

HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD**Wednesday 25 September 2013****Adult Substance Misuse Reconfiguration Project Update****1 Purpose**

- 1.1 To update members on the adult substance misuse re-configuration project in North Yorkshire.

2 Background - Historical context

- 2.1 North Yorkshire Substance Misuse Partnership Board took the decision in 2012 to re-configure all adult substance misuse service provision that it was responsible for commissioning, across North Yorkshire. This decision was made before North Yorkshire and York Primary Care Trust was abolished and before the transfer of the Public Health function to North Yorkshire County Council. North Yorkshire County Council agreed to take the lead on procurement, due to the impending transfer of Public Health responsibility to North Yorkshire County Council.
- 2.2 There were several key drivers for this decision.
- European procurement regulations dictate that many public services are regularly put out to competitive tender. This is an obligation under European legislation and all the substance misuse services that are currently commissioned by North Yorkshire County Council are now due to undergo this process. Most of the existing arrangements have been in place for many years.
 - Over the last few years national developments in the substance misuse field have put a new emphasis on areas providing a recovery-orientated treatment system with a more explicit focus on achieving successful, substance-free outcomes for those dependent on drugs and/ or alcohol. Emerging evidence indicates that this challenge requires a fundamental shift in the way we commission services and the way service providers work together with core mainstream provision.
 - The geographic area served by North Yorkshire County Council is large and local evidence suggests that services for substance misusers are not systematically distributed equally, in accordance with local need. This fragmentation means the system may not be offering

best value for money and may not be adequately meeting local need. Furthermore, service users, parents/carers and professionals across the county have consistently told us that the current system is unduly complex, particularly in terms of how to access the right services.

2.3 The re-configuration project commenced in 2012. A project working group is responsible for overseeing the delivery of the project. A project board has been established to ratify key decisions. Overall accountability for addressing substance misuse across North Yorkshire now rests with North Yorkshire County Council with the Director of Public Health for North Yorkshire as the lead officer. The majority of funding that was previously available to the Substance Misuse Partnership Board and committed to adult substance misuse service provision across North Yorkshire now forms part of the ring-fenced Public Health grant.

3 Project progress

3.1 The following stages of the project have been completed to date:

- **Engagement phase:** This stage focussed on developing an understanding of the current issues that could be addressed via re-configuration of service provision, and provided an opportunity to develop an understanding of service models that have been commissioned and delivered elsewhere.
- **Consolidation and development phase:** The Board considered a number of proposed service models and agreed on a preferred service model. Service specifications and an outcomes framework were developed for consultation.
- **Consultation phase:** A formal 12 week consultation exercise was launched in March 2013 and followed up with an event in Harrogate in April 2013. Approximately 200 people attended the event. In addition the following opportunities were made available to feed into the development of the service model and performance framework: a web-based survey; workshops on specific elements of the proposed model - children and families; clinical, and generic; workshops with service users in 5 Localities; email and telephone contact points. A Consultation Report has been published on the project website. Overall, there is broad support for the proposed re-configuration of adult substance misuse services with a strong focus on assisting dependent drug and alcohol users to recover.
- **Pre-procurement phase:** The service specifications are now being adapted and procurement documents are being prepared.

4 Recommendations

- 4.1 It is recommended that members acknowledge progress and visit our dedicated project website for further details:
<http://www.nypartnerships.org.uk/smpb>

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18 September 2013