



CABINET – 17TH DECEMBER 2019

RECOMMISSIONING OF SUBSTANCE MISUSE TREATMENT AND RECOVERY SERVICES

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

PART A

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to inform the Cabinet of the model for the substance misuse treatment and recovery services which will be procured next year, and to seek agreement for the Director to award contracts for the services.

Recommendations

2. The Cabinet is recommended to;
 - (a) Note the model for substance misuse treatment and recovery services;
 - (b) Authorise the Director of Public Health in consultation with the Director of Corporate Resources to award contracts for the provision of substance misuse treatment and recovery services with effect from 1st April 2021.

Reasons for Recommendation

3. Delegation to the Director of Public Health will ensure that the re-procurement follows due process and is completed to timescale, with contracts in place by 1st April 2021.

Timetable for Decisions (including Scrutiny)

5. The review of substance misuse treatment services and local need, including needs assessment, engagement activity, and soft market testing took place between July and September 2019 following which a revised model was agreed by officers.

Policy Framework and Previous Decisions

6. The model aligns with the following outcomes from the Leicestershire County Council Strategic Plan 2018-2022;

Wellbeing and opportunity: the people of Leicestershire have the opportunities and support they need to take control of their health and wellbeing.

Keeping people safe: people in Leicestershire are safe and protected from harm.

Great Communities: Leicestershire communities are thriving and integrated places where people help and support each other and take pride in their area.

7. The model will build on priorities within the Leicestershire Substance Misuse Strategy 2020-2023 which was approved by the Cabinet on 22nd November 2019.
8. The Early Help and Prevention Review (EHAP) requires that savings are secured from substance misuse services by April 2021.

Resource Implications

9. The current Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) requires a one-off saving to be made of £98,000 by April 2021 from the substance misuse services. The new model will help achieve this saving.
10. Taking into account the required EHAP savings, it is anticipated that the County Council's Public Health budget allocation for the substance misuse treatment and recovery system from April 2021 is approximately £4m annually.
11. The Director of Corporate Resources has been consulted as appropriate.

Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure

12. None.

Officer to Contact

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PART B

Background

13. A condition of the public health grant requires local authorities to provide an accessible drug and alcohol treatment and recovery system. Within the County Council this function is delivered through several public health commissioned services. It includes a community substance misuse treatment service, an in-patient detoxifications service (both jointly commissioned with Leicester City Council), and substance misuse residential rehabilitation placements. Current contracts end in 2021 and services will need to be recommissioned for 1st April 2021.
14. Substance misuse treatment services were last recommissioned by Public Health in 2016 at which point a substantial cut to the budget (approximately £620,000) was made. The EHAP Review has identified substance misuse services as an area where savings can be made as part of the MTFs and there is currently a requirement to save approximately £100,000 by April 2021 to meet the EHAP Review savings target.
15. The future delivery model for substance misuse treatment and recovery services was the subject of substantial research and engagement activity between July and September 2019. This included benchmarking against national and East Midland specific substance misuse contracts, engagement meetings and events across the County with substance misuse treatment and recovery service staff, peer mentors, service users and other stakeholders including police and district councils. Consultation also took place internally, with staff in public health and other departments. Soft Market Testing was undertaken to seek the views of the market on potential models of delivery.

New Service Model

16. The model for the substance misuse treatment and recovery system is a Fully Integrated Treatment Pathway and Recovery Support.
17. The current model for substance misuse treatment services comprises an integrated community substance misuse treatment service across Leicestershire and Leicester City commissioned jointly, an inpatient detoxification service commissioned jointly with Leicester City, and substance misuse residential rehabilitation placements funded separately by each authority.
18. The new model will streamline these separate services into a Fully Integrated Treatment Pathway comprising community treatment, in-patient detoxification and residential rehabilitation placements. In addition, a separate service will provide recovery community support. Services will continue to be commissioned jointly.

19. The model is comprised of;

Lot 1 – Integrated Substance Misuse Treatment Service. This includes the community drug and alcohol service for adults and young people, a criminal justice/vulnerability service, the in-patient detoxification service and residential rehabilitation placements. Placements for in-patient detoxification and residential rehabilitation will be agreed and funded by the service provider.

Lot 2 – Recovery Community Support Service. These are services to engage those unable to access structured treatment service and will enable people to start their recovery journey and provide the aftercare recovery support and integration into purposeful activity. This is independent of the treatment service.

Equality and Human Rights Implications

20. An Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment screening has been undertaken in regard to the proposed recommissioning of substance misuse treatment and recovery support services and concluded that the new model would have a positive impact.

Background Papers

Report to the Cabinet on 22 November 2019 - "Leicestershire Substance Misuse Strategy 2020-2023" -

<http://politics.leics.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=135&MIId=5608&Ver=4>