Record of decision taken under delegated powers by a council officer

Title: (PM3 ID 8962)	**Community Connections Mental Health Services**
Divisions Affected:	All ASC
Key Decision:	Yes
Reason Key:	Over £1m / Affects two or more Divisions. ASC and NHS Surrey Heartlands ICB, and NHS Frimley ICB
Decision taken under delegation by virtue of:	SURREY-WIDE COMMISSIONING COMMITTEES IN COMMON meeting held on 30th March 2022.

Summary

Community Connections services are a key part of the mental health offer for adults in Surrey, and a principal element in Surrey's preventative offer to support people with mental health needs to stay well in their communities through social connections and networks.

Contributing to system priorities around early help, resilience, and independence. It is an integral part of the pathway for people who experience mental health problems, often bridging the gap between primary mental health care and secondary mental health care.

Opportunities for individuals with mental health needs to achieve their full potential, through participation in social, leisure, sports, art, education, and employment, within their local community. These should be delivered in both group and 1:1 setting in line with the individual's needs.
Funding will be allocated according to NHS 'Places', to ensure the service is available to all Surrey residents. Those places are:
1.   East Surrey
2.   Surrey Heath and Farnham
3.   Guildford & Waverley
4.   North-West Surrey
5.   Surrey Downs (Mid Surrey)

Who the service is for:
·   People aged 16+ with self-defined mental health needs* resident in Surrey. There is no upper age limit.
·   People from neighbouring districts or boroughs or ICB Places where no other service in their local area is acceptable to the individual.
 * The service is not dependent on eligibility to Adult Social Care or secondary mental health services.

When the service will be available:
As our guiding objective is to reduce health inequalities, services should be available to all people with mental health issues, including those that may not be able to access support due to work commitments. Therefore, some level of support should be available both daytime and evenings.

See 'Areas for development' regarding weekends. As a principle, providers are expected to respond to people's needs.

Services should be delivered in response to need across the entirety of Surrey, in venues that are fully accessible, or can be made accessible in response to need. The market position statement used population health management data to highlight areas where there was (at the time of writing – September 2022) the highest rate of mental health need per 100,000 population. Those areas were Mole Valley, Tandridge, Runnymede, Surrey Heath (including Ash) and Guildford. Spelthorne was also identified as a gap during the engagement programme.
A targeted response should be in place to address these needs.

In-person and virtual support:
The Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted the need for services to be accessible even when people are not allowed to or choose not to travel. Virtual (online) support was established during the pandemic and engagement with service users, Carers and professionals highlighted the need for this to continue in the future. Therefore, the service should be available both in-person and virtually.

Service access
This is a universal service that people can access through many routes. We expect The Provider(s) to ensure equity of access to the service, for example by identifying geographical inequalities of access to service, under-representation of certain groups and different ways of promoting the Community Connections service.

The broad aim of Community Connections is to work in partnership to reduce health inequalities by expanding opportunities for individuals with self-defined mental health needs to live well and achieve their full potential, through participation in social, leisure, sports, art, and education, within their local community. It will be preventative in two ways: helping people stay well and avoid the need for secondary care services and for those with existing mental health conditions, to help them avoid a mental health crisis.

Below are the key outcomes for people supported by this service, which were co-produced at the outset of the original Community Connections contract and ratified and developed following a programme of engagement with service users, Carers, and professionals in 2022.

This has been approved on the Annual Procurement Forward Plan 2022/2023 via Committees in Common.

Committees in Common granted permission for this procurement in the SURREY-WIDE COMMISSIONING COMMITTEES IN COMMON meeting held on 30th March 2022.

Decision made

Decision made:
(as above, for reasons, either list full details or give summary and attach report considered at time of decision being made if applicable)

It was AGREED that:
- To award a contract for 5 allocated NHS Places for Community Connections Mental Health Service 2024.

Those places are:

1. East Surrey, awarded to Richmond Fellowship
2. Surrey Heath and Farnham, awarded to Catalyst Support Limited
3. Guildford & Waverley, awarded to Catalyst Support Limited
4. North-West Surrey, awarded to Catalyst Support Limited
5. Surrey Downs (Mid Surrey), awarded to Mary Frances Trust

Reasons for Decision:
- Providers offers the Most Economically Advantageous solution for SCC's and NHS Surrey Heartlands ICB and NHS Frimley ICB requirements.

Decision taken by:	Jonathan Lillistone Director of Integrated Commissioning – Adults, Wellbeing and Health Partnerships
Decision taken on:	20th December 2023
To be implemented on:	01/04/2024

Alternative options considered

N/A

Summary of any financial implications

None

Declarations of conflicts of interest

None

Consultation/Process Followed

Delegated authority had been provided by Committees in Common.

Background Documents   Exempt:

To attached signed Procurement Report Part One and Two. PDF Orbis Procurement Report Part Two - AS(	Yes