs - SEND) was delegated from Public Health to Children's Services from 1 April 2015 (all except the sexual health

service). NHS England delegated commissioning of public health services for 0 to 5 year olds to Local Authorities on 1 October 2015.

In February 2016, the Council's Executive approved entering into an agreement under Section 75 of the NHS Act 2006 for exercise by LCHS to include Health Visiting, School Nursing, Ante-natal Weight Management and Family Nurse Partnership services. The Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Executive Councillor responsible for Children's Services, was delegated the authority to determine the form and content of the agreement and approve the entering into of all legal documentation. The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee at its meeting in January 2016 supported these recommendations. The Section 75 agreement is due to end 31st March 2017 with an option to extend for a further 6 months. Current annual expenditure for 2016/17 is £11,279,040.

The new preferred service model for children's health services includes a number of changes to existing services and implementing these changes successfully will take time. The commissioning of these services also has a number of complexities and requires a significant amount of research to provide Members with sufficient information to make an informed decision. To this end, the Council's Executive will be asked to approve the model and commissioning route for children's health services in October 2016 following consideration by the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee in September 2016.

It is the opinion of Children's Strategic Commissioning that to have new children's health services operational by 1st October 2017 (when the Section 75 agreement with LCHS can currently be extended to) may not be achievable, particularly if services are to be delivered by a new provider. The services are provided to all children and young people aged 0-19 (25 with SEND) and there are huge risks to the Council if new services are not implemented in time, particularly to our most vulnerable families. The ability to further extend the Section 75 agreement with LCHS to 31st March 2018 is sought to mitigate this risk, although extensions would only be invoked if needed. This would enable current provision to continue lawfully whilst the Council commissions and implements new services. A Section 75 agreement is not a contract for services and therefore not covered by the Public Contracts Regulation 2015. The total maximum value of the Section 75 agreement would increase from £16,918,560 to £22,558,080.

The comments in relation to the statutory preconditions for establishing a Section 75 agreement in the report of 2nd February 2016 to the Council's Executive remain valid.

Equality Act 2010

The Council must comply with the public sector equality duty set out in S149 Equality Act 2010 when coming to a decision on the proposals. In doing so, the Executive Councillor as decision-maker must have due regard to the needs to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;

- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it: Equality Act 2010 section 149(1). The relevant protected characteristics are age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation: section 149(7).

Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to:

- Remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

The steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons that are different from the needs of persons who are not disabled include, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities.

Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to tackle prejudice, and promote understanding.

Compliance with the duties in this section may involve treating some persons more favourably than others.

A reference to conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act includes a reference to:

- (a) A breach of an equality clause or rule
- (b) A breach of a non-discrimination rule

It is important that the Executive Councillor is aware of the special duties the Council owes to persons who have a protected characteristic as the duty cannot be delegated and must be discharged by the Executive. The duty applies to all decisions taken by public bodies including policy decisions and decisions on individual cases and includes this decision.

To discharge the statutory duty the Executive Councillor must analyse all the relevant material with the specific statutory obligations in mind. If a risk of adverse impact is identified consideration must be given to measures to avoid that impact as part of the decision making process.

An initial desktop Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and is attached at Appendix B; this is a live document and continues to be updated. This assessment identifies that there are no specific impacts on those with protected characteristics based on the proposed new Early Years service. This reflects the fact no significant changes have been made to services. A questionnaire is currently out for public engagement to identify if there are any positive or negative

impacts that have not been identified. The feedback from this engagement exercise is not available at the time that this report is published but will be reported to the Executive Councillor prior to her reaching a decision and in any event delegation has been sought in this report for the results and any potential changes to be taken into account accordingly.

Child Poverty Strategy

The Council is under a duty in the exercise of its functions to have regard to its Child Poverty Strategy. Child poverty is one of the key risk factors that can negatively influence a child's life chances. Children that live in poverty are at greater risk of social exclusion which, in turn, can lead to poor outcomes for the individual and for society as a whole.

In Lincolnshire we consider that poverty is not only a matter of having limited financial resources but that it is also about the ability of families to access the means of lifting themselves out of poverty and of having the aspiration to do so. The following four key strategic themes form the basis of Lincolnshire's Child Poverty strategy: Economic Poverty, Poverty of Access, Poverty of Aspiration and Best Use of Resources.

Consideration has been given to this Strategy. The evidence in Appendix A shows that a child's development and achievement of their potential are critically impacted by the support and help they receive during their early years. The purpose of the Early Years service is to help give children the very best start in life thus addressing both poverty of access and poverty of aspiration in particular.

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS)

The Council in exercising its functions must have regard to both the JSNA and the JHWS.

Consideration has been given to the JSNA and the JHWS and as referred to above the proposals contribute to the theme: Improve health and social outcomes for children and reduce inequalities and the outcome: Ensure all children get the best possible start in life and achieve their potential

Crime and Disorder

Under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the Council must exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment), the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in its area and re-offending in its area.

The service may from time to time be in contact with families who may be experiencing or partaking in crime and disorder and consideration has been given

in the model to support those most at risk and indirectly prevent crime and disorder.

2. Conclusion

The Executive Councillor responsible for Children's Services is recommended to agree the final service model for early years services set out in Appendix A - Section 3 which reflects the findings of the review and also to delegate the Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Executive Councillor responsible for Children's Services, the authority to agree to any further changes to the early years service model that may be required as a result of findings from the EIA. Approval is also sought that the new early years service and bi-lingual support is commissioned through re-procurement by means of an open competitive tender because this is viewed as the best commissioning option for securing early years services in Lincolnshire. An extension to the existing Section 75 agreement with LCHS up to 31st March 2018 is recommended to ensure there is sufficient time to implement new health services successfully. This will enable the Council to secure continuity in the existing services in a lawful manner.

3. Legal Comments:

The Council has the power to adopt the recommendations. Legal issues relating to the decision are dealt with in the Report and Appendix.

The proposals are consistent with the Policy Framework and within the remit of the Executive Councillor if they are within the budget.

4. Resource Comments:

Financial implications will arise from the recommendation in this report to approve the final model for the Early Years Service. This will ensure that the £0.450m savings target previously identified will be achieved in 2017-2018.

There are no financial implications arising from the decision of the Executive Councillor on supporting the extension to the current Section 75 agreement with the Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust (LCHS) to 31st March 2018 as a current base budget exists for this period. The recommendation to extend the current arrangement will allow a thorough recommissioning exercise to be undertaken with the expectation of delivering effective value for money.

5. Consultation

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

n/a

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

Yes

c) Scrutiny Comments

The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee will be considering this report at its meeting on 15 July 2016. Comments from the Committee will be passed to the Executive Councillor.

d) Policy Proofing Actions Required

n/a

6. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Review Findings and Preferred Early Years Model
Appendix B	Equality Impact Assessment - Early Years and 0-6 Health Services

7. Background Papers

The following background papers as defined in the Local Government Act 1972 were relied upon in the writing of this report.

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Executive Report- 2016/17 contract with Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust for Health Visiting, School Nursing and Antenatal Weight Management	http://lincolnshire.moderngov.co.uk/mgChooseDocPack.aspx?ID=442

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