

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Adults and wellbeing scrutiny committee</b>
<b>Meeting date:</b>	<b>Tuesday 5 March 2019</b>
<b>Title of report:</b>	<b>Substance misuse service performance update</b>
<b>Report by:</b>	<b>Senior commissioning officer public health</b>

## **Classification**

Open

## **Decision type**

This is not an executive decision

## **Wards affected**

(All Wards);

## **Purpose and summary**

To review the quality and performance of the substance misuse service commissioned by Herefordshire Council and delivered by Addaction.

The information in this report has been produced collaboratively between the council's senior commissioning officer in public health and Addaction's service manager.

To enable the committee to fulfil its function to review and scrutinise the planning, provision and operation of substance misuse services in Herefordshire.

The service has continued to make significant improvements in performance and dedicated commissioning support continues to be provided, ensuring outcomes are delivered for individuals in Herefordshire and an efficient service is in place.

## **Recommendation(s)**

**That:**

- (a) the committee review performance and determine any recommendations it wishes to make to the executive to consider in order to strengthen performance or improve outcomes.**

## Alternative options

1. There are no alternatives to the recommendation. It is a function of the committee to make reports or recommendations to the executive with respect to the discharge of any functions which are the responsibility of the executive.

## Key considerations

2. The information contained within the report is provided following recommendations made by the committee at the last performance review for this service on 27 March 2018 for a further update to be provided in 12 months' time.
3. The committee is asked to consider the information provided by the council and Addaction, which demonstrates continued improvement in performance of the service against high level service targets, in particular for primary opiate service users. The targets reviewed relate to the successful completion of treatment and the maintenance of this, through the monitoring of re-presentation rates. The report shows a continued upward trajectory throughout financial year 2017/18. By the end of quarter 4 of 2017/18 successful completions for the opiate group had reached 9.1% exceeding the target set within the formal action plan and achieving top place in the county's comparator group. Quarters 1 and 2 of the new financial year 2018/19 have seen this performance slow and begin a steady decline. This is an anticipated change as many of the remaining opiate group are much older and had several co-morbid health issues to manage. There is national debate about this group of individuals and how best to manage their needs in the long term. Herefordshire has a larger number of older opiate users who have been in treatment for 6 years or more 43.2% (at the end of Q2 18/19) compared with a national average of 32.4%. Many of these individuals have in fact been in treatment for more than a decade. A new service specification will be developed in preparation for the re-commissioning of the service considering the use of GP shared care schemes in an attempt to address the needs of these individuals over the longer term.
4. Successful completions for both non-opiate and alcohol groups and the additional non-opiate and alcohol combined group also continued to increase to Q4 2017/18. Non-opiate successful completion showed a decline in Q1 of 2018/19 but has since started to increase again. Alcohol successful completions have continued to increase throughout Q1 and 2 of 2018/19 although they remain below national average. The performance of these groups is hampered by significant challenges in the county with regard to the number of non-opiate service users entering treatment, which has continued to decline for some time, the small numbers of this cohort mean that performance data can be negatively skewed based on the activity of one or two individuals. This is a common issue in more rural counties.
5. Representations to treatment services following successful discharge remains insignificant demonstrating that treatment is effective and sustainable for individuals.
6. The presentation (appendix 1) that accompanies this report covers successful completions performance data and representation to treatment performance data. The presentation also outlines those areas identified as target areas for further improvements, including the number of non-opiate service users in treatment and successful completion rates for this group. As well as service delivery areas being prioritised for the remainder of the contract term including increasing access to alcohol treatment and development of the young people's service.

7. Addaction have introduced a wide range of both structured and unstructured group work to assist individuals in their recovery journey as well as to enable the development of social capital and the formation of natural communities. The success of this approach is demonstrated in the continuation of group meetings for a cohort of recent graduates from treatment, a number of whom have continued to meet regularly in support of one another. Further details of this are given in the accompanying presentation slides.
8. The care quality commission carried out a planned inspection in December 2018, initial feedback is very positive and the service is anticipating the awarding of a good rating. At the time of writing the report is yet to be published.

### **Next steps**

- Performance will continue to be monitored through quarterly formal reviews alongside the reports produced by Public Health England.
- Continue to establish and grow recovery communities through the group work programme.
- Continue to increase engagement opportunities for both primary non-opiate and alcohol service users including digital access to treatment.
- Development of the young person's service including co-production with young service users.

## **Community impact**

9. In accordance with its adopted code of corporate governance, Herefordshire Council must ensure that it has an effective performance management system that facilitates effective and efficient delivery of planned services. Effective financial management, risk management and internal control are important components of this performance management system. The council is committed to promoting a positive working culture that accepts, and encourages constructive challenge, and recognises that a culture and structure for scrutiny are key elements for accountable decision making, policy development, and review.
10. The substance misuse service provides a vital service to vulnerable people across the county and has a significant positive impact on individuals receiving treatment and their families. Improving the performance of this service assists in fulfilling our corporate plan priority to enable residents to live safe, healthy and independent lives.
11. Without this service provision there would be additional pressure on other public services, in particular GPs, A&E departments, mental health services and police.

## **Equality duty**

12. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;

- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
  - (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
13. This service works with vulnerable individuals, many of whom will share a protected characteristic. This report supports the council in delivering its equality duty by ensuring that the service improves so it can fulfil the three aims of the equality duty as stated above. A continually improving service will have a significant positive impact on the outcomes for the individuals accessing the service.
14. The Equality Act 2010 established a positive obligation on local authorities to promote equality and to reduce discrimination in relation to any of the nine 'protected characteristics' (age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; marriage and civil partnership; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation). In particular, the council must have 'due regard' to the public sector equality duty when taking any decisions on service changes. As this report is for information and reporting of performance we do not believe that there will be any negative impact on our equality duty.

## **Resource implications**

15. There are no resource implications arising from this report; the resource implications of any recommendations made by the committee will inform the executive's response.

## **Legal implications**

16. There are no legal implications arising from this report; the legal implications of any recommendations made by the committee will inform the executive's response.

## **Risk management**

17. There are no risks arising from this report; the risks associated with any recommendations made by the committee will inform the executive's response.

## **Consultees**

18. None.

## **Appendices**

19. Appendix 1 Presentation

## **Background papers**

None identified.