

**20 June 2014**



## **Drug Treatment Centres**

---

### **Joint Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive and Anna Lynch, Director of Public Health**

---

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to provide further detail for consideration by Members of the Committee in undertaking review activity in relation to the impact of drug treatment centres on re-offending and provide supporting information on a current review of substance misuse services within the County and the development of a Countywide Strategy.

#### **Background**

2. At its meeting on 3 April 2014, Members of the Committee agreed to undertake a review looking at the impact on reducing crime for people who have completed or entered drug treatment or recovery services within the County. It is to emphasize that whilst there is a link between drug addiction and offending, it is acknowledged that not everyone in treatment has committed a drug related offence.
3. The aim of a review would be to gather a range of evidence in order to present a report to Cabinet to establish the pattern of re-offending in offences by people who have completed or entered drug treatment or recovery services. Following the Committee's meeting discussions have taken place to outline a scope for the review with Officers from Public Health who advised that the Committee may wish to consider further information prior to undertaken review activity.

#### **Current Position**

4. At present, Community Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services are delivered as separate services, in a number of locations across the county by a range of service providers. The Government's strategy is for these services to be integrated and have a focus on recovery. Within this context, the Council is currently reviewing its provision of this service which is scheduled to be completed by July, with the aim of a procurement exercise being undertaken during 2014 for an integrated service to be commissioned from January 2015.

5. It is to be acknowledged, with a review and procurement exercise to be carried out for an integrated service, undertaking a review on the impact of re-offending following drug treatment services may be timely at present and when the new service is in place. The service welcomes the interest from the Committee on this topic and will provide a presentation to appraise Members of the service review, the emerging County Durham Drugs Strategy and the current position with drug treatment centres and impact on re-offending.
6. In addition and subject to agreement by Members, the Service will be able to provide findings and recommendations from its review in September. The input of Members will be useful in terms of the review of drug treatment services and offending/re-offending patterns. However Members need to be aware that a procurement process will be undertaken during 2014 with a new service commissioned with effect from January 2015 and that the review should be carried out without compromising the procurement process in terms of existing or prospective providers.
7. It is therefore recommended that input from Members is provided before the procurement process takes place, after contracts have been awarded and following the introduction of an integrated service.

### **Recommendation**

The Committee are asked to:

- (i) Note information contained within the report and presentation
- (ii) Establish a review group to carry out further work with officers on a staged basis to consider the review of existing services, new contractual arrangements after the award of the contract and initial implementation of the new service with effect from January 2015.

---

<b>Contact:</b>	<b>Tom Gorman, Corporate Improvement Manager</b>
<b>Tel:</b>	<b>03000 268 027</b> <b>E-mail: tom.gorman@durham.gov.uk</b>
<b>Contact:</b>	<b>Jonathan Slee, Overview and Scrutiny Officer</b>
<b>Tel:</b>	<b>03000 268 148</b> <b>E-mail: jonathan.slee@durham.gov.uk</b>
<b>Contact:</b>	<b>Mark Harrison, Commissioning Manager</b>
<b>Tel:</b>	<b>03000 267 650</b> <b>E-mail: mark.harrsion2@durham.gov.uk</b>

---

---

## **Appendix 1: Implications**

---

**Finance – None**

**Staffing – None**

**Risk – None**

**Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – None**

**Accommodation – None**

**Crime and Disorder –** as referenced within the report relating to reducing re-offending through drug and alcohol treatment.

**Human Rights – None**

**Consultation – None**

**Procurement – None**

**Disability Issues – None**

**Legal Implications – None**