



FOR PUBLICATION

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

Thursday, 10 February 2022

Report of the Director - Public Health

Re procurement of Nicotine Replacement Therapy contract
(Cabinet Member for Health and Communities)

1. Divisions Affected

1.1 County-wide.

2. Key Decision

2.1 This is a key decision because it is likely to result in the Council incurring expenditure which is, or savings which are significant having regard to the budget for the service or function concerned (this is currently defined as £0.500m) and it is likely to be significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more electoral areas in the County.

3. Purpose

3.1 To obtain approval from Cabinet to increase the financial value of the Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) budget on the forward plan of procurements in the Adult Social Care and Health Service Plan 2017-2021.

4. Information and Analysis

4.1 Live Life Better Derbyshire (LLBD) provides an evidence-based stop smoking service to support smokers who want to quit smoking. Accessing a local stop smoking service is the most effective method of

quitting smoking, with smokers four times more likely to quit smoking with a stop smoking service than if they tried to quit on their own. The support provided by the LLBD consists of behavioural support (advice on quitting, setting a date to quit and dealing with withdrawal symptoms/cravings) and access to smoking cessation pharmacotherapy products.

- 4.2 There are a range of smoking cessation pharmacotherapy products available to help smokers quit including nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) such as patches or gum, which are provided directly to clients free of charge.
- 4.3 NRT is currently supplied to Derbyshire County Council by Sigma Pharmaceuticals. The contract was initially approved at the Councils Cabinet meeting on 5th October 2017 for a term of 5 years (3+1+1) and has a maximum value of £2.8m. The contract is due to end 30th October 2022. A procurement process is on-going to find a provider for the next 5 years.
- 4.4 The Sigma Pharmaceuticals Nicotine Replacement Therapy contract value is a maximum of £0.56m per annum, but the actual annual spend has been much lower – see Table 1 below. The costs are met from the public health budget.

Table 1 – Stop Smoking Activity by Live Life Better Derbyshire

Year	2018--2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022 (Forecast)
Quit Dates Set	1,405	1,710	2,297	2,600
4 Week Quits	862	1,158	1,553	1,625
NRT Spend	£0.109m	£0.133m	£0.182m	£0.270m

- 4.5 At the Cabinet meeting of 16 March 2020 (Min No. 44/20) Cabinet approved the 2019-2020 updates to the Departmental Service Plans 2017-2021. Within the Adult Social Care and Health Service Plan 2017-2021 the procurement of NRT was identified and the plan stated a value of £1.25m over five years (£0.250m a year) which was sufficient having regard to the service performance in the financial years 2018-2019 to 2020--2021.
- 4.6 However, the procurement value needs to be increased from £1.250m to £2.500m for the new five year contract for a number of reasons:

- LLBD service activity has significantly increased as shown in Table 1 above, with a subsequent increase in the amount of NRT provided by the service. Demand for stop smoking support by the service continues to grow and the service continues to ensure its offer is accessible, especially by those groups that are more likely to smoke – pregnant women, routine and manual workers, individuals with serious mental illness.
- Pfizer announced in June 2021 they were stopping all Champix production and recalling all remaining stock due to a contamination issue. Champix is a prescription only pharmacotherapy and is used by around 30% of LLBD clients in their stop smoking attempt. At the present time Pfizer has been unable to advise when Champix will be available again. Due to the lack of supply of Champix, LLBD is encouraging individuals to use NRT instead in their attempt to stop smoking. Consequently, this will increase the amount of NRT that the service uses.
- The NHS Long Term Plan sets out new commitments for action that the NHS itself will take to improve the prevention of ill health and reduce health inequalities. Whilst the prevalence of smoking has fallen, it still accounts for more years of life lost than any other modifiable risk factor. The NHS is therefore implementing a Tobacco Dependency Treatment programme to support patients to stop smoking and locally this programme will actively commence at both acute trusts in January 2022 and be rolled out to all adult inpatients, pregnant smokers and adult outpatients with serious mental illness by 2023-2024. This work by the NHS is welcomed but it should lead to more individuals being referred into LLBD for stop smoking support and therefore further increase the amount of NRT the service uses.

5. Consultation

5.1 No consultation required

6. Alternative Options Considered

6.1 Do nothing; the current budget may not meet the needs of the amount of NRT required to support the Derbyshire population which would have negative implications on the delivery of the LLBD stop smoking service. Failure to increase the value of the NRT contract could result in the Council being unable to procure sufficient NRT to support individuals to stop smoking and this will adversely impact service performance.

7. Implications

7.1 Appendix 1 sets out the relevant implications considered in the preparation of the report.

8. Background Papers

8.1 None identified

9. Appendices

9.1 Appendix 1 – Implications

10. Recommendation(s)

That Cabinet approves the increase in the financial value of the Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) budget on the forward plan of procurements in the Adult Social Care and Health Service Plan 2017-2021 from £1.25million to £2.5million over the 5 years of the new contract for the reasons set out in this report.

11. Reasons for Recommendation(s)

11.1 LLBD require sufficient budget to buy enough NRT to support clients accessing the LLBD stop smoking service and contribute to improving population health by supporting individuals to stop smoking.

12. Is it necessary to waive the call in period?

12.1 *No*

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Implications

Financial

- 1.1 The costs of NRT would be met from the Public Health Grant. Please note that the budget of £2.500m is the maximum and it is anticipated that the actual spend will be lower.

Legal

- 2.1 The procurement of a new supplier of NRT will be carried out in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and the Council's Financial Regulations.

Human Resources

- 3.1 Not applicable

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 6.1 This proposal supports the Council priority 'Increase the number of people taking part in stop smoking and weight management programmes' set out in the current Council Plan through providing a stop smoking service to Derbyshire residents.