

Working with you on Community Based Health Improvement Services

Public Health Dorset commissions a range of mandatory and non-mandatory public health services to support Dorset County Council, Bournemouth Borough Council and the Borough of Poole in their legal duty to improve the health and wellbeing of residents and to reduce differences in health outcomes between the populations they serve.

One of the key strands of this is our community based health improvement services, where we have an excellent range of community providers, principally GPs and pharmacies. The principal scope of these contracts is set out below.

PHARMACY CONTRACT	GP PRACTICE CONTRACT	OTHER
<p>Specifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smoking cessation support • NHS health check assessment • Supervised consumption of opiate substitutes for drug users • Needle exchange • Emergency hormonal contraception • Chlamydia treatment 	<p>Specifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smoking cessation support • NHS Health Check invite • NHS Health Check assessment • Substitute prescribing & support to drug users • Long-acting reversible contraception – fitting & removal • Intrauterine Contraceptives - Fitting and removal 	<p>Specifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weight management

Developing the future direction for Public Health Services.

Public Health Dorset have been reviewing those programmes where we have direct commissioning responsibility; focusing on three principle objectives of effectiveness, efficiency and equity. We have also needed to take account of Local and European procurement procedures which govern Local Authorities

As a result we are currently tendering for a new Health Improvement Hub that will allow one single point of contact for Dorset residents, and we will be commissioning an integrated sexual health service through 2015 that will more closely match the sexual health needs of the population. These providers will support health improvement activity in Dorset, but alongside this we will continue to need excellent providers, embedded within local communities, who are able to deliver services to help local residents on their health improvement journey. Depending on specific pathways people may be referred from the Hub to Community based Health Improvement Services and/or vice versa, so there will need to be highly supportive and co-operative relationships between providers.

What does this mean for community based health improvement services?

We are looking to maintain an excellent range of community based services that meet the identified needs of the Dorset population. However we recognise a need to address variation, while also potentially providing additional opportunities and flexible ways of delivering services.



Our current GP and pharmacy contracts run to September 2015, whilst those for weight management run to March 2016. We hope to move these contracts into a more flexible procurement model, which will work from a list of approved providers against specified service areas and then provide opportunities within each service area.

This model will allow a mix of longer term (e.g. 3-year) contracts, with the flexibility to deliver additional short term contracts, for example when extra activity is needed. We want the model to reflect the local needs of communities and will aim to organise opportunities around localities where appropriate.

We are suggesting managing this model through an electronic procurement system that will easily identify what opportunities are available, and more detail of how we envisage this process working is set out below:

- The electronic system will open early in 2015 with details of the overall model.
- There will be a range of service areas within the model called 'Lots'. Each 'Lot' will have essential criteria that the provider will be able to sign up to and therefore become an approved provider for that 'Lot'.
- Services specifications or 'opportunities' for service delivery will be made available within particular 'Lots' over time. Our intention is that for each 'Lot' we will commission at least one specification in the next 12 - 18 months.
- Some 'Lots' may have more than one opportunity, and opportunities may continue to be added throughout the lifespan of the model.
- As opportunities may change over time the system will remain open to new providers signing up at any time.
- Through this process all providers on the system will clearly see what opportunities are available and if they qualify as a suitable provider.
- For the provider it will be a more transparent process with potentially a longer contract and a quicker turnaround time to awarding contracts.
- It is anticipated that the electronic system will allow more efficient administration of the contracts.

Your feedback

We would very much like to hear your thoughts on how we can best develop this model, and as well as collecting feedback at our engagement events in November and December, would appreciate any further thoughts or feedback. Please email:

PHTenders@dorsetcc.gov.uk

