

Timeline of events

- December 2019 – Cabinet agreed the recommendation for a fully integrated treatment pathway and recovery system which included the intention to commission services jointly across LLR.
- New service was set to commence on 1st April 2021, contract extended due to Covid-19 pandemic. To now commence on 1st April 2022
- Monthly Recommissioning Board meetings set up in 2019 with all commissioning partners represented to progress the work.

Timeline of events

- Differences of approach with City
 - Contract length
 - Price quality split
 - Pricing methodology
 - Outcomes vs output based approach
- Consequences
 - Current service overspent by £250k this year – difficulties in flexing the service to manage the overspend while continuing to meet the needs of our residents.
 - Unable to progress the development of a service that meets the needs of Leicestershire residents. For example, increasing the number of physical locations in the County, greater use of digital technology

Potential issues

Impact on other commissioning partners

- The community treatment service is a public health commissioned service with accountability of service provision sitting with the local authority.
- PCC and MoJ make a small financial contribution which contributes to criminal justice specific caseload work.
- There is scope for the partnership with PCC and MoJ to continue with Leicestershire and Rutland and we would welcome this to ensure the needs of criminal justice clients are met.
- The model remains unchanged. Still intend on providing a community treatment service which comprises of 1) adult treatment services, 2) young people's treatment services, 3) treatment services for criminal justice clients (if PCC wish to remain a partner), 4) a recovery service, 5) an inpatient detoxification service, and 6) a residential rehab service.
- Not dissimilar from existing services across LLR - The current service is a City and County one. Rutland commissioned a separate service

Potential issues

Reduction in efficiencies of scale

- There is a risk that we lose some element of economies of scale by departing from an LLR model but the risk is far greater of commissioning a service that does not meet the needs of Leicestershire residents if we continue with an LLR service.
- Current overspend and difficulties in flexing the service.

Potential issues

Disruption to service users accessing services

- A recommissioning exercise tends to create some disruption to service users at the start of the new contract. This will happen irrespective of whether we proceed with an LLR approach or not.
- A recommissioning exercise provides an opportunity to reconfigure services to meet local needs and to make services more accessible. This is what we intend to do with the new commissioning approach e.g. already looking at enhancing the use of digital technology to access services which is already working well within the existing service.
- Every local authority is obliged to provide a substance misuse treatment service to any individual who seeks it irrespective of where the resident lives. As such, no resident will be disadvantaged or turned away from treatment within the new commissioning approach. We already have this setup with bordering authorities outside the LLR footprint.

Potential issues

Potential need to extend existing contract

- Under the LLR work, we were due to go out to tender in May/June of this year and therefore the detail behind the service model is already formulated and should require little additional work.
- While there may be an impact on PCC funding/service model by our proposal, the additional work that PCC/MoJ may be required to undertake can progress independently.
- Current LLR recommissioning project is running to schedule and the existing project plan included some wiggle room to factor in unforeseen delays. On this basis, County has no reason to believe that an extension to the existing contract is required.
- There is no further scope to extend existing contract and so County is under significant time pressure to commence the new service by April 2022.
- Any delay will be detrimental to the needs of Leicestershire residents as it halts reconfiguration of existing service provision. The new service places greater emphasis on early intervention and recovery services which will in turn reduce the pressures on criminal justice services and other high cost services, therefore keen to continue with existing timelines.