



**FOR PUBLICATION**

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD**

**6 October 2022**

**Report of the Director of Public Health**

**Reducing harmful alcohol and drug consumption**

**1. Purpose**

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to provide the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) with:
- a. An overview of the current national context and local drivers in relation to substance misuse
  - b. An overview of local plans to reduce harmful alcohol and drug consumption.

**2. Information and Analysis**

- 2.1 Harmful alcohol and drug consumption is a significant contributor to poor health outcomes and inequalities. It also has an impact on the demand for health and care provision and is therefore of interest to HWB members. There is also a requirement to provide a local response to the national Drug Strategy (published 2021) and it is important that the HWB is fully aware of local plans including the development of a local city / county Combatting Drugs Partnership.
- 2.2 Dame Carol Black's Independent Review of drugs in July 2021 identified significant disinvestment in treatment in the previous eight years. In that time period there has been an increase in drug-related harm, alcohol-related harm and drug-related death, as well as a decrease in efficacy and quality of treatment.

- 2.3 'From Harm to Hope', the Government's recently published ten-year drugs strategy identifies that current and new investment includes improvement of drug and alcohol treatment. The national Joint Combatting Drugs Unit (JCDU) has asked local areas to develop local Combatting Drugs Partnerships to oversee and provide accountabilities for all three strands of the national drugs strategy, which are summarised below:
- Break drug supply chains
  - Deliver a world-class treatment and recovery system
  - Achieve a generational shift in the demand for drugs
- 2.4 Additional grant funding, the Supplemental Substance Misuse Treatment Recovery Grant, has been provided to all local authorities within a menu of interventions to deliver improvements to the quality and capacity of local treatment systems. This additional funding is intended to be a three-year programme of investment, although approval for years two and three of the funding has yet to be confirmed by HM Treasury.
- 2.5 Derbyshire's primary focus in year one is to increase service capacity and quality through using the grant to deliver the following:
- Sustainment of the specialist criminal justice substance misuse team to increase community treatment access to offenders and improve continuity of care from prison to community
  - Introduction and evaluation of prescribing of long-acting opiate substitute medication to specific cohorts
  - Increased staffing for both adult and young people's treatment services
  - Enhanced hospital-based drug and alcohol care teams with community substance misuse in-reach to close gaps in care
  - Enhanced support for increasing numbers of children and young people affected by the substance use of others

### **3 Alternative Options Considered**

There is clear direction and governance from Government directing local response and use of grant monies, therefore no other options were considered.

### **4 Implications**

- 4.1 Appendix 1 sets out the relevant implications considered in the preparation of the report.

## **5 Appendices**

5.1 Appendix 1 – Implications.

## **6 Recommendation(s)**

That the Health and Wellbeing Board:

- a) Note the drivers and strategic direction of travel in planning to reduce drug and alcohol-related harm in Derbyshire.
- b) Note the plans for using new grant investment to deliver improvements to treatment and recovery services in Derbyshire.
- c) Agrees to receive an annual update on this shared partnership agenda.

## **7 Reasons for Recommendation(s)**

That the Health and Wellbeing Board recognise the role that all partners play in jointly delivering these outcomes and respond positively to the call to action from national multi-departmental Joint Combatting Drugs Unit.

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## **Implications**

### **Financial**

- 1.1 The Council has been allocated for 2022/23 a Section 31 grant of value £0.812m for drug and alcohol treatment and a further Section 31 grant of value £0.125m specifically for inpatient detoxification. There are specific conditions and expectations in relation to the use of the grant and outcomes expected to be achieved.

### **Legal**

- 2.1 There are no legal implications.

### **Human Resources**

- 3.1 There are no Human Resources implications.

### **Equalities Impact**

- 5.1 It is accepted that alcohol and drug problems will differentially impact on some groups in the population including, but not limited to women, people with learning disabilities and mental health issues, and we are committed to action to reduce these differential impacts to work towards reducing stigma, and achieving equality, diversity, and inclusion across services.