

## ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Health and Wellbeing Board</b>
2.	<b>Date:</b>	<b>22<sup>nd</sup> April 2015</b>
3.	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Consultation on Drugs and Alcohol Public Health Expenditure</b>
4.	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Public Health</b>

### 5. Summary

As part of its budget review exercises during 2014/15 RMBC identified the potential for efficiency savings through the Drugs and Alcohol Public Health Programme Area.

Proposals were developed and shared with some of the service providers implicated in making these savings. Cabinet agreed these proposals in outline in February 2015 and RMBC would now like to begin a wider consultation process with partners from May onwards with a view to the implementation of the changes from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2015.

### 6. Recommendations

- **That the the partnership note that a detailed formal consultation process with users and carers, partners in care and health and community safety and providers will be launched in mid-May and run for three months.**

## **7. Proposals**

Partners will be aware from previous papers that the local voluntary sector alcohol provider Lifeline was successful along with Public Health commissioning in obtaining a large Department of Health capital grant for the development of a local Recovery Hub. This has provided an opportunity to develop a proposal for the amalgamation of some services.

Also, the creation of the Recovery Hub requires programme delivery from the existing recovery services, including some of the peer support work to be delivered in a different way. Therefore, proposals will be made to increase the amount of group work delivery and decrease the amount of individual one to one client work undertaken by the existing service provider.

It is proposed that consideration is given to the regular clinics offered by the RDaSH service within the GP Practice setting. If agreed, the proposals may require changes to the staffing structure within RDaSH in order to reshape service delivery in line with the new recovery agenda whilst retaining a clinically safe and effective service which prioritises those at highest risk both to themselves and to the community.

## **8. Finance**

Proposals for savings of some £640K represents a saving proposal of 5.8% across the entire budget.

## **9. Risks and Uncertainties**

After the transfer of the drugs and alcohol management from health to local authorities as part of the Public Health transfer there remains the need for this area to continue to be viewed as a partnership responsibility as drugs and alcohol impacts on all areas of partners' responsibility.

## **10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications**

Recovery from opiate use has two key indicators within the Public Health Outcome Framework and Rotherham was recognised during 2015 as having exceptionally low performance in this area. Recent work with the GP community, and the impetus created by the new recovery hub has supported improvement in the last six months in this area. The proposals for consultation will address these issues.

There are no proposals to reduce spending on the alcohol services as its recognised already that this bench marks low across the country as a result of previous restrictions on the drugs pooled treatment budget.

## 11. Background Papers and Consultation

- National guidance on drugs and alcohol.
- Benchmarking data if available.

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