



<u>Committee and Date</u>
Environment & Services Scrutiny Committee
1 February 2016
2.00pm

<u>Item</u>
<b>9</b>
<u>Public</u>

## Drug and Alcohol Action Team Update

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### 1. Summary

- 1.1 This report provides an overview of the work of the Drug and Alcohol Action Team with a particular emphasis on the retender of drug and alcohol community services.

### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended the committee note the contents of this report.

## REPORT

### 3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

- 3.1 An initial equalities impact assessment (EINA) was undertaken at the beginning of the retender process. None of the groups identified under the Protected Characteristics of the Equality Act 2010 will be negatively impacted upon through the new service delivery model.

### 4. Finance

- 4.1 The contract was awarded for a period of three years to Arch Futures, with an option to extend by one year, plus one year at a total cost of £7.5m. excluding VAT and excluding any inflationary uplifts over the contract period.

## **5. Background**

- 5.1 The 2010 National Drug Strategy marked a step change in drug policy with a greater emphasis on recovery and prevention. Locally, services responded through restructure and changes in working practices however, with the exception of alcohol treatment there was little significant improvement in successful completions and representations.
- 5.2 Following the changes within the health landscape the commissioning of drug and alcohol treatment services became the responsibility of the local authority under their public health function. A report was presented to cabinet on the 11 February 2015 outlining the proposal to retender drug and alcohol treatment services and agreed.
- 5.3 A two stage procurement process was followed. Response to the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire was very high with 15 responses of which 10 were invited to tender.

## **6. Shropshire Recovery Partnership**

- 6.1 The successful bidder will sub contract the clinical element of the new service to Addaction, and it will be known as the Shropshire Recovery Partnership and will deliver services using the current hub and spoke model (Appendix A).
- 6.2 Arch Futures are a not for profit organisation that have supported disadvantaged people for the last thirty years. Their partners, Addaction, are a large charity organisation who have been supporting people affected by drug and alcohol misuse for almost 50 years. Together they bring a wealth of experience in substance misuse community services. Arch Futures are known for their work within the criminal justice field and are dedicated to recovery and supporting people to live healthier, crime-free lives. Addaction have pioneered work with families and developed the 'Breaking the Cycle' framework for working with families to prevent intergenerational substance misuse. Both organisations see recovery as holistic and their work is underpinned by connecting people back to their communities and utilising community assets to do this.
- 6.3 The new approach to drug and alcohol treatment will include recovery mentors providing employment opportunities for those who are in recovery. They will support those who are at earlier stages in their journey. This approach is very successful in developing a thriving recovery community and making recovery visible. This gives others in the system hope and ambition to start their own recovery journey.
- 6.4 Building on the good work that has been achieved to date, the new service will extend access through revised opening times, maintaining and extending support within the criminal justice system and acute

sector. A stepped approach (see Appendix B) to treatment will be used to optimise responses to recovery.

## **7. Other work stream updates**

### *7.1 Commissioning Intentions*

- a) Commissioning of medically assisted in-patient beds - completion of process April 2016.
- b) Revised service level agreements with GPs regarding shared care arrangements for the treatment of substance misuse.
- c) Revised service level agreements with pharmacies on the provision of needle exchange and supervised consumption.

### *7.2 Strategy and Policy*

- a) Joint Working Protocol between Substance Misuse Services and Children and Family Services updated and approved by Shropshire Safeguarding Children's Board October 2015.
- b) Inquiry into Drug Related Death protocol signed off by Shropshire Safer Communities Board October 2015.
- c) Revision of Shropshire Alcohol Strategy, work in progress.

### *7.3 Projects*

- a) **Employability.** Work continues with Job Centre plus to improve pathways and help people get job ready. The pilot project in Oswestry funded through DWP and delivered by NACRO has ended and the evaluation is awaited. Within the new service employability will be a key component in the recovery journey.
- b) **Mutual Aid.** Research evidence has found people who access treatment and mutual aid, such as AA and NA groups are more likely to have successful outcomes than those who just access treatment. Over the last 18 months the DAAT have invested in a pilot project to support people to access mutual aid and support the growth of a recovery community.
- c) **Recovery Month.** September has become national recovery month for the drug and alcohol sector. In Shropshire a number of events were held in Shrewsbury to promote recovery and received good feedback from all participants.
- d) **Blue Light Project.** This is a project that is based within the acute sector looking at how we can work with treatment resistant drinkers,

who access acute services on a regular basis. The project has expanded to look at wider issues within Royal Shrewsbury Hospital.

#### 7.4 *Future Developments*

a) **New Psychoactive Substances (NPS)** – Development of a local multi-agency local response to tackling NPS, new legislation is awaited.

b) **Licensing.** Development of a process to ensure Public Health is able to assess licensing applications and reviews in respect of community impact.

c) **Prevention across the life course.** This project will consider the evidence base to support sensible drinking and reduce the longer term health implications of drinking at harmful levels regularly.

<b>List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)</b>
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National Drug Strategy 2010
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The Governments Alcohol Strategy 2012
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<b>Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)</b>
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Cllr Karen Calder – Portfolio Holder for Public Health
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<b>Local Member</b>
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<b>Appendices</b>
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Appendix A
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Appendix B
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