

27 March 2018



Substance Misuse Services

Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Director of Transformation and Partnerships

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To provide Members of the Committee with background information in advance of a presentation by Jane Sunter, Public Health, Durham County Council and Ted Haughey, DISC, Executive Director of Operations North East and North Yorkshire on substance misuse services within the county.

Background

- 2 A new integrated County Durham Drug and Alcohol Recovery Service for adults, young people and family members affected by substance misuse was launched on February 1st, 2018. The service is commissioned by the County Council and is being delivered by the service provider DISC in partnership with Spectrum Community Health CIC and The Basement Project.
- 3 The Council has a statutory requirement to provide Drug and Alcohol Services under the Care Act 2012 and part of assurance for the Public Health Grant funding.
- 4 The Service aims to offer ways for local people with drug and alcohol problems to become free from their dependence. This includes a 'Team around the Family' approach with a range of partners to hopefully deliver positive outcomes and reduce associated problems that substance misuse can cause to families, friendships, workplaces and communities in County Durham.
- 5 Tackling drug and alcohol misuse is an area of importance for the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee and has featured on agendas of committee meetings and focused pieces of work over recent years. This activity has included scrutiny reviews on 'Substance Misuse from Treatment to Recovery' in 2011 and a 'Service Review of Drug Treatment Centres' in 2014-2015. In addition, the committee closely monitors performance of substance misuse services within its quarterly performance reports and has held focused meetings with the service commissioner and previous provider on delivery of substance misuse services. The Committee also provided comment on consultation prior to re-procurement of this service in November 2016.
- 6 Members have also previously undertaken visits to recovery and treatment centres and met with recovery champions. Through this work, Members are aware of the difference conquering an addiction can make to people's

lives in becoming well, rebuilding family connections, stopping prolific offending and seeking employment and housing opportunities.

- 7 Jane Sunter, Public Health and Ted Haughey, DISC will be in attendance at the Committee's meeting to provide Members with an overview of the new service including its delivery model and approaches to successfully making a difference to people tackling substance misuse problems.
- 8 Further information on the new Substance Misuse services can be accessed from the following links <https://codurhamdrugalcoholrecovery.co.uk/about-us> and includes a video interview on the service.

Recommendation

- 9 Members of the Committee are asked to note information contained within the report and presentation and comment accordingly.

Background Papers

None

Contact: Jonathan Slee, Overview and Scrutiny Officer Tel: 03000 268142

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance – None

Staffing – None

Risk - None

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – None

Accommodation - None

Crime and Disorder –The report and presentation includes information on priority areas within the Altogether Safer element of the Council and Safe Durham Partnership Plans.

Human Rights – None

Consultation – None

Procurement – None

Disability Issues – None

Legal Implications – None