

# NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## Health and Adult Services

### NORTH YORKSHIRE STOP SMOKING SERVICE

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2018

#### 1.0 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to inform Executive Members of a key decision taken by the Corporate Director of Health and Adult Services, to bring 'in house' the provision of a specialist stop smoking service.

#### 2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Smoking still kills and remains the number one cause of **preventable** death and related illness in North Yorkshire. The lack of the service would slow or worse still, reverse the decline in smoking prevalence, undoing all the good work over the years. Smoking is harmful to health, not just to the individual but of those around them, including babies and children.
- 2.2 Stopping smoking is the strongest action we can take to improve the health of our population.
- 2.3 Providing support for smokers to quit is highly cost effective and the evidence is clear that smokers who receive a combination of pharmacotherapy and skilled behavioural support are up to four times as likely to quit successfully.
- 2.4 The Authority wish to secure a high quality stop smoking service for the population of North Yorkshire who smoke. It is estimated that approximately 15% of the population smoke. It is clear from the evidence that to reduce inequalities and improve public health, local systems need to identify their priority populations and provide them with effective support to quit.

#### 3.0 Current Arrangements

- 3.1 NYCC Public Health Team re-commissioned the North Yorkshire Stop Smoking Service during 2015. The new service model outlined within the new contract specification was informed by;
  - a tobacco control needs assessment
  - comprehensive community and partner engagement and consultation
  - North Yorkshire Tobacco Control Strategy.

3.2 Following the tender process the contract was awarded to Solutions4Health (S4H). The contract commenced on 1 January 2016. The service is commissioned to offer an open access service with a particular focus on the 8 populations where we identified highest smoking prevalence for North Yorkshire. The provider is responsible for any sub-contracting arrangements with GP's and Pharmacies. The current contract is due to end on 31 March 2019.

#### 4.0 Future Service Provision

4.1 A comprehensive options appraisal about future service provision post April 2019 has been undertaken. This work was led by public health as the commissioner of the service and recommended that a competitive process be undertaken to secure an externally procured North Yorkshire stop smoking service.

4.2 However, as a result of further consideration, including with Corporate Management Board, the Corporate Director decided that the preferred option for the future provision of this service is to bring it 'in house'. The rationale for this, is that NYCC will be a 'system integrator' for smoking cessation services. NYCC will also be a specialist provider of service as part of an integrated model with a primary care. NYCC as a system integrator will coordinate the work of the specialist service with partners such as NHS Trusts and other specialist providers (e.g. mental health, substance misuse, midwifery services etc.). Having the service 'in house' allows NYCC to direct and shape the service without negotiating with a third party.

4.3 The scope of the proposed 'in house' service includes providing a specialist countywide specialist stop smoking service with a strong locality presence. The service will provide open access support for all people who wish to stop smoking. The service will provide 'specialist' elements in relation to the following:

- **Maternity** (pregnant smokers and their wider family network)
- **Acute Planned Care** (people with long term conditions or pre/post hospital)
- **Mental Health** (people with a mental health condition)
- **Work Place** (routine and manual workers, as defined by their occupation)
- **Drugs and Alcohol** (users of drugs and/or alcohol)
- Outreach activity
- Training and Communications

The service will provide a range of evidence based support and interventions including support for behaviour change and facilitate access to prescribed products, through primary care, in line with robust clinical governance arrangements.

4.3 Prior to the 2016 contract, the Authority had contracted with GP's and Pharmacies directly and the proposal is to return to a model which allows this to happen again. It is proposed that the existing primary care approved provider lists are modified under Regulation 72 (e) of the Public Contracts Regulations (PCRs) 2015 to contract directly

with GP's and Pharmacies to deliver the primary care element of the stop smoking service and the related pharmacotherapy.

## **5.0 Next Steps**

- 5.1 It is anticipated that the new service will be operational by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019. Mobilising a new service requires intense work and this is being led by a Mobilisation Team chaired by the Assistant Director of Health Integration. This team have a series of workstreams in place focusing on human resources; communications; service management, medicines management; systems and data; primary care and finance.
- 5.2 The Mobilisation Team report progress on a monthly basis to a Stop Smoking Service Governance Group chaired by the Corporate Director with the Director of Public Health as a member of this group.

## **6.0 RECOMMENDATION**

**That Health and Adult Services Executive Members, note the Corporate Director's decision, to bring the provision of the specialist stop smoking service 'in house' to be provided by NYCC in partnership with primary care.**

**Richard Webb  
Corporate Director Health and Adult Services**