

**TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL**

**HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD – 6 JUNE 2019**

**TELFORD & WREKIN DRUG & ALCOHOL STRATEGY 2019-2022**

**REPORT OF: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR HEALTH & WELLBEING**

**LEAD CABINET MEMBER – CLLR ANDY BURFORD**

**PART A) – SUMMARY REPORT**

**1. SUMMARY OF MAIN PROPOSALS**

- 1.1.** This report introduces the refreshed Telford & Wrekin Drug & Alcohol Strategy 2019-2022 (Appendix 1). The strategy re-focuses our priorities, assesses local gaps and what still needs to be done, using insight from service user and partner engagement, local intelligence and national best practice guidance. Importantly, we have re-framed our objectives, recognising the strong links to other local relevant strategies, such as the Serious Violence Strategy, Domestic Abuse Strategy, Belonging and Homelessness Strategies. This will ensure a more strategic joined up view of the local partnership context in relation to reducing drug and alcohol misuse harm.
- 1.2.** The harms caused by drug and alcohol misuse to individuals and in families and our local communities, are far reaching and well recognised. The costs of substance misuse to society, in terms of the impact on crime and the police and the NHS and social care are significant. Prevention work and restricting access to drugs and alcohol can stop the escalation of substance misuse. Access to high quality treatment and peer-led recovery support saves lives and money. Recovery is much wider than just being free from dependence on drugs and alcohol. It is about having a safe place to live, a job, friends and a place in society.
- 1.3.** The Council's Cabinet, Health & Wellbeing Board and Community Safety Partnership, approved the Telford and Wrekin Drug and Alcohol Strategy in March 2014. The ambitious programme of work undertaken in the past five years has won a series of awards.
- 1.4.** In the past five years, through the implementation of the strategy, our treatment and recovery services have been transformed, and modernised.

As a result local performance outcomes have improved, and at the same time significant cost efficiencies have been delivered. We now have an inspirational recovery community, led by volunteers and experts with lived experience. Local prevention programmes have also been enhanced, both in schools and in terms of advice given to adults and an significant training programme has been delivered.

Key achievements include:

- Through the Crucial Crew schools keep safe roadshow, delivered drug and alcohol awareness to over 2,000 10-11 year olds every year
- Performed Loudmouth Theatre in Education Drug and alcohol awareness sessions to over 1,000 12-13 year olds in schools each year
- Vastly expanded our social media reach, reaching nearly 7,000 people in November 2018 for the alcohol and road safety campaign
- Delivered brief alcohol interventions to over 2,000 people annually, throughout the years, and as part of seasonal campaigns
- Provided substance misuse training and awareness raising to on average 350 practitioners across organisations every year
- Established Drug Related Death Review and potentially saved over 30 lives by making Naloxone, an overdose reversal drug, widely available
- Significantly expanded our community-based, peer-led recovery support offer, through TACT, Recharge and A Better Tomorrow, achieving one of the highest levels of mutual aid support in the West Midlands
- Hosted five hugely successful and inspirational annual Recovery Conferences, each September, with circa 170 attendees
- Co-located Telford STaRS with probation services in Priorslee, with 54% of people successfully completing alcohol treatment in March 2019, compared to 32% in 2014, which is one of the best outcomes in the country

**1.5.** The principles the strategy, has been, and will continue to be underpinned by are:

- Strong partnership working between agencies at a strategic and operational level – including both statutory and voluntary sector organisations
- A progressive approach to developing peer-led recovery – community-based support which is driven by our experts with lived experience
- An intelligence-led commissioning approach - informed by extensive service user and partner involvement and shaped by national best practice

**1.6.** The 10 objectives of the strategy are:

- Continue to ensure our commissioning and planning is intelligence-led, and based on evidence and insight
- Raise awareness of substance misuse through training, social media and campaigns
- Build resilience in children and young people to reduce risk taking behaviour
- Target appropriate information, advice and support to people most at risk
- Improve communication and information sharing between organisations
- Strengthen our partnership approach to alcohol and drug-related crime
- Further improve recovery and treatment outcomes through Telford STARS
- Ensure multiagency approaches better support people with complex vulnerabilities and needs
- Develop intensive support for children & young people affected by substance misuse (part of Adverse Childhood Experiences ACEs agenda)
- Grow and sustain our peer-led community recovery organisations

**1.7.** The key priorities of the refreshed strategy are proposed as:

- Targeting alcohol consumption advice to the most vulnerable people
- Improving drug misuse treatment and recovery outcomes
- Developing more intensive support for children and young people affected by substance misuse

## **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The HWB are requested to approve the refreshed Telford & Wrekin Drug & Alcohol Strategy 2019-2022.

### 3. SUMMARY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

<b>COMMUNITY IMPACT</b>	Do these proposals contribute to specific Co-Operative Council priority objective(s)?	
	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and support our most vulnerable children and adults</li> <li>• Put our children and young people first</li> <li>• Ensure that neighbourhoods are safe, clean and well maintained</li> <li>• Improve the health and wellbeing of our communities and address health inequalities.</li> </ul>
	Will the proposals impact on specific groups of people?	
	Yes	<p>Alcohol and drug use are widespread, but problematic misuse and dependence are concentrated in the most deprived communities and in vulnerable groups of adults, children and young people. This includes people with mental health problems, looked after children, young people not in education employment and training and other risk factors associated with substance misuse such as people who suffer domestic abuse and criminal exploitation.</p> <p>Children and young people, affected by parental substance misuse is a significant issue.</p>
<b>TARGET COMPLETION/DELIVERY DATE</b>	The Drug & Alcohol Strategy action plan will be implemented and monitored from April 2019.	
<b>FINANCIAL/VALUE FOR MONEY IMPACT</b>	Yes	The Council holds a specific budget in support of Substance Misuse Services which is funded from Public Health Grant and a contribution from the Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC). In 2019/20 this budget is £1.971m which includes £0.08m of one of resources and a £0.06m contribution from the PCC.

		<p>Further reductions and changes to Public Health Grant allocations, and other Council funding, is expected in future years.</p> <p>The Council will need to find further savings of between £25m over the next two years, 2020/21 and 2021/22, and this may impact on the funding for this work stream.</p> <p>It is anticipated any work associated with the recommendations in this report will be met from within the available resources and this will be kept under review as part of the programmed monitoring process.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>ER – 17.05.2019</i></p>
<b>LEGAL ISSUES</b>	Yes	<p><i>The strategy attached to this report contributes towards the Council meeting its duties to the improvement of public health as set out in the National Health Service Act 2006 (as amended).</i></p> <p><i>However, when the strategy is implemented it also needs to be compliant with the relevant statutory provisions and regulations. For example:</i></p> <p><i>The Statement of Licensing Policy is subject to the provisions, regulations and guidance from the Licensing Act 2003 (see page 18 of the attached strategy).</i></p> <p><i>The Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 (as amended) is the main legislation used to control and classify drugs that are ‘dangerous or otherwise harmful’ when misused.</i></p> <p><i>The Misuse of Drugs Regulations 2001 (as amended) allow for the lawful possession and supply of controlled (illegal) drugs for legitimate purposes</i></p> <p><i>The Government published its Alcohol Strategy on 23 March 2012 (Home Office) and its Reducing Harmful Drinking Policy (Department of Health)</i></p>

		<p><i>on 25 March 2013. The Reducing Drugs Misuse and Dependence Policy (DH and HO) was updated on 26 March 2013</i></p> <p><i>The Public Health Outcomes Framework 2013-16 was published under section 73B(1) of the NHS Act 2006 (inserted by section 31 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012) as a document that local authorities must have regard to in the exercise of the public health functions for which they became responsible on 1 April 2013 under the 2012 Act.</i></p> <p><i>Domain 2 Health Improvement includes outcomes for drugs and alcohol.</i></p>
<b>OTHER IMPACTS, RISKS &amp; OPPORTUNITIES</b>	Yes	<p>The commitments and objectives in this Drug &amp; Alcohol Strategy align strongly to a series of other partnership strategies and plans. These include the Health &amp; Wellbeing Strategy and the Domestic Abuse Strategy and the Serious Violence Strategy, overseen by the Community Safety Partnership.</p> <p>Effort has been made to avoid duplication, and where relevant actions exist in other plans, these are referenced, rather than repeated. This should ensure a more strategic joined up view of the local partnership context in relation to reducing drug and alcohol misuse harm.</p>
<b>IMPACT ON SPECIFIC WARDS</b>	Yes	Borough-wide impact

## **PART B) – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **4. INFORMATION**

Refer to Appendix 1 Telford & Wrekin Drug & Alcohol Strategy 2019-2022.

### **5. IMPACT ASSESSMENT – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **6. PREVIOUS MINUTES**

The Cabinet, Health & Wellbeing Board and Community Safety Partnership approved the original Telford & Wrekin Drug & Alcohol Strategy in March 2014.

### **7. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

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