
Drug and Alcohol Services update

Joint Public Health and Health Integration and Adult
Social Care Scrutiny Commission

Date of meeting: 30 November 2023

Lead director/officer: Rob Howard

Useful information

- Ward(s) affected: All
- Report author: Mary Hall (slides) and Sam Carruthers (cover report)
- Author contact details: Mary.Hall@leicester.gov.uk;
Sam.Carruthers@leicester.gov.uk
- Report version number: 1.0

1. Summary

The Public Health and Health Integration Scrutiny Commission will receive a presentation at the meeting on 30th November 2023 from Public Health providing an update on drug and alcohol services in Leicester

2. Recommended actions

Public Health and Health Integration Scrutiny Commission are invited to:

- Comment on the development, progress and challenges identified in the drugs and alcohol portfolio, and to seek any further clarification needed on any areas.

3. Detailed report

The Dame Carol Black review (2019) and subsequent 10 year government drug strategy “From Harm to Hope” identified high levels of unmet need for drugs and alcohol services nationally. Leicester was identified as a priority area and has received additional funding to support system development.

The presentation to Public Health and Health Integration Scrutiny Commission will provide an overview of local programmes, and a progress update in relation to:

- Drug and alcohol use in Leicester (adults and young people)
- Drug and alcohol services in Leicester
- Service performance
- The Dame Carol Black review & implications
- Key challenges
- Future plans

The presentation will outline the high levels of drug and alcohol treatment need that persist in Leicester, and implications for wider health systems and population outcomes. It will provide an update on current programme to develop local systems, application of local strategies and highlight key challenges.

References:

- [Dame Carol Black review](#)
- [From Harm to Hope](#): 10 year national drug strategy
- National drug outcomes [framework](#)
- Leicester City [drugs and alcohol needs assessment](#)

6. Financial, legal, equalities, climate emergency and other implications

6.1 Financial implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report, as the report is providing updates across the service with no major changes proposed.

Yogesh Patel – Accountant (ext 4011)

6.2 Legal implications

This report provides an overview of the work relating to drug and alcohol being undertaken in Leicester and as such there are no direct legal implications. Should any legal assistance be required the Legal team should be contacted.

Alex Powers, Solicitor (Commercial) 37 2489

6.3 Equalities implications

Under the Equality Act 2010, public authorities have a Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) which means that, in carrying out their functions, they have a statutory duty to pay due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who don't and to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who don't.

Protected Characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation.

The report provides an update on the Drug and Alcohol Use and Services in Leicester. It is important to note that anyone can be at risk of developing a substance problem in their lives.

Having detailed information of current and future health needs in people helps to identify health inequalities and unmet need. This will provide services with the information they require to continue to support those with issues with substances and rectify any gaps in service provision. The work of the various services has provided support, which is likely to have had positive equalities impacts for people from across many protected characteristics.

Equalities Officer, Surinder Singh, Ext 37 4148

6.4 Climate Change and Carbon Reduction implications

There are limited climate emergency implications directly associated with this report. As service delivery generally contributes to the council's carbon emissions, any impacts can be managed through measures such as encouraging sustainable staff travel behaviours, using buildings efficiently and following sustainable procurement guidance, as applicable to the service and any changes implemented.

Aidan Davis, Sustainability Officer, Ext 37 2284