

Subject:	Lancashire County Council Weight management collaboration	Status:	For Publication
Report to:	Council	Date:	28 th February 2024
Report of:	Programme Manager – Physical Activity	Lead Member:	Communities, Health & Wellbeing
Key Decision:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forward Plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	General Exception <input type="checkbox"/>	Special Urgency <input type="checkbox"/>
Equality Impact Assessment:	Required: No	Attached:	No
Biodiversity Impact Assessment:	Required: No	Attached:	No
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1. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council authorises statutory officers to:

- 1.1 Accept the collaboration agreement between Lancashire County Council and Rossendale Borough Council for the delivery of the weight management programme (2024 – 2029).
- 1.2 Accept the associated grant funding of up to £392,016, (split between the years 2024/25 to 2031/32 at £49,002 per annum), subject to continued Government Public Health Grant funding.
- 1.3 Delegate authority to award the contract to the successful delivery partner to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Lead Member for Communities, Health & Wellbeing.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- A strategic priority for the Council is the health and well-being of its residents by providing support, guidance and interventions for healthier residents.
- Lancashire County Council weight management project commenced in April 2021.
- This report requests that the Council enters into a new collaboration agreement with LCC to deliver the tier 2 weight management service and PASTA (Play Skills at Tea-Time activities) for an initial 5 years with an extension of a further 3 years (8 years in total). The new collaboration will commence on 1st April 2024. The indicative figures are £49,002 per annum totalling £392,016 over 8 years of the agreement. The funding will be used to deliver the Healthy Weight Services programme building on the success of the current delivery over the past 3 years. This is a five year project, with an additional three years on the confirmation of further government funding.
- Due to the tight timeframes, the Council commenced a tender process in January 2024 with the aim of procuring a partner organisation to deliver the service across Rossendale. The tender closed on the 2 February 2024.
- The winning tender is yet to be confirmed but evaluation of tenders is underway together with associated due diligence.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The government announced support for people living with excess weight and obesity to lose weight and maintain healthier lifestyles. The Healthy Weight Services Grant distributes over £30 million of funding between all local authorities in England who accepted the grant, to support the expansion of their tier 2 weight management service and the PASTA project commissioned by local authorities. This is part of a place-based, whole-systems approach to tackling obesity and promoting a healthier weight.

- 3.2 In March 2021 the government announced a commitment to support people living with obesity to lose weight. The aim, as part of a place-based whole systems approach to obesity and promoting healthier weight, is to enable adults to have access to services and support to help them lose weight and maintain a healthier weight. Lancashire County Council are providing an accessible multi-component tier 2 weight management service, which supports people to lose weight and improves knowledge and skills in maintaining a healthy weight, as part of wider programmes which promote healthy weight and physical activity in localities.
- 3.3 The whole systems approach to obesity recognises that obesity is a complex issue with multiple causes and has significant implications beyond health. There is no one solution in tackling this problem and it requires a long-term, system wide approach to support change. Evidence suggests a family based holistic approach to be more effective, acknowledging that working with whole families extends the reach of services and increases the likelihood of making and sustaining behaviour change.
- 3.4 The programme, offered across the 12 Lancashire districts of Burnley, Chorley, Fylde, Hyndburn, Lancaster, Pendle, Preston, Ribble Valley, Rossendale, South Ribble, West Lancashire and Wyre, has been developed to provide local flexibility for services to meet identified local need.
- 3.5 Addressing unhealthy weight and supporting people to sustain weight loss is complex and it is recognised that just providing traditional weight management services is no longer enough. A flexible service is needed that adapts to meet need and promotes sustainability whilst contributing to a whole systems approach to tackling obesity, working closely and in partnership with stakeholders to improve outcomes for all.
- 3.6 The Healthy Weight Service will include components of a Tier 2 Weight Management Service for adults, a family programme that promotes and supports healthy weight behaviours, and a wider integrated support option for individuals who wish to access independent community services that support healthy weight behaviours.
- 3.7 Healthy Weight Services will deliver targeted family-based programmes as a group intervention. This will be a programme that does not place a focus on weight and instead encourages and models healthy lifestyle behaviours; and a varied balanced diet, support, and encouragement to get involved with community activities. For example, learning practical skills such a cooking and play in a fun environment.

4. DETAILS

- 4.1 The Weight Management collaboration is a five year agreement (with an additional three years on the confirmation of funding) commencing on the 1 April 2024. The tender is for a fixed amount per annum and bidders have been asked to outline how they intend to deliver the key outcomes of the service for the amount of grant funding available. The successful tenderer will be required to abide by the terms of the LCC grant funding agreement and indemnify the Council in the event of breach. The contract will be subject to the Council continuing to receive the grant funding and the delivery partner meeting the key outcomes.
- 4.2 In order to meet the timescales, the Council issued a tender opportunity for a delivery partner. This was advertised in line with the Council's Constitution and Public Procurement Regulations as an above threshold tender. The opportunity closed 2nd February 2024. The tender submissions are currently being evaluated and the successful bidder will be awarded the

contract following completion of due diligence and the mandatory standstill period, subject to approval of this report by Full Council.

4.3 The details of the role of Rossendale Borough Council is as follows:

Rossendale Borough Council will:

- Lead and coordinate all aspects of the healthy weight service by subcontracting the Adult Weight Management and Active Families (new name for PASTA)
- Contract/Quality Management of winning delivery partner via the Rossendale Population Health Board (quarterly reports to be submitted)
- Day to day support to the delivery partner will be managed by the Rossendale Borough Council Programme Manager – Physical Activity
- To follow a Making Every Contact Count (MECC) approach within the healthy weight service and from potential referring organisations

4.4 Delivery Partner will:

Adult Weight Management

- To deliver family healthy weight sessions and adult only healthy weight sessions
- Place based programme utilising key organisations to reduce the levels of adult obesity through health coaching and social prescribing
- Support and provide tools to improve attendees mental well being
- Provide a referral system to community based physical activity sessions

Active Families

- Targeted place based family intervention programme
- To deliver a programme that does not place a focus purely on weight (having other outcomes such as mental well being goals)
- Targeted to families that are accessing other services including free school meals
- Nutritional guidance including cooking lessons and cook books
- To provide physical activity guidance and opportunities to service users of the family programme

5 RISK

5.1 The reputation of the Council may be damaged if the project to improve the health of Rossendale residents is not delivered.

6 FINANCE

6.1 This is a fully funded scheme, with no additional financial implications to the Council.

7 LEGAL

7.1 Under the terms of the Constitution, Full Council must grant authority to officers to accept the grant and procure the delivery partner due to the value of the grant and contract sum.

7.2 The procurement has been carried out in line with the Constitution and Public Procurement regulations as an above threshold tender.

7.3 All necessary legal agreements will be completed following due diligence.

8 POLICY AND EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

8.1 The delivery of the weight management programme will support the Council's Valley Plan, Health and Proud Communities priority.

8.2 The programme will support people in the area, no matter what their background and circumstances, to have equality of opportunity to receive support, guidance and interventions for healthy weight management.

8.3 Any equality implications related to the delivery of the programme will be given consideration in a relevant and proportionate manner.

9 REASON FOR DECISION

9.1 To enable the Council to accept the grant funding and deliver the Healthy Weight Management Service in Rossendale through the appointment of a delivery partner.

No background papers