

Councillor M Worby, Chair of health & Wellbeing Board
Councillor P Robinson, Chair of Health Scrutiny Committee

Barking Town Hall
1 Town Square
Barking
IG11 7LU

Date: 25 August 2023

Dear Councillors

Urgent Action under Part 2, Chapter 16, paragraph 4 of the Constitution – Extension to 0-19 Integrated Healthy Child Programme Service Contract

I am writing to you in your respective capacities to advise that I have taken urgent action under the provisions of Part 2, Chapter 16, paragraph 4 of the Constitution in order to approve a 16-month extension to the integrated 0-19 Healthy Child Programme contract with NELFT.

As the attached report explains, the current contract with NELFT is due to expire on 31 August. Due to the Department of Health issuing new guidance in June 2023, the decision was taken not to procure a new, long-term contract in order to give sufficient time to consider the necessary changes to the contract specification that would be necessary to accord with the new guidance. Therefore, discussions were entered into with NELFT to extend the current contract while the preparations for the new long-term contract were made. The value of the contract extension is estimated at £8.3m for the 16-month period for which sufficient provision exists within budgets (and therefore the matter does not constitute a 'Key Decision').

The responsibility for awarding the contract rests with the Health and Wellbeing Board, as its value is over £500k. However, as the contract extension needs to be in place for 1 September 2023 and the next meeting of the Board is not until 12 September, I have agreed that it is in the Council's best interests to deal with the matter under the Urgent Action provisions.

In line with procedures, details of this urgent action will be reported to the next meeting of the Board on 12 September 2023.

Yours sincerely,



Fiona Taylor
Chief Executive

cc: Matthew Cole, Rebecca Nunn, Alison Stuart,k

Enc: