

Officer Decision Record – Executive Decision

If Key Decision: Decision Ref. No.

n/a

If not a Key Decision write n/a above

OFFICER DECISION RECORD ⁱ

Officer Key Decisions are subject to the Council's Call-In Procedure (Annex 9 of the Council's Constitution <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/about-the-council/freedom-of-information-and-council-data/open-data-statistics-about-hertfordshire/who-we-are-and-what-we-do/who-we-are-and-what-we-do.aspx>)

Subject: To direct award to STEP2 via a collaboration agreement

Type of Decision: Non-Executive

Key Decision (Executive Functions only): NA

Executive Member/Committee Chairman:

The commissioning of the Early Help Services was approved at the Childrens Emotional Health and Wellbeing Board the board is attended by:

HVCCG Manging Director

HCC Operations Director – Specialist Services

HCC Programme Manager - CAMHS Redesign & Implementation

HCC- Cabinet Member – Children, Young People and Families

H&WE Director of Nursing & Quality

HCT Chief Operating Officer

HPFT Exec Director of Service Delivery & Customer Experience

An update on the tender process and the proposed actions to ensure delivery of these service is discussed at the Board meetings on a regular basis.

Portfolio (Executive Functions only):N/A

April 2020

Officer Contact: Joella Scott - CAMHS Redesign and Implementation

Tel: T: 01992 588451 (Internal: 28451)

E: joella.scott@hertfordshire.gov.uk

1. **Decision**

To direct award to Step2 for the provision of Early Intervention Child and Adolescent Mental Health & Emotional Wellbeing Service.

2. **Reasons for the decision**

Hertfordshire County Council, working in partnership with East and North Herts CCG and Herts Valleys CCG, proposed to go out to tender for the Children and Adolescents Mental Health “Early Help ” services. However, after some deliberation at the Children and Adolescents Emotional Wellbeing Board it was felt that due to the current pressures on the CAMHS system, effects of Covid and services it would not be conducive for quality service delivery, continuity and Children and Young people’s journey to go out to competitive tender for incumbent services at this time. The tender process was therefore stopped.

Commissioners and System Partners are currently reviewing options in terms of the Early Help Services going forward and are moving towards an Integrated Care System in which providers work together and are accountable for a system rather than just their own service. However, whilst work to achieve this is ongoing, it was and still is being impacted by the pandemic. It is vital that we support the market, reduce commercial sensitivity and not de-stabilise existing providers, the system and CYP who are receiving services.

Having spoken to our procurement colleagues and Legal colleagues at length and seeking advice at QC level it was felt the best way to proceed was to issue a collaboration agreement between HCC and HCT in relation to the provision of the Step 2 service.

3. **Alternative options considered and rejected**

Option 1 – do nothing.

Not commissioning any service would mean we could continue to see a rise in the number of CYP with more acute entrenched Emotional Health and Wellbeing issues , which in turn would result in pressure on an already strained health care services.

Option 2 – We direct award to Step2 via the collaboration agreement

Recommended Option – It was our recommendation that we recommission the Step2 service via collaboration agreement. The service will deliver a countywide Early Intervention Child and Adolescent Mental Health & Emotional Wellbeing Service that is accessible to CYP at the earliest point of an emerging concern, promoting resilience, and strategies that encourage coping and self-management for CYP and enabling a reduction in referrals to more specialist provision.

April 2020

The funding for this service was agreed at the Children and Young People's Emotional Health and Wellbeing Board, and the budget for the service comes entirely from NHS funding. On consultation with legal it was agreed we would direct award to HCT for the Step 2 service via a collaboration agreement , both HCC and external legal counsel has been sort on how to take this award forward and both have agreed the best way is via the collaboration agreement.

4. **Consultation** (see *Summary of Requirements below*)

Was any Councillor consulted?

Update at board given on the 28 January 2022, the meeting included the following representation from across the system:

HVCCG Manging Director

HCC Operations Director – Specialist Services

HCC Programme Manager - CAMHS Redesign & Implementation

HCC- Cabinet Member – Children, Young People and Families

H&WE Director of Nursing & Quality

HCT Chief Operating Officer

HPFT Exec Director of Service Delivery & Customer Experience

5. **Any conflict of interest declared by a councillor who has been consulted in relation to the decision**
NA

6. **I am proceeding with the proposed decision.**

Signed: Joella Scott

Title: Contract Officer

Date: 02/08/2022

Copies of record to:

- All consultees
- hard & electronic copy (if required to be made available for public inspection) to Democratic Services Manager - Room 213 County Hall.ⁱⁱ

Summary of Requirements to Inform/Consult Councillors

Significance of Proposed Action	Controversial	Relevant Councillor(s) to be Consulted
Technical/Professional/ Routine	No	No need to inform or consult councillors
Technical/Professional/ Routine	Yes	Executive Functions: Consult relevant Lead Executive Member and, where appropriate, Local Councillor Non-Executive Functions: Relevant Committee Chairman and, where appropriate, Local Councillor
Local	No	Executive Functions: Inform Lead Executive Member and Local Councillor Non-Executive Functions: Inform Local Councillor
Local	Yes	Executive Functions: Consult Lead Executive Member and Local Councillor Non-Executive Functions: Consult Local Councillor
General or County-wide	No	Executive Functions: Consult relevant Lead Executive Member (s) Non-Executive Functions: Consult relevant Committee Chairman
General or County-wide	Yes	Executive Functions: Consult relevant Lead Executive Member (s) and the Leader of the Council Non-Executive Functions: Consult relevant Committee Chairman/Leaders all Political Groups