



HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE –
13th January 2021

RECOMMISSIONING OF SPECIALIST SUBSTANCE MISUSE
SERVICES

REPORT OF THE
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to inform the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the plans for the recommissioning of the specialist substance misuse services and the proposed model for specialist substance misuse services.

Policy Framework and Previous Decisions

2. A condition of the public health grant requires local authorities to provide an accessible drug and alcohol treatment and recovery system while having regard to reducing health inequalities.
3. The provision of a specialist substance misuse treatment service aligns with the following outcomes from the County Council's Strategic Plan 2018-22 which was approved by the County Council on 6 December 2017;
 - a. **Wellbeing and opportunity:** The people of Leicestershire have the opportunities and support they need to take control of their health and wellbeing.
 - b. **Keeping people safe:** People in Leicestershire are safe and protected from harm.
 - c. **Great communities:** Leicestershire communities are thriving and integrated places where people help and support each other and take pride in their area.
4. In December 2019 Cabinet agreed the recommendation for a Fully Integrated Treatment Pathway and Recovery Service. Cabinet also authorised the Director of Public Health in consultation with the Director for Corporate Resources to award the contract for the provision of specialist substance misuse services following a procurement exercise.

Background

5. The model for future substance misuse services described within the Cabinet paper of December 2019 included services continuing to be commissioned jointly across LLR.
6. Due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on both the provider market and the resources of the commissioning authorities a 12-month extension to existing contracts to 31st March 2022, and a postponement of the procurement was formally agreed. The new agreed date for commencement of contracts is 1st April 2022.
7. The extension of the existing contract and postponement of the procurement provided opportunity for further soft market testing and for commissioning partners to review their local needs and priorities.
8. As a result of this additional work a mutual agreement was reached between Leicestershire County Council, Leicester City Council and Rutland County Council to end the joint commissioning approach and to continue the procurement based on a Leicestershire and Rutland model.
9. The decision was based on ensuring that the needs of the local population are addressed in a model reflecting the local demography and resources available and with flexibility to manage changing demands and County Council priorities.
10. The specialist treatment service model remains a fully integrated substance misuse treatment and recovery service, that includes community drug and alcohol service for adults and young people, in-patient detoxification service, residential rehabilitation placements, and recovery support services in the community.
11. Commissioning partners for the fully integrated substance misuse treatment service in addition to Leicestershire County Council will be Rutland County Council. The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) will clarify their intentions in due course. The contract length remains as agreed at 5yrs with an option to extend for up to 24 months.

Background Papers

12. None

Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure

13. None

Officer to Contact

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List of Appendices

15. None

Equalities and Human Rights Implications

16. An Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment screening has been undertaken in regard to the proposed recommissioning of specialist substance misuse services and concluded that the new model will have a positive impact.

Crime and Disorder Implications

17. Substance misuse has far reaching impacts on individual health, families and communities. There are clear links between substance misuse, crime, and community safety. Meeting the needs of people with alcohol and/or drug problems can help to achieve reductions in crime, reduce reoffending, and improve an individual's health.

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