

## **Record of Decisions**

### **Needle and Syringe Provision - Award of Contract**

#### **Decision Taker**

Cabinet on 13 June 2023.

#### **Decision**

That a three-year contract (plus a further three years) commencing in October 2023, to deliver Needle Exchange equipment and remove any used needles that have been returned to pharmacies be awarded to the preferred supplier for the contract value as set out in Exempt Appendix 1 to the submitted report.

#### **Reason for the Decision**

Following an open market procurement exercise the preferred supplier for both Devon and Torbay was awarded to the most economically advantageous tender.

#### **Implementation**

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 26 June 2023 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in the Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

#### **Information**

As part of an effective drug and alcohol treatment system, public health teams across the country commission organisations to deliver a range of clean injecting equipment and paraphernalia and to effectively dispose of this clinical waste when returned.

In Torbay, we have procured this service on the open market on two previous occasions jointly with colleagues in Devon County Council, successfully securing a national provider of these services, the most recent occasion was in 2018 where the contract was awarded to Orion Medical Supplies. This Provider has effectively delivered these services in the previous four years, but the natural end of their contract and all permissible extensions have been reached, therefore a procurement exercise and a decision to award the contract was required to continue this provision from October 2023.

At the meeting Councillor Tranter proposed and Councillor David Thomas seconded a motion that was agreed unanimously by the Cabinet, as set out above.

#### **Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision**

The following alternative options were considered and discounted:

- a direct award to the incumbent provider, this option was discounted as it was not permissible due to procurement regulations;
- Not awarding any contract was also discounted, as this would be failing to meet our duty to protect the public's health as a mandated requirement of the public health ring-fenced grant and would fail to deliver a comprehensive and effective drug treatment system as set out in the expectations of the Governments 10-year drugs plan 'From Harm to Hope';

and

- A limited or reduced scope service was considered and discounted because it would fail to meet the requirements of national standards (NICE guidance PH52 'Needle and syringe programmes').

**Is this a Key Decision?**

No

**Does the call-in procedure apply?**

Yes

**Declarations of interest** (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

None.

**Published**

16 June 2023

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Leader of Torbay Council on behalf of the Cabinet