

Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Commission Briefing

10th March 2016

Anchor Centre/ Recovery Hub update
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Ward(s) affected: Castle
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1.0 Purpose of Briefing

To update the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Commission on plans to re-develop the city's Recovery Hub.

2.0 Update

At the last scrutiny commission meeting (January 2016) the Commission were made aware that the Anchor Centre has remained open during the winter period and that the necessary ongoing maintenance had taken place. Members were also informed about a capital bid to Public Health England to fund longer-term investment to develop suitable accommodation for the service and to support people using the service towards recovery.

It has recently been announced that this bid has been successful and the City Council, with Inclusion Healthcare who run the service have been awarded £267,861 to develop this hub in a suitable location in the city.

3.0 The new model

The hub will provide a range of daily services and activities that will support and encourage individuals to stabilise their alcohol use, engage and maintain contact with treatment services and mutual aid, improve their physical and mental health; and learn new skills.



The new premises for the Anchor Recovery Hub will transform the Anchor Centre into a vital and fully integrated part of Leicester's recovery community. It will provide a physical space in which Leicester's innovative multi-agency approach to street drinkers and homeless substance users can flourish. The project will also enable the recommendations in Alcohol Concern's Blue Light Project to be fully implemented for change resistant drinkers, increasing the likelihood of change and recovery for this complex group who cause such significant burden and financial cost to public services.

This project will create an environment and culture of hope; providing often a first, but vital step towards recovery. The project will ensure that the environment welcomes service users onto their recovery journey and instils hope for those who are often the most entrenched and furthest from change.

This will be contributed to by:

- A welcoming, safe, clean environment which values the service users, encouraging them to value themselves. This environment will enable increased peer mentor presence to provide a visible role model of change.
- Facilities to support improvements in physical health for those service users who often have the most significant health needs. This will include on-site clinical space, enabling enhanced onsite clinical interventions. Additional facilities to improve nutrition and hygiene including a fully equipped kitchen, washing and shower facilities will act as a hook into engagement.
- Kitchen facilities to enable provision of food, but also provide opportunities for

life skills developments delivered by the ex-service user health trainers.

- Group and 1-2-1 intervention space to enable increased delivering of psychosocial and recovery support interventions. This will increase the engagement of service users in meaningful activities alongside the provision of the wet room.
- An IT suite to practically support service users with activities which will support progress towards recovery such as supporting with finding and maintaining accommodation and education, training and employment opportunities.
- A modern, safe wet room to enable the controlled consumption of alcohol for those homeless service users with an alcohol dependency. The wet room will no longer be the central aspect of the Anchor Recovery Hub. Its presence will serve the required purpose of enabling the safe consumption of alcohol and a reduction in street drinking within Leicester city. However, individuals will be supported to safely reduce their alcohol consumption within an environment which motivates towards change.

The Recovery Hub will be measured against the following indicators:

- Numbers of attenders that are referred to substance misuse services
- Number of attenders that engage in treatment and length of treatment
- Number of attenders that achieve successful completions and non-representations.
- Drinking levels and drug use on assessment and ongoing review
- Take up of range of activities provided at the centre
- User satisfaction with range of services provided.
- Levels of street drinking/rough sleeping at risk of these activities.

4.0 Next steps

Now that the capital resources for this project have been secured, a project team has also been set up to draw up detailed plans to develop the new service. The first step will be to complete an options appraisal for the Executive for possible sites for the Recovery Hub in a suitable and appropriate location.

In addition a waiver has been obtained to extend the current contract for one year (30th June 2017). This will allow time to get the new service model in place before the service is recommissioned.

Details of Scrutiny