

DELEGATED DECISIONS BY CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, EDUCATION & YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES

MINUTES of the meeting held on Wednesday, 11 September 2024 commencing at 2.00 pm and finishing at 2.15 pm

Present:

Voting Members: Councillor John Howson – in the Chair

Officers: Jack Ahier (Democratic Services Officer), Caroline Kelly (Lead Commissioner – Start Well), Rebecca Lanchbury (Commissioning Manager), Alison Walker (Commissioning Officer), Rosie Winyard (Commissioning Manager, Health),

The Cabinet Member considered the matters, reports and recommendations contained or referred to in the agenda for the meeting and agreed as set out below. Copies of the agenda and reports are attached to the signed Minutes.

12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

(Agenda No. 1)

None.

13 QUESTIONS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

(Agenda No. 2)

None.

14 PETITIONS AND PUBLIC ADDRESS

(Agenda No. 3)

None.

15 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

(Agenda No. 4)

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2024 were approved by the Chair as a correct record.

16 FUNDING CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS JOINT COMMISSIONED CAMHS CONTRACT WITH BOB ICB (2024-25)

(Agenda No. 5)

The Chair remarked that he was anxious about how the timing of this decision is going to be managed in line with the new budget (April 2025).

Officers replied that the delay in this decision is because of a change in contract regulations and NHS requirements, and they hope to speed things up to avoid a search for retrospective funding in the new fiscal year.

The Chair further remarked that the problem now is that this decision will either adversely affect budgetary negotiations or require over-spend and this was not ideal.

The Cabinet Member for Children, Education & Young People's Services APPROVED the following as advertised:

- a) **To delegate authority to the Director for Children's Services, in consultation with the Head of Procurement and Contract Management, to award a funding contribution value £754,400 to Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Berkshire West Integrated Care Board (BOB ICB) under the existing partnering agreement with BOB ICB towards payment for the contract for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) in Oxfordshire. This service contract value is £20million in 2024-2025 is managed by the BOB ICB and delivered by Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust (OHFT).**
- b) **To agree commencement of an immediate review process for this contract and future funding arrangements post April 2025, to ensure return on investment and improving outcomes for children and young people in Oxfordshire experiencing mental health problems and associated neuro diversity.**

17 SOUTH CENTRAL RESIDENTIAL FRAMEWORK (Agenda No. 6)

The Chair asked why he was being asked to approve £500K only, given that the Council spent £1.3M under a previous contract.

Officers clarified that the cost is £500K per placement, and they are likely to want to make several placements in the year.

Officers further remarked that they would like the director of Start Well to have delegated approval to award contracts which cost more than £500K in the future, and they are seeking legal advice around whether this would be possible.

The Cabinet Member for Children, Education & Young People's Services APPROVED the following as advertised:

- a) **To approve the purchase of individual and/or block placements, under the £500K threshold, for the children of Oxfordshire from the South-Central Residential Care Framework as a Consortium member.**

18 SHAP HOMELESSNESS PROJECT WITHDRAWAL

(Agenda No. 7)

The Chair remarked that this whole situation is unfortunate and frustrating because it would have been nice to provide the service to the young people.

The Chair asked officers to stay in contract with potential providers of such a service and thanked the team for their efforts.

The Cabinet Member for Children, Education & Young People's Services APPROVED the following as advertised:

- a) To acknowledge the Council's position on the application to the Department of Levelling Up Housing and Communities (DLUHC) for the Supported Housing Accommodation Programme (SHAP) for Young People aged 18-25 at Risk of Homelessness, and reasons for withdrawing the service following the key decision paper on 10th July 2024.**

..... in the Chair

Date of signing