

Lancashire Health and Wellbeing Board

Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 24 January 2023

Corporate Priorities:

Caring for the vulnerable;
Delivering better services;

Lancashire Alcohol and Drug Partnership Update

(Appendix 'A' refers)

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Brief Summary

The report outlines to the Health and Wellbeing Board the progress made and next steps for the Lancashire Alcohol and Drug Partnership following the publication of the National Drug Strategy in 2021.

Recommendation

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to endorse the Lancashire Alcohol and Drugs Needs Assessment (Appendix 'A') and the steps being taken to implement the national drug plan to cut crime and save lives.

Detail

Addressing substance misuse remains a key national priority. The National Drug Strategy 2021, '[From Harm to Hope: A 10 Year drugs plan to cut crime and save lives](#)' builds on the previous 2017 national drug strategy and aims to reduce drug-related crime, death, harm and overall drug use, deter the use of recreational drugs and work to prevent young people from taking drugs. To achieve this, there is a focus on three strategic priorities:

- Breaking drug supply chains
- Delivering a world-class treatment and recovery system
- Achieving a generational shift in demand for drugs

The strategy sets out the local arrangements and a variety of indicative deadlines and below outlines the local response.

The strategy required a named Senior Responsible Officer (SRO). Dr Sakthi Karunanithi, Director of Public Health is the SRO for the local partnership.



An Alcohol and Drug Partnership was formed in Lancashire and first convened in July 2022. The partnership has adopted a formal Terms of Reference (October 2022).

Membership of the partnership includes elected members, colleagues from Public Health, the NHS, Police, Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC) office, substance misuse treatment providers (Change Grow Live and We Are With You), probation and prison service and people with lived experience of drug-related harm (Red Rose Recovery and The Well Communities). It is anticipated that the membership will engage and work with wider partners.

The partnership is coterminous with the administrative area of the county council; however, opportunities will be sought with the unitary authorities and others to facilitate joint working.

It has been agreed that the new partnership will report to the Health and Wellbeing Board. The work of the partnership also needs to link with other key strategic boards including the Lancashire Community Safety Partnership Board, Lancashire Criminal Justice Board, Lancashire Reducing Reoffending Board and Lancashire Violence Reduction Unit.

The national strategy required a local joint needs assessment to be completed by November 2022. The draft needs assessment was presented to the Lancashire Alcohol and Drugs Partnership in November 2022; and approved at the partnership meeting on 14 December 2022 (Appendix 'A'). It is anticipated that the needs assessment is an iterative process, to be reviewed annually.

The national strategy also required production of a delivery plan by December 2022 (locally called the action plan). The action plan focuses on the three key priorities from the national strategy and includes data collection. The key themes of the plan include education, support, influencing, partnership working and enforcement, and captures nearly 40 actions across a range of partners. The action plan was developed from the information obtained from the needs assessment, an insight group made up from members of the partnership and a workshop with the partnership group. The action plan has been widely circulated around partners and wider stakeholders for input and will also be a reiterative process. The action plan will be regularly reviewed by the Alcohol and Drug Partnership to track progress and celebrate success.

The national strategy requires provision of additional treatment services and focuses on reducing drug related deaths as one of its key performance outcomes. Lancashire County Council has been indicatively awarded additional funding from the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities over three years (2022-2025). This is in the form of a supplementary substance misuse treatment and recovery grant (c£15m) and an inpatient detoxification grant (c£600k). This funding supplements a range of commissions currently funded via the public health grant, and wider programmes such as Changing Futures.

It is planned to conduct an initial review the progress of the partnership by April 2023.



List of background papers

[From harm to hope: a 10-year drugs plan to cut crime and save lives \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk) (December 21)

