

ADULT CARE AND WELL BEING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL 16 MARCH 2016

DRUG RECOVERY TREATMENT – PERFORMANCE UPDATE

Summary

1. As part of the Scrutiny Panel's performance monitoring role, an update will be provided on successful completion of drug treatment for opiate users.
2. The aim of the discussion is to provide greater understanding about the national Public Health England performance indicators for successful completion of drug treatment – opiate users, which has been underperforming in Worcestershire for a number of years, the current position, any issues and how it compares to other areas of the country.
3. Representatives have been invited to the meeting from the Council's Adult Services and Health Directorate (commissioner of the service) and from Swanswell Charitable Trust, the organisation contracted to provide recovery services since April 2015.

Background

4. At its 21 January 2016 meeting, the Scrutiny Panel expressed concern about the on-going poor performance and pace of progress in the numbers of opiate users successfully completing treatment.
5. Successful completion of drug treatment – opiate users, is a Public Health England national indicator, and whilst acknowledging that the contract with Swanswell is relatively new, the panel members would like to understand more about the national indicator and the issues for Worcestershire.

2015/16 Performance

6. The reported performance data in quarter 2 2015/16 (relating to the calendar year 2014) indicated that successful completion of drug treatment – opiate users (marked as red), had no change in the direction of travel. The national indicator measures the number of users of opiates that left drug treatment successfully (free of drug(s) of dependence) who do not then re-present to treatment again within 6 months as a percentage of the total number of opiate users in treatment. Figures for 2014 showed 4.9% successful treatment of opiate users, against a national England average of 7.4%. Figures for 2015 are likely to be reported in November 2016.
7. As part of the 21 January 2016 monitoring, the Panel also had an interesting, broader discussion about drug misuse treatment with the then Director of Adult Services and Health, including the potential impact on families and other services, the historical poor performance in Worcestershire, the nature of drug use – which was more of a

chronic disease than an illness, and the potential need for changes to national models of care.

8. The Council's internal contract monitoring arrangements anticipate that Swanswell's approach and work will lead to significant improvements against national performance indicators.

9. The Directorate's performance data can be accessed on the Council's website at the link below (by selecting 'Adult Services and Health' from the Directorate field)
<http://e-services.worcestershire.gov.uk/balancedScorecard/wccReport.aspx>

10. A scrutiny task group (led by panel member Cllr Chris Bloore), is due to start a broader review exercise, to look at how the County Council, with partners (including the Police) is developing a prevention and recovery approach and an effective service to help reduce drug and alcohol misuse and to investigate how effectively the Council is working with other agencies to improve the help and advice provided to addicts and their families.

Purpose of the Meeting

11. The Panel is asked to:

- discuss the latest performance information and the direction of progress
- agree any comments to raise with the Cabinet Member (s)
- agree any further information required or potential areas of scrutiny – for the Panel of the task group exercise.

Contact Points

County Council Contact Points

Worcestershire County Council; 01905 763763

Worcestershire Hub: 01905 765765

Email: worcestershirehub@worcestershire.gov.uk

Specific Contact Points for this Report

Emma James / Jo Weston, Overview and Scrutiny Officers

Tel: 01905 844964 / 844965

Email: scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Head of Legal and Democratic Services) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

- Agenda and Minutes of the Adult Care and Well Being Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 21 January 2016, which are available [here](#)
- Agenda and Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board on 23 September 2015 and 24 February 2016, which are available [here](#)