



## SHROPSHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD Report

<b>Meeting Date</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> January 2023		
<b>Title of Paper</b>	Substance Misuse Strategic Programme Update		
<b>Reporting Officer and email</b>	Ian Houghton, <a href="mailto:Ian.Houghton@shropshire.gov.uk">Ian.Houghton@shropshire.gov.uk</a> Drug & Alcohol Strategic Commissioner  Paula Mawson, <a href="mailto:Paula.Mawson@shropshire.gov.uk">Paula.Mawson@shropshire.gov.uk</a> Assistant Director – Integration & Healthy Population		
<b>Which Joint Health &amp; Wellbeing Strategy priorities does this paper address? Please tick all that apply</b>	Children & Young People		Joined up working
	Mental Health		Improving Population Health
	Healthy Weight & Physical Activity		Working with and building strong and vibrant communities
	Workforce		Reduce inequalities (see below)
<b>What inequalities does this paper address?</b>	Tackles inequalities faced by vulnerable citizens who suffer from drug and alcohol dependency.		

**Paper content - Please expand content under these headings or attach your report ensuring the three headings are included.**

1. Executive Summary

This report provides an update to the Health & Wellbeing Board on the substance misuse strategic programme for Shropshire. The report introduces the expectations and requirements of the 10-year national drug strategy, 'From Harm to Hope', and introduces the delivery mechanism for the national strategy, known as, 'Combating Drugs Partnerships'. An update on the Shropshire Substance Misuse Strategy and the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) for Substance Misuse is also presented. Finally, the report also updates on the drug and alcohol treatment misuse services delivered through the Shropshire Recovery Partnership, outlining key performance plans to continue to drive quality and efficiency through 2023-24, and key developments underway in line with successful grant funding bids.

2. Recommendations

Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:

- note the launch of a 10-year national drug strategy, 'From Harm to Hope' and the establishment of a Combating Drugs Partnership for Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin
- receive an update on the Shropshire Substance Misuse Strategy and Needs Assessment for Substance Misuse in Shropshire
- note the updates regarding Substance Misuse Services delivered through the Shropshire Recovery Partnership and launch of RESET – an externally grant funded multidisciplinary team to support people who are rough sleeping or at risk of rough sleeping with substance misuse issues
- provide support, suggestions and challenge to programme plans as presented to the Board.




### 3. Report

#### National strategy

In December 2021 the government published its national drug strategy 'From Harm to Hope' [From harm to hope: A 10-year drugs plan to cut crime and save lives - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/from-harm-to-hope-a-10-year-drugs-plan-to-cut-crime-and-save-lives) which sets out the government's ambitions to reduce drug related harm over the next 10 years. Building on the Dame Carol Black review recommendations and earlier strategy themes, (employment, recovery, crime, children and families) there are three strategic priorities:

- Break drug supply chains.
- Deliver a world class treatment and recovery system.
- Achieve a shift in the demand for recreational drugs.







Image 1: Our plan on a page

Priority	 Break drug supply chains	 Deliver a world-class treatment and recovery system	 Achieve a shift in the demand for recreational drugs
Why?	Drug supply chains are violent and exploitative, degrading neighbourhoods across the country and internationally	Drug addiction harms individuals and society: deaths have risen to record levels and almost half of acquisitive crime is linked to addiction	Use of recreational drugs has grown over a decade, particularly among young people, risking individual harm and fuelling dangerous markets
How?	We will continue to roll up county lines and strengthen our response across the drug supply chain, making the UK a significantly harder place for organised crime groups to operate	We will invest a further £780 million to rebuild drug treatment and recovery services, including for young people and offenders, with new commissioning standards to drive transparency and consistency	We will strengthen the evidence for how best to deter use of recreational drugs, ensuring that adults change their behaviour or face tough consequences, and with universal and targeted activity to prevent young people from starting to take drugs
Who?	Home Office and MoJ, working with international and intelligence partners, NCA, Border Force, police, courts, prison and probation	DHSC, DLUHC, DWP and MoJ working with NHSE, local authorities, treatment providers and people with lived experience	DfE, DHSC, Home Office and MoJ, working with local authorities, police, education providers, secure facilities and youth services
What?	Within three years: close 2,000 more county lines, disrupt 6,400 OCG activities and deny more criminal assets	Within three years: prevent nearly 1,000 deaths, deliver 54,500 new high-quality treatment places and prevent a quarter of a million crimes	Reduce overall drug use to a new historic 30-year low over the next decade

#### Combating Drugs Partnership & Outcomes Framework

Underpinning delivery of the national strategy, guidance was issued by the Government to coordinate action from the range of partners required to successfully deliver the national strategy requirements. The guidance requires the establishment of Combating Drugs Partnerships, developed at local geographies, with defined memberships, whose work will focus on delivering priority actions to meet the National Combating Drugs Outcomes Framework.

Figure 1: National Combating Drugs Outcomes Framework

National Combating Drugs Outcomes Framework Our ambition: a safer, healthier and more productive society by combating illicit drugs	
<b>What we will deliver for citizens (strategic outcomes)</b>	<b>Measured by:</b>
 <b>Reducing drug use</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the proportion of the population reporting drug use in the last year (reported by age)</li> <li>prevalence of opiate and/or crack cocaine use</li> </ul>
 <b>Reducing drug-related crime</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the number of drug-related homicides</li> <li>the number of neighbourhood crimes</li> </ul>
 <b>Reducing drug-related deaths and harm</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>deaths related to drug misuse</li> <li>hospital admissions for drug poisoning and drug-related mental health and behavioural disorders (primary diagnosis of selected drugs)</li> </ul>
<b>What will help us deliver this (intermediate outcomes)</b>	<b>Measured by:</b>
 <b>Reducing drug supply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the number of county lines closed</li> <li>the number of moderate and major disruptions against organised criminals</li> </ul>
 <b>Increasing engagement in drug treatment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the numbers in treatment (both adults and young people, reported by opiate and crack users, other drugs, and alcohol)</li> <li>continuity of care – engagement with treatment within three weeks of leaving prison</li> </ul>
 <b>Improving drug recovery outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the proportion who are in stable accommodation and who have completed treatment, are drug-free in treatment, or have sustained reduction in drug use</li> </ul> <p><b>Key additional components integral to recovery include housing, mental health, and employment</b></p>

In line with the recommended process within the CDP guidance it was agreed that Shropshire Council shall participate in a Combating Drugs Partnership (CDP) in conjunction with Telford and Wrekin Council, led by the West Mercia Police Crime Commissioner as Senior Responsible Officer.

A key business function of the CDP is to ensure delivery of the business planning expectations included in the national drug strategy and guidance. A key set of activities and deadlines have been set, as shown below:

Action	Timeframe
<b>Form the local drugs strategy partnership</b>	By 1 August
<b>Confirm the footprint for the partnership</b>	By 1 August
<b>Nominate the SRO</b>	By 1 August
<b>Agree terms of reference for the partnership and governance structure</b>	By September
<b>Conduct a joint needs assessment</b>	By November
<b>Agree local drug strategy delivery plan</b>	By December
<b>Agree local performance framework</b>	By December
<b>Report on progress</b>	By April

Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin Public Health teams have been working closely to produce a joint needs assessment for substance misuse across the geographical footprint to meet the CDP target. The joint needs assessment has highlighted a number of issues that are very different across the two areas in relation to need, but there are some issues consistent across the footprint where joined up working across the ICS would be helpful to ensure progress. These include, for example, co-morbidity of mental health

issues and substance misuse, high prevalence of alcohol use and relative lack of recovery communities for residents to aspire to join.

The Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin CDP remains on target to meet all required deadlines as identified above.

### **Shropshire Substance Misuse Strategy & Substance Misuse Needs Assessment**

In addition to the CDP Needs Assessment at ICS level, Shropshire's Public Health analysts are also producing a highly detailed area specific substance misuse Needs Assessment (NA) – this NA dives much deeper into local data for Shropshire with the aim of identifying what the needs of the population are in relation to substance misuse, and to make appropriate recommendations to improve provision and outcomes for people in Shropshire. A report on this NA will be presented to the HWBB for endorsement as part of the regular JSNA reports once completed.

The Shropshire Substance Misuse NA will then be used to refresh the Strategic Substance Misuse Programme Business Plan to ensure core recommendations are addressed, to include service developments to meet local need, and to ensure the NA is informing future commissioning and delivery decisions. The existing programme business plan continues to be driven through the Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership Drug and Alcohol Priority Group, chaired by Public Health, and current priorities include:

- Reestablishment of the Drug and Alcohol Death Review Panels
- Development of a Drug and Alcohol Policy toolkit for Schools
- Joint Multi-agency Case File Audit with the Neglect Priority Group

Health & Wellbeing Board members may recall that in December 2021 Shropshire published a refreshed drug and alcohol strategy for consultation. The final publication of this strategy has been delayed whilst national guidance on the national strategy was awaited and the needs assessment completed, so that the final version of the local strategy could be fully aligned to both. The final version of the Shropshire Substance Misuse strategy will be presented to the HWBB for endorsement during Spring 2023.

### **Local Service Delivery**

Core substance misuse treatment service delivery in Shropshire is delivered by a single third sector treatment provider, known as We Are With You (WAWY). The initial contract was let for three years from 01/04/2019 expiring on 31/03/2022 with the option of an additional four individual yearly extensions. 2023/4 will be the second extension period.

In May 2022 the care quality commission independent inspection rated the service provided by WAWY in Shropshire as good overall, with outstanding for Care [We are With You - Shropshire - Care Quality Commission \(cqc.org.uk\)](https://www.cqc.org.uk). This is positive and lends assurance to our local perception that services are safe and offer a suitable range of interventions. However, there are areas where performance could be improved, including, for example, waiting times to commence treatment are longer than the target of 3 weeks for some referrals, and successful completions for people with alcohol and non-opioid drug use are poor compared to regional authorities. There are complex reasons for these performance issues, and to mitigate a service development and improvement plan has been agreed with WAWY for them to demonstrate improved performance at least in line with national averages and raise our ranking in comparison to our statistical group by April 2023. Initial indications are that performance is improving in line with the development plan.

WAWY also deliver appropriate treatment services to children and young people. During 2020-21 84 young people received treatment services, and of these, 36% were new presentations. Cannabis and alcohol use are the most reported substances used. Hospital admissions for substance misuse among 15–24-year-olds is significantly lower in Shropshire compared to the national rates (2018/19 – 2019/20). However, WAWY are concerned about the levels of vaping in young people in Shropshire and the links to exploitation, and they are involved in the Task and Finish Groups set up to address Vaping in Shropshire, led by Public Health.

Further updates will be provided to the HWBB as the planned work with WAWY progresses.

## Additional services

Alongside the main contract for drug and alcohol treatment services a number of other activities contribute to the Shropshire Recovery Service (SRP) offer. These include harm minimisation services such as needle exchange and observed consumption, which operate through a number of pharmacies across Shropshire. There are also a number of criminal justice projects, which supports those on rehabilitation orders, including accessing specialist staff within the courts. Shropshire Council also commissions a range of both inpatient detoxification services and residential rehabilitation placements for those assessed as suitable and requiring these interventions, with close work between Public Health & Adult Social Care in place to manage these individuals' needs. SRP continues to work with the third sector to ensure a comprehensive and cohesive service offer is available.

## Additional funding

To support delivery of the national strategy, Public Health teams have been allocated additional funding, through an annual uplift known as the Supplemental Substance Misuse Grant (SSMTR). Plans for this spend must be submitted to and approved by the Office of Health Improvement & Disparities (OHID) on an annual basis, with strict criteria governing the spend, and robust monitoring of delivery to the plan on a quarterly basis. For Shropshire, this additional funding has enabled, for example, additional staff to be recruited by WAWY to support front line delivery, and additional commissioning and analyst resource to drive the business plans inline with the both the CDP and the local Strategy and plans.

Shropshire's Public Health team have also been successful in bidding for £1.4m external grant funding from OHID commencing on 01/10/2022 over 24months, to support those individual rough sleepers or individuals at risk of becoming rough sleepers with their substance misuse. The Rough Sleepers Drug and Alcohol Treatment Grant (RSDATG) will see the introduction of RESET, a new multi-disciplinary team to work with up to 200 individuals. The RESET team will consist of a range of workers including: substance misuse treatment staff, support and care outreach workers, mental health worker, social worker, social prescriber, domestic abuse worker and GP input. It draws together the statutory sector and the third sector in a unique project to change the lives of some of the most vulnerable members of our communities, alongside tackling anti-social behaviour on the streets, working in partnership with The Ark in Shrewsbury. The RESET team will launch softly during January 2023.

## Conclusion

This report has presented an update on the Strategic Substance Misuse Programme for Shropshire to the Health & Wellbeing Board. Further updates on the progress in all areas as presented in this paper will continue to be presented to the Board, with the next planned updates to include formal requests to the Board to endorse both the Needs Assessment of Substance Misuse and the Shropshire Substance Misuse Strategy.

### **Risk assessment and opportunities appraisal**

(NB This will include the following: Risk Management, Human Rights, Equalities, Community, Environmental consequences and other Consultation)

This paper presents an update on the strategic substance misuse programme focused on improving outcomes and lives for some of Shropshire's most vulnerable residents. In so doing, it will support delivery of the Shropshire Plan, ICP Strategy, HWBB Strategy, Shropshire Inequalities Plan and Safeguarding Partnership Priorities.

### **Financial implications** (Any financial implications of note)

Maintain current investment in drug and alcohol treatment and recovery services. Note additional funding received through SSMTR and RSDATG. Public Health England conducted a value for money exercise which demonstrated every £1 invested in treatment generated between £3 and £7 of savings elsewhere.

<b>Climate Change Appraisal as applicable</b>	N/A	
<b>Where else has the paper been presented?</b>	<b>System Partnership Boards</b>	
	<b>Voluntary Sector</b>	
	<b>Other</b>	
<b>List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)</b>		
<b>Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder) or your organisational lead e.g. Exec lead or Non-Exec/Clinical Lead (List of Council Portfolio holders can be found at this link: <a href="https://shropshire.gov.uk/committee-services/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=130">https://shropshire.gov.uk/committee-services/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=130</a>)</b>		
Cllr. Cecilia Motley, Portfolio holder for Adult Social Care, Public Health and Communities		
<b>Appendices</b>		