

## Education Skills and Employability Board

Monday, 20 March 2023

### Individual Placement and Support in Primary Care (IPSPC)

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**Is the paper exempt from the press and public?** No

**Reason why exempt:** Not applicable

**Purpose of this report:** Discussion

**Is this a Key Decision?** No

**Has it been included on the Forward Plan of Key Decisions?** No

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**Director Approving Submission of the Report:**

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**Report Author(s):**

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#### Executive Summary

Members discussed and endorsed at the October Board meeting to take up the opportunity of submitting a tender to secure additional funding from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) to deliver Individual Placement and Support in Primary Care (IPSPC), in South Yorkshire. This is commonly known as Working Win.

Following SYMCA's tender submission, the Department for Work and Pensions have advised of their intention to award SYMCA circa £5.7m. This paper provides an update to members on the programme development and procurement activity to be progressed, to contract the appropriate provider to deliver the programme.

#### What does this mean for businesses, people and places in South Yorkshire?

The employment rate for disabled people (53.8%) is significantly lower than the employment rate for non-disabled people. The NHS Long Term Plan recognises that mental health and musculoskeletal conditions remain the main reason for sickness absence increasing. Supporting people to access employment through IPSPC will build on individuals' strengths

and skills, enabling them to realise their potential for recovery. IPSPC will support inclusive growth and help to achieve a reduction in health inequalities across the region.

## Recommendations

That the Board:

- Note programme development, and endorse procured activity to contract a provider to deliver the programme

**Consideration by any other Board, Committee, Assurance or Advisory Panel**  
None.

## 1. Background

- 1.1 As part of the devolution proposition development, the Authority were offered the opportunity to develop a health-led employment trial to test an approach to improving employment outcomes for individuals through a programme focusing on supporting an individual's health issues. The model developed focused on participants who were in work to retain and sustain work and those out of work to access employment.
- 1.2 Since May 2017, the Authority have been contracted by NHS South Yorkshire Integration Board (SYCIB) formally Sheffield Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to deliver the health-led employment programme – Working Win, which was one of only two national pilots funded by the Work and Health Unit, a cross department unit jointly sponsored by the Department for Work and Pensions and the Department for Health and Social Care. This has supported over 4,000 residents in South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw, with mild / moderate mental health and / or any physical issues to be supported into paid work or sustain employment which was at risk because of their health issue.
- 1.3 MCA board members endorsed submission of a bid application at its October meeting to secure further funding for 2023-2025 for IPSPC – the successor to Working Win pilot and extension.

## 2. Key Updates

- 2.1 The MCA received notification at the end of January, that the bid submitted was successful and the Grant Offer Letter for circa £5.7m is expected imminently. Funding awarded is for April 2023 – March 2025.
- 2.2 The funding award is much later than anticipated, therefore there is not enough time to procure a new provider for an April start date. £4.8m of the overall grant award is for contracted provision of the support service, with a target to deliver to 3,000 participants over two years.
- 2.3 DWP have granted permission for the MCA to arrange for a 3-month extension of current arrangements with the current provider, to ensure there isn't a break in service and to allow time for procurement of new provision to start July 2023. An

agreement in principle has been made for SYCIB and the current delivery provider to proceed with a contract extension to deliver 300 participants starting on service at a cost of £429k. This will provide a pipeline of referrals into the new programme. The new tender opportunity is anticipated to be released in March, and the new provider notified of contract award, early May.

### **3. Options Considered and Recommended Proposal**

#### **3.1 Option 1**

Note programme development and endorse procured activity to contract a provider to deliver the programme.

#### **3.4 Option 1 Risks and Mitigations**

N/A

#### **3.5 Option 2**

N/A

#### **3.8 Option 2 Risks and Mitigations**

N/A

#### **3.9 Recommended Option**

Option 1

### **4. Consultation on Proposal**

4.1 To maximise impact and success, this programme has built in contributions and engagement with a range of internal and external partners. A detailed engagement plan will be developed following acceptance of the Grant Award Letter from DWP.

### **5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision**

5.1 Given the timing of funding award and Board cycles, contract awards will be made as Delegated Officer decisions for both the extension and the new contract. Following procurement activity, the MCA will notify the successful bidder towards the end of April, with an anticipated contract start date of the 1 July 2023.

### **6. Financial and Procurement Implications and Advice**

6.1 An indicative notification has been given to the MCA for a grant of c£5.7 million to cover new delivery, commencing 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 for a period of 24 months. The MCA is awaiting a formal grant offer letter which sets out the terms and conditions of such grant. No other internal funds are intended to be available for this programme at this time.

### **7. Legal Implications and Advice**

7.1 The MCA has economic development functions that would allow it to participate in a IPSPC Project. Contractual and procurement arrangements with project partners will be established and implemented. GDPR implications will be established and a full DPIA undertaken.

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**8. Human Resources Implications and Advice**

8.1 Not at this stage

**9. Equality and Diversity Implications and Advice**

9.1 An equalities impact assessment was undertaken as part of the development of the Working Win trial. The trial has received approval by the Research Ethics Committee of the Medical Research Council and is delivered against a series of indicators within those values and judgements.

**10. Climate Change Implications and Advice**

10.1 N/A

**11. Information and Communication Technology Implications and Advice**

11.1 Not at this stage

**12. Communications and Marketing Implications and Advice Please also refer to consultation undertaken as per Section 4**

12.1 The IPSPC project provides clear guidance on how the project should be branded and how communications should be made.

**List of Appendices Included:**

A None

**Background Papers**

None