

Prepared For: North Yorkshire County Council

Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

16th November 2012

Universal Services 0 – 5 Years

UPDATE REPORT

1.0 Purpose of Paper

- 1.1 To update North Yorkshire County Council Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee (YPOSC) on the potential implications of the recent financial decisions in relation to additional Health Visitor funding for 2012/13.
- 1.2 To inform YPOSC on elements of the Health Visitor Implementation Plan (HVIP) that may be impacted upon and how these may be addressed.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 A detailed update report was provided at the last meeting, but further decisions impacting on the HVIP occurred at short notice between production of the update report and the meeting.
- 2.2 The report submitted last month highlighted the progress to date and this is still valid and was an accurate reflection of work that has already progressed. This report focuses on the 0 – 5 Healthy Child Programme (HCP) and continued progress for the HVIP.
- 2.3 As part of the NHS North Yorkshire and York HVIP, 3.8 w.t.e additional Health Visitors had been approved for the area during 2012/13 which was confirmed to providers in April 2012. The split was 0.8 w.t.e for York and 3 w.t.e for North Yorkshire. At the NHS North Yorkshire and York Board Meeting on 25th September 2012 it was confirmed that the investment for the additional 3.8 w.t.e was being paused for 2012/13 due to the current financial situation and the requirement to deliver a significant in-year saving plan.
- 2.4 The Committee is asked to note that it is the additional investment for 2012/13 that is affected and not the wider health visiting funding that is already in place, including the additional funding provided in 2011/2012. It also does not impact on the Family Nurse Partnership (FNP) Programme being taken forward as outlined in the previous paper.

3.0 Impact Assessment

- 3.1 Following the NHS North Yorkshire and York decision to pause the 2012/13 funding, a meeting was held consisting of the current HVIP commissioners, provider leads from York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and Harrogate District Foundation Trust and leads from both City of York and North Yorkshire County Councils. The purpose of this meeting was to

understand the immediate implications to the HVIP progress and to review how these could be mitigated for as far as possible.

- 3.2 Disappointment and frustration with the NHS North Yorkshire and York Board decision was expressed by Local Authority and provider representatives at the meeting including concern about what they believe to be the short-sighted nature of the decision.
- 3.3 It was highlighted by providers of the service that there was increasing demand on their core services in respect of the more targeted areas, therefore the pause in the investment for 2012/13 would have an impact on how they could progress some of the planned expansion towards full delivery of the HCP. They confirmed however, that there were no immediate risks to the core delivery.
- 3.4 Previously, a significant amount of work had been undertaken to look at integrated approaches to delivery of the HCP and an example of this was the approach taken in respect of the 2- 2 ½ year developmental checks. It was acknowledged, however that whilst efficiencies can be made through integrated working there continue to be capacity issues within the system. All parties are, however committed to the integrated delivery approach and will continue to work together to move forward the agenda.
- 3.5 One element of the HCP that is likely to be introduced more slowly due to the pause in funding is the Community element. The HCP identified that part of the HCP programme was for health visiting services to promote health in the community by working with other agencies to reduce health inequalities in localities linked to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. Plans for taking this forward are being developed locally and potential pilots identified but this likely to slow down due to the lack of capacity.
- 3.6 It was agreed to re-establish the North Yorkshire and York Healthy Child Programme Delivery Board to provide a forum for ensuring that progress continues. This group incorporates commissioner, provider, Local Authority and public health representation and would support the priority of the agenda during the changing commissioning climate referred to in section 3.

4.0 Future Commissioning

- 4.1 The 0 – 5 HCP and FNP Commissioning will be taken forward by the NHS Commissioning Board until it transfers to Local Authorities on 1 April 2015. The local commissioning of these services will be undertaken by the North Yorkshire and the Humber Local Area Team (LAT). The Directors of the local LAT have recently been appointed and the underpinning structures are beginning designed and populated. The Area Director of Commissioning will be accountable for the portfolio.
- 4.2 The 0 – 5 agenda remains a national target and continues to be included in the NHS priorities and Operating Framework. Future investment decisions and implementation plans will need to be agreed by the new LAT and discussions will be taken forward as part of the commissioning transfer process.

5.0 Recommendation

The YPOSC is asked to note the update in respect of the 2012/13 financial pause and the potential implications in respect of delivery of the 0 – 5 HCP. The Committee will be informed of further updates and future commissioning plans as soon as these are agreed.

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Executive Director of Nursing

7th November 2012