



Leicester City drug & alcohol strategy phase 3: 2025 - 2027

PHHI Scrutiny Commission

Date of meeting: 27/01/2026

Lead director/officer: Rob Howard

Useful information

- Ward(s) affected:
- Report author: Mary Hall
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- Report version number: v1

1. Summary

A 2022 comprehensive drug and alcohol needs assessment formed the basis for the development of a Leicester City drug and alcohol strategy. This coincided with the launch of the national drugs and alcohol ten-year plan 'From Harm to Hope', and the requirement for all local areas to develop a 'Combating Drugs and Alcohol Partnership' (CDAP).

The LLR CDAP meets biannually and is jointly chaired by the respective Directors of Public Health. It has oversight for the LLR drug and alcohol strategy, and corresponding metrics required by the Home Office.

The Leicester strategy is based on the need identified in Leicester. It has four cross cutting themes, 32 actions and is underpinned by a principle of strategic partnership. Since its inception, significant progress has been made across all areas including:

- A significant increase in the number of adults accessing treatment.
- A larger proportion of people leaving prison accessing ongoing treatment.
- An enhancement of harm reduction programmes including carriage of naloxone across multiple organisations and stakeholders.
- A significant expansion of outreach services across our communities.

In December 2024 a workshop was carried out to review progress, review need and update the drug and alcohol strategy. Subsequent work, again with multiple agency input, has resulted in the development of the City's Phase 3 drug and alcohol strategy. This builds on the successes and learning of the previous two years amalgamating with the original strategy to ensure no objectives are lost but also introducing new objectives where needed.

Six working groups have now been set up to drive forward this next phase of the strategy; in the last two months a series of working group sessions have been carried out to develop individual action plans that will feed into the overall delivery group and strategic partnership. The refreshed strategy provides an opportunity to refocus our work and ensure that we continue in our aim to provide inclusive, evidence-based services for all of our communities whoever they may be.

2. Recommendation(s) to scrutiny:

PHHI Scrutiny Commission are invited to:

- Note the updated drug and alcohol strategy and plans for its implementation.

3. Detailed report

Please see the accompanying strategy for full details.

Phase 3 of the Leicester City drug and alcohol strategy has six themes:

- 1) Service development and evaluation
- 2) Comms and engagement
- 3) Training, Education & Employment
- 4) Lived Experience
- 5) Night-time economy
- 6) Housing support and rough sleepers

Working groups have been set up for each theme with Chairs and support personnel from across different agencies involved in drug and alcohol treatment and support. Each working group additionally has support from public health staff. Working groups have carried out a series of workshops to agree activities, responsible persons and timescales for planned actions. Full details of each of the working group activities are available in the accompanying strategy report provided at Appendix 1

Progress will be monitored at a city level by the city CDAP delivery group chaired by the consultant lead for drugs and alcohol. This group will also bring together broader activities from partners such as the police and probation. The delivery group is responsible for oversight of the CDAP metrics as set by the Home Office.

City based reports feed into the LLR CDAP operational group that combines the city, county and Rutland individual strategies into an overall LLR strategy and associated metrics. The operational group identifies and raises key challenges or risks with the CDAP strategic partnership. The strategic partnership is chaired by the respective DsPH and has overall accountable for the LLR CDAP partnership and associated metrics.

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

4.1 Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from this update.

Signed: Mohammed Irfan

Dated: 5 January 2026

4.2 Legal Implications

There are no direct legal implications arising from this update on the Strategy

Signed: Jenis Taylor

Dated: 7 January 2026

4.3 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 and any other conduct prohibited by the Act, 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. Due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty should be paid before and at the time a decision is taken, in such a way that it can influence the final decision. Protected Characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

The Phase 3 Drug and Alcohol Strategy is designed to reduce health inequalities across Leicester. A core principle of this phase is the provision of inclusive, evidence-based services that cater to the city's diverse population. It is important to ensure that treatment facilities and communications are accessible to those with physical disabilities or neurodivergent conditions.

We need to ensure equality considerations continue to underpin the work taking place in the city and where relevant Equality Impact Assessments are carried out. Where we are proposing to consult/engage/communicate with people, we need to ensure it is fair, accessible and proportionate, targets the relevant stakeholders and takes into account language needs.

Signed: Equalities Officer, Surinder Singh, Ext 37 4148

Dated: 30 December 2025

4.4 Climate Emergency Implications

There are limited climate emergency implications directly associated with this report. As service delivery generally contributes to the council's carbon footprint, any impacts of this work can be managed through working to encourage and enable the use of sustainable travel options, considering the energy efficiency of any buildings used, using materials efficiently and following the council's sustainable procurement guidance, as applicable to the programme.

Signed: Phil Ball, Sustainability Officer, Ext 372246

Dated: 31st December 2025

4.5 Other Implications

Signed:

Dated:

5. Background information and other papers:

Please see accompanying paper: Leicester city drug and alcohol strategy phase 3.

6. Summary of appendices: