

Officer Executive Decisions

Public Health - Transfer of Commissioning Responsibilities for the Healthy Child Programme (0-5 years)

On 10 March 2015 the Cabinet considered a report that provided details of the transfer of responsibilities for commissioning the Healthy Child Programme for 0-5 year olds from NHS England to the Council.

It was explained that the Healthy Child Programme (HCP) was the government's prevention and early intervention evidence-based public health programme for children, young people and families. It aimed to support parents, promote child development, improve child health outcomes and ensure that families at risk were identified at the earliest opportunity. It focused on providing families with a programme of screening, immunisation, health and development reviews, supplemented by advice around health, wellbeing and parenting.

It was explained that whilst a range of public health responsibilities had transferred from the NHS to the Council on 1 April 2013, the Healthy Child Programme (HCP) for 0-5 year olds had remained with NHS England (NHSE) to enable the expansion of health visitor numbers and places on the Family Nurse Partnerships to be completed by April 2015. The transfer of responsibility for commissioning the HCP 0-5 year olds would occur on 1 October 2015 and Department of Health guidance on the scope of the transfer was set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

A copy of the report is available via the following link:

<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/mgconvert2pdf.aspx?id=26429>

Delegation from Leader and Cabinet and date:

On 10 March 2015 the Cabinet agreed to formally receive the transfer of the commissioning function and novation of contracts in relation to the Healthy Child Programme 0-5 year olds taking place on 1 October 2015 under the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

The Cabinet also agreed to delegate authority to the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Adult Services, to enter into all documentation necessary to effect the legal receipt through transfer of this function including resources, information and contracts related to them including the deed of novation and to fulfil any statutory instrument transferring the functions to the Council.

Decision: The contract has been novated and was sealed via the council's legal team.

Reasons for Decision: In compliance with Cabinet decision above this has been necessary so to comply with legislative requirements under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and subordinate legislation issued under that Act.

Date of Decision: 15 September 2015

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Details of any other options considered and rejected:

The decision taken by officers was in compliance with Cabinet decision outlined above. The Cabinet report explained what was necessary to comply with legislative requirements under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and subordinate legislation issued under that Act.

Conflicts of Interest: None declared.