

Report to Cabinet

20 July 2022

Subject:	Request to procure an adult weight management service using the public health budget
Cabinet Member:	Cabinet Member for Adults, Social Care & Health Councillor Suzanne Hartwell
Director:	Director of Public Health Lisa McNally
Key Decision:	Yes
Contact Officer:	Ricky Byrnes- Communities and Partnerships manager- ricky_byrnes@sandwell.gov.uk Anna Blennerhassett – Consultant in Public Health anna_blennerhassett@sandwell.gov.uk

1 Recommendations

- 1.1 That Cabinet consider and approve the proposal to re-commission the Tier 2 Weight Management Service for Adults, taking into account the change in funding source and revised timeline.
- 1.2 That the Director of Public Health be authorised, in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer, to procure a two plus one-year behavioural (tier 2) weight management service for adults using the public health budget.
- 1.3 To approve the revised timeline details from a service start date in July 2022 to a start date in early 2023 for a period of two years with the option to extend up to a further year until 2026 at a cost of £200,000 per year, so a £600,000 overall budget will be required (which includes the optional one-year extension period) for the service to include a multi-component programme addressing dietary intake, physical activity, and behaviour change for adults who are overweight or living with obesity with the primary aim of promoting



health behaviour change, increased physical activity and improved self-esteem.

- 1.4 That the Director of Law and Governance & Monitoring Officer be authorised to enter into and execute, under seal as may be required, any contracts or ancillary documentation in relation to the award of contract referred to in recommendation 1.1 above.
- 1.5 That the Cabinet authorise an exemption to rule 8.7 of the Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules 2018/19 to allow a contract to be awarded to a successful tenderer in the event that the required minimum number of tenders are not received.
- 1.6 That Cabinet also approve Variations to the Contract up to a maximum of 10% of the Contract value, should they be necessitated, and that authority to approve such Variations be delegated to the appropriate Director of Public Health in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Living Healthy Lives.
- 1.7 That the Director of Public Health be authorised to look at options to extend current provision of the Tier2 Adult Weight Management service using available underspend from the current grant funding and/or Public Health grant with Everyone Health.
- 1.8 That in connection with 1.7 above, subject to the recommendation above being explored and an extension is allowed as per the framework agreement and Public Contract Regulations, the Director of Public Health and Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer be authorised to enter into an extension agreement with the current provider Everyone Health.

2 Reasons for Recommendations

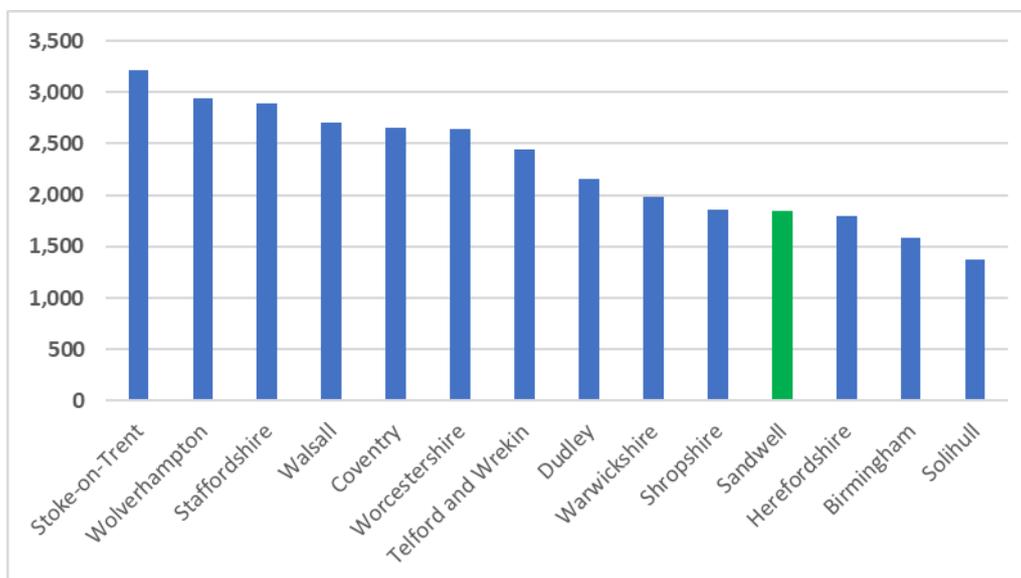
- 2.1 Obesity causes problems at both an individual and societal level, in that it is a significant driver of ill health and demand on health services. The extent to which obesity is a challenge for any given area can be gaged in the routine data on hospital admissions in which obesity is judged by the clinician to be a primary or secondary factor in the patient's ill health.

In Sandwell last year the rate of hospital admissions with obesity as a factor was 1842 per 100k population (see Table One below). This



equates to over 5585 individual admissions. The rate in Sandwell is below average. However, without continued local investment rates could rise, leading to further, significant impact on both individuals and healthcare resources.

Table One: Rate of admissions with obesity as a factor (NHS Digital 2020)



2.2 The public health team would like to take the opportunity to use the public health budget to expand on previous short-term funding provided by Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) in 2021-22.

In May 2022, unfortunately the public health team were notified that the OHID funding would not be continued. In order to continue what has been a successful programme, we would like to commission a service that will continue to improve levels of physical activity, healthy eating and support people to adopt healthier behaviours.

2.3 The change in funding source has resulted in extra work for the team and that is the rationale behind the revised timeline. The public health team would like to give enough time to build on the learning from the existing service to design a high quality service.



3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

	<p>Best start in life for children and young people</p> <p>This programme is likely to impact positively on children's levels of physical activity and healthy eating as parents adopt and encourage healthier behaviours within the home.</p>
	<p>People live well and age well in Sandwell</p> <p>The behavioural (tier 2) adult weight management service is defined as multi component programmes addressing diet, physical activity and behaviour change.</p> <p>This programme will increase levels of physical activity, improve healthy eating and behaviour change. This programme recognises the benefits from exercising at the right level and maintaining healthy weight on health and wellbeing, reducing the risk of disease and illness and improving mental health; and improving physical and psychological quality of life for individuals, families and communities.</p>

4 Context and Key Issues

4.1 On the 26th March 2021, OHID published information about the adult weight management services grant for local authorities. This is funding to support local authorities to commission weight management services in 2021 to 2022. ([Adult weight management services grant 2021/ 2022 - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/adult-weight-management-services-grant-2021-2022))

4.2 OHID have provided funding to local authorities to commission adult weight management services for active delivery up until the end of June 2022. The current adult weight management service contract ends on the 30th September 2022 to ensure that the 26 weeks follow up of service completers can take place. The current provider will stop active delivery of the service at the end of June 2022 but will continue to follow-up to collect data from participants until the end of September 2022.

4.3 On 7th February 2022 OHID sent a letter to The Director of Public Health (DPH) to state that funding would be made available to continue adult weight management services. However, in May 2022 OHID stated in a meeting with local authority commissioners that the funding was no longer available.



4.4 The early data provided for the current adult weight management service indicates that there was a latent demand and unmet need. This is showing through referral numbers coming through to the current service (200 referrals have been made in the first month).

4.5 The procurement of a longer service will ensure that local demand and need is addressed, and residents continue to receive support with adopting healthier behaviours which will improve levels of physical activity, diet and levels of self-esteem.

4.6 Consultation

The Director of Public Health briefed the Cabinet Member for Adults, Social care and Health on 8th March 2022, and this paper initially went to Cabinet on 13th April 2022. For July 2022 Cabinet, the Cabinet Member for Living and Ageing Well will be briefed both on 14 June 2022 and 21 June 2022.

We also consulted with the adult social care health and wellbeing commissioning support unit on the timescales of procuring a service of this value.

4.7 Sustainability

Public Health are committed to funding this programme over a longer period, which will include a contract for a minimum of two years with an option to extend for a further year. We will also work with the local community voluntary sector to capacity build and upskill during the period of delivery of this programme to ensure they are able to support residents utilising local grants such as Vision 2030 community grants.

4.8 Timescales

The current adult weight management service active delivery is due to end on the 30th June 2022. Between 1st July 2022 and 30th September 2022, the existing provider will continue to follow-up to collect data from participants until the end of September 2022 detailed in section 4.2.



- 4.9 Pending Cabinet approval, the new Tier 2 adult weight management service will be commissioned in early 2023. In the time between the end of the current service delivery and the start of the new service, residents in Sandwell will be offered several other options to aid weight management. This will include Weigh2Go, Weight Watchers and the community Healthy Lifestyle offer. When the new service starts residents, who have expressed interest will be contacted to refer them in.
- 4.10 Public Health would like to make a further recommendation to look at options to extend current provision of the Tier2 Adult Weight Management service using available underspend from the current grant funding and/or Public Health grant. We are seeking authorisation for Public Health to explore the option of extending the current Everyone Health contract to potentially cover any gap in this service whilst a procurement as per the above recommendation is undertaken and contract entered. Subject to the recommendation above being explored and an extension is allowed as per the framework agreement and Public Contracts Regulations 2015 as well as internal procurement rules and the Director of Public Health and Director of Legal be authorised to enter into an extension agreement with the current provider Everyone Health.

5 Alternative Options

- 5.1 We do not commission a future adult weight management service. This will have implications for people locally that could widen health inequalities.

6 Implications

Resources:	Funding has been identified through the public health budget to cover the overall costs of the service (£200,000 per year).
Legal and Governance:	Local authorities' statutory responsibilities for public health services are set out in the Health and Social Care Act 2012 Local authority public health teams have, since 1 April 2013, been responsible for improving the health of their local population and for public health services.



	<p>Services should be commissioned based on evidence of need using the key indicators set out in the Public Health Outcomes Framework.</p> <p>Due to the total value of the contract (namely £600,000, which includes the optional extension period of one year), it constitutes a below threshold procurement under the Light Touch regime. As a result, the procurement process would not be caught by the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.</p> <p>However, the contract will be procured and awarded in accordance with the Council's Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules.</p> <p>In view of the value of the contract, Rule 8.7 of the Council's Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules states that a minimum of three tender submissions would be required. In the event that the required minimum number of tenders are not received, an exemption to Rule 8.7 of the Council's Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules would need to be secured to waive the requirement to obtain a minimum of three tender submissions and to proceed with the award of the contract to a successful tenderer.</p> <p>Should variations to the contract up to a maximum of 10% of the contract value be necessitated, an appropriate assessment would need to be undertaken to ensure compliance with relevant procurement rules, including the Council's Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules.</p>
<p>Risk:</p>	<p>Risks to health of residents: The highest risk relates to doing nothing – which is likely to lead to adverse impact on the long-term health of residents.</p>
<p>Equality:</p>	<p>Evidence suggest that certain social groups experience greater barriers to accessing weight management services. These include families from</p>



	certain minority ethnic groups, low socio-economic communities and those living with intellectual and/or physical disabilities. The service specification will outline the need to engage marginalised groups in Sandwell to ensure the service is accessible and equitable.
Health and Wellbeing:	This service will support interventions that are designed to improve health outcomes for adults in Sandwell by encouraging regular physical activity, healthy eating and general wellbeing.
Social Value	The service specification will include criteria based on social value. Any provider will need to evidence how their service will meet the principles of social value.

7. Appendices

Appendix A: EIA Adult Weight Management Service

Appendix B: PRIVATE - OHID grant letter February 2022

8. Background Papers

Decisions of Cabinet held April 2022



Decisions of
Cabinet - 13 April 20



Cabinet Report -
Adult weight manag

