

## **SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO:** Health Scrutiny Panel **DATE:** 18<sup>th</sup> November 2015

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### **PART I** **FOR COMMENT & CONSIDERATION**

#### **SLOUGH ALCOHOL STRATEGY AND SUBSTANCE MISUSE AND TREATMENT SERVICES IN SLOUGH**

1. **Purpose of Report**

- To seek comment from the panel on the Alcohol Strategy

And

- To advise panel members of the progress of Slough's Substance Misuse Services and the ongoing challenges faced in respect of substance misuse in Slough.

2. **Recommendation**

The panel is requested to comment on the draft Slough Alcohol Strategy, proposing recommendations or suggested amendments to the strategy, to be presented to the Slough Wellbeing Board for adoption.

And

The panel is requested to note the report for information on Slough's Substance Misuse Services and provide comments on how services can be improved.

3. **The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan**

The services deliver aspects of the Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, JSNA and the Five Year Plan priorities and cross cutting themes including civic responsibility.

3a. **Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities**

*Priorities:*

*Health*

Slough treatment service contributes to the SJWS aims and priorities;

- Reduce drug and alcohol misuse and their impact on domestic abuse and violent crime
- Ensure good recovery outcomes from drugs and alcohol services

This is achieved by engaging individuals who use substances problematically into treatment, and once engaged, retaining them in the service to enable change. The service works towards successful completions and reducing the number of individuals who re-present to the service.

*Safer Slough*

Slough treatment services contribute to the SWJS aims and priorities;

- Reduce crime, the fear and perception of crime, anti-social behaviour and substance misuse

This is achieved by partnership working with criminal justice agencies including the police, probation and the prisons. By ensuring the pathways are robust, the service enables substance misusing offender's straightforward access into treatment.

*Cross-Cutting themes:*

Slough treatment services encourage service users to take ownership for their own health and wellbeing. Through this work, the services reduce inequalities by enabling fair access for a hard to reach group who often do not have positive perceptions of publically provided services. The services that we deliver are of consistently high quality to ensure positive outcomes for substance misusing residents.

**Improving the image of the town**

The service is commissioned to deliver an outreach service, which often works in partnership with the Police to engage those hard to reach residents who are contributing to negative perceptions of the town. By engaging them in a structured treatment system, they are supported by diversionary activities and thus contributing to reducing their negative impact.

The service is also commissioned to deliver a service, which includes work with service users with complex needs. The service also works in partnership with local pharmacies to engage those hard to reach residents who are contributing to negative perceptions of the town. By engaging them in a structured treatment system (and encouraging them to stay within the services), they are supported by diversionary activities and thus contributing to reducing their negative impact.

### 3b. Five Year Plan Outcomes

*The outcomes are:*

*Slough will be one of the safest places in the Thames Valley*

Slough treatment services contribute to the outcomes of the five year plan by;

- Working in partnership with criminal justice agencies such as the police, probation and the prisons to support substance misusing offenders into treatment
- By stabilising substance misusing offenders into treatment, the services reduce the risks around their offending

*More people will take responsibility and manage their own health, care and support needs*

Slough treatment services contribute to the outcomes of the five year plan by;

- Those accessing treatment, must consent throughout their treatment journey, for example consenting to a referral
- The individual treatment plans are determined in partnership with the service user, their recovery worker and other relevant agencies involved
- Providing service users with information to enable them to gain a holistic understanding of the harm their use causes to their health and wellbeing
- An opportunity to access health clinics within the treatment service around; Blood Borne virus's, vaccinations and testing, sexual health and smoking cessation
- To encourage and facilitate service users to build their own recovery capital to enable them to be responsible and manage their own recovery.

*Children and young people in Slough will be healthy, resilient and have positive life chances*

Slough treatment services contribute to the outcomes of the five year plan by

- By delivering the Young People's Service to enable this group to address their use of substances and build resilience to reduce the likelihood of them requiring specialist substance misuse services as an adult
- By delivering the 'What About Me' group to children and young people affected by someone else's substance misuse encourages positive lifestyle choices.
- By delivering the Family Intensive Engagement Service
- The service works with families who have substance misuse issues to motivate them and provide opportunities for change

- The intervention has the opportunity to provide resilience to children and young people and contribute to them having positive life chances.

*The Council's income and the value of its assets will be maximised*

- The DAAT identified and implemented 14.6% of savings in year for 15/16
- Slough Treatment Services have a Performance Related Payment which is 5% of the contract value.

#### 4. **Other Implications**

##### (a) Financial

The recommendations within the report will be managed within the overall Drug and Alcohol Action Team budget; however the savings that have been implemented in 15/16 have resulted in financial implications for the substance misuse system in year.

##### (b) Risk Management

The ongoing challenges faced in respect of substance misuse in Slough are around resources (and the reduction in these), and the continued high demand on the services. This will be managed by the DAAT in cooperation with the services, and can be addressed as part of the reconfiguration of the treatment system.

Alcohol has always been an issue in Slough and has never received funding to meet this need. The treatment services are starting to see an increase in alcohol referrals, and the focus for Slough; within the Five Year plan, is around tackling this issue.

The other challenge is the change in drug trends and although Slough has not seen a significant shift currently, there has been a recent increase in the use of synthetic cannabinoids and an increase in the needle exchange provision for Performance Enhancing substances.

<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Risk/Threat/Opportunity</i>	<i>Mitigation(s)</i>
The Committee is requested to recommend acceptance or suggest amendments to Slough Alcohol Strategy.	<p>This is an opportunity for the committee to provide amendments to the strategy and for this to be adopted to provide a strategic overview of Slough's strategy to tackle alcohol.</p> <p>There is no funding attached to the strategy therefore implementation would need to be within existing resources.</p>	As part of the Alcohol Misuse Pathways Project the Drug and Alcohol Action Team, with Oxford Academic Health Science Network, Public Health England and other stakeholders are service mapping to gain a cross agency picture of alcohol interventions.

The Committee is requested to note the report for information on Slough's Substance Misuse Services and provide comments on how services can be improved.	There is an opportunity for the panel members to provide comments on the service. No identified risks to this recommendation.	None required.
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(c) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

There are no Human Rights implications.

(d) Equalities Impact Assessment

The service is inclusive to all people with substance misuse problems seeking help. The positive impacts are: improved visibility and accessibility, simpler referral and access routes through a single point of entry, and better co-ordination at the tiers of dependency.

There is no identified need for the completion of an Equalities Impact Assessment.

5. Supporting Information

5.1 Slough Alcohol Strategy 2015-2019 (attached as Appendix A)

Slough's Alcohol Strategy 2015-2019 has been presented to stakeholders for consultation and input, prior to being presented to the committee. For a list of stakeholders involved in the consultation day, please refer to page 25 within the strategy.

The strategy was developed to provide an overarching document to address the negative effects of alcohol use. The strategy outlines the priorities and challenges faced by Slough to tackle this issue and have been aligned with the key objectives set out in Slough's Five Year Plan.

The strategy has four themes;

- Working in Partnership
- Responsible Sale and Consumption
- Reducing Harm
- Protecting Families.

A key focus of the strategy is prevention and enabling alcohol users to take control of their own alcohol consumption. The strategy recognises the harm alcohol causes and the importance of working in partnership using a multi agency stakeholder approach.

The strategy will align the stakeholder's response to achieve mutually agreed objectives to address alcohol use in Slough.

## 5.2 Slough Treatment Services

Slough Treatment Services were reconfigured during a re-commissioning process and in April 2012 the new service was launched.

Slough Treatment Services are an integrated multi agency treatment system. There are three agencies that deliver four broad components of the service; Early Intervention and Harm Minimisation, Psychosocial Recovery, Clinical Provision and Community Re-integration.

All interventions delivered by the service providers have a strong recovery focus, with the objective to support substance users to successfully complete treatment and maintain changes to their use in the long term.

The services are currently co-located and delivered from Maple House in Slough. The Drug and Alcohol Action Team are currently in the process of sourcing alternative accommodation as the lease on our current premise will expire in June 2016.

### **Turning Point**

The agency delivers the Early Intervention and Harm Minimisation Service, and is the first point of contact for all drug and alcohol referrals. The Community Re-integration service is delivered by Turning Point and is responsible for supporting individuals who are substance free to re-integrate into the wider community.

Turning Point is commissioned to deliver an outreach service with their main aim to engage treatment naïve or treatment resistant individuals to access support.

### **Crime Reduction Initiative (CRI)**

The agency provides the medically assisted recovery clinics in partnership with the specialist provider, including alcohol detoxifications. CRI deliver the psychosocial interventions and are responsible for supporting individuals to achieve their treatment goals.

The Family Intensive Engagement Service is delivered by CRI and works with Substance Misusing parents to support them to understand the impact their use has on their parenting.

### **Farnham Road Practice**

Farnham Road is our specialist provider who is responsible for the clinical interventions; this includes prescribing opiate substitute medication and providing specialist medical input. The provider also delivers health clinics, including vaccinating against Hepatitis B.

### **Young People**

Turning Point deliver the Young People's Service and provide interventions to support this group.

This includes a peer education program for young people interested in learning about substance misuse and using their knowledge to support other young people.

#### Performance indicators

Substance misuse services are nationally monitored on performance by Public Health England's Alcohol and Drugs Team. Slough Treatment Services have local and nationally agreed indicators that they are performance managed against, by Slough Drug and Alcohol Action Team. Further detail of how Slough is performing is provided below.

The contracts for Turning Point and CRI have a Performance Related Payment which is 5% of the contract value, over the last two years the services have achieved at least 3% of this.

### 5.3 Substance Misuse in Slough

We support approximately seven hundred individuals in treatment within a year across the treatment services.

#### **Drugs**

- In 2013/14 the estimated number of Opiate and Crack users in the area verses the number of those in treatment calculates our local 'penetration rates'. The penetration for Slough is 43% in comparison to 53% nationally. The rates are slightly lower than previous years; these estimates are due to be refreshed and therefore may change.
- When engaged in treatment, people use less illegal drugs, reduce their offending, and improve their health and well being. All these aspects are beneficial as it reduces the impact drug use and the associated harms have on the wider community. 95% of services users were effectively engaged in treatment for three months or more, which is in line with the national figure of 94%.
- In Slough 21% of drug users completed treatment successfully and 90% did not return to treatment within six months. Nationally these figures were 15% and 89% respectively.
- In Slough 20% of service users in treatment were employed compared to a national figure of 17%. Around a third (33%) of our service users were working ten or more days in the month prior to successfully completing treatment. The national average is 27%.
- Harm reduction including safer injecting practice and blood borne virus interventions are a priority for Slough, and we have been performing well against the national average. For example 63% were no longer injecting at six month review, which is higher than the national figure of 57%.

## **Alcohol**

- Slough has a lower number of alcohol-specific hospital admissions (143.58 per 100,000 nationally; 176.86) and lower alcohol related hospital admissions (492.33 compared to nationally; 567.92). Slough has a higher rate of admission episodes for alcohol-related conditions (2222.83 compared to nationally 2031.76)
- Slough has high levels of alcohol-related recorded crime (9.25 compared to 5.74 nationally). Specifically for alcohol related violent crime (6.15 per 1,000 compared to nationally 3.13)
- In Slough 48% of alcohol users completed treatment successfully, 40% completed and did not return to treatment within six months. Nationally this figure was 38% and 36% respectively.
- In Slough 27% of service users in treatment were in education or employment compared to a national figure of 22%.
- Tackling high risk alcohol use is a priority for Slough as use at these levels increases the risks around alcohol related conditions. Within the treatment system 72% of alcohol users were in this category on entering treatment, compared to 77% nationally.

### **5.4 Challenges**

The ongoing challenges faced in respect of substance misuse in Slough are around resources and the reduction in these and the likelihood of further savings.

The challenge will be to meet the needs of the substance misusing populations within these constraints.

#### **Premises**

It is challenging to find appropriate accommodation within Slough to relocate substance misuse services. There have been a number of factors to consider, including location of the service.

The Drug and Alcohol Action Team are working in partnership with Asset Management to identify under utilised council accommodation, in order to secure new premises.

### **6. Comments of Other Committees**

This report has not been presented to other committees.

### **7. Conclusion**

The report provides information on substance misuse in Slough with a particular focus on Slough's Alcohol Strategy 2015-2019.



The key decision for the panel is to make the recommendation to accept Slough's Alcohol Strategy 2015-2019 or to provide comments so that it can be amended.

Despite the aforementioned challenges, Slough Treatment Services have continued to deliver a consistent high quality service to the residents of Slough.

Service users accessing treatment will be assessed within seven days and will be engaged in treatment in no longer than three weeks. The services have adapted to avoid waiting lists.

Slough's successful completion rates remain relatively high when compared to areas of similar substance misuse issues and demographics.

The majority of our service users complete treatment in the community, which has enabled the DAAT to continue to fund complex cases for inpatient placements.

A strategic review of substance misuse services is currently taking place. The aim of this is to determine the scope and configuration of future services. The intention is to maximise outcomes and identify increased value for money in light of the likelihood of reduced resources. We will keep the Health Scrutiny Panel updated of the progress of the review.

8. **Appendices Attached**

'A' - Slough Alcohol Strategy 2015-2019

9. **Background Papers**

None