

## CABINET

20 September 2016

<b>Title:</b> Substance Misuse Strategy 2016 - 2020	
<b>Report of the Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health Integration</b>	
<b>Open Report</b>	<b>For Decision</b>
<b>Wards Affected:</b> All	<b>Key Decision:</b> Yes
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<b>Accountable Director:</b> Mark Tyson, Commissioning Director, Adults' Care and Support	
<b>Accountable Strategic Director:</b> Anne Bristow, Deputy Chief Executive and Strategic Director for Service Development and Integration	
<b>Summary</b> <p>The key aims of the Substance Misuse Strategy 2016-2020 are to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reduce the harmful impact of substance misuse on the wider community;</li><li>• Ensure everyone can access good quality healthcare when they need it and continue to enable access to effective treatment and promote sustained recovery;</li><li>• Enable social responsibility by supporting residents to take responsibility for themselves, their homes and their community;</li><li>• Protect the most vulnerable, keeping adults and children healthy and safe.</li></ul> <p>The Strategy has been presented at the Substance Misuse Strategy Board and the Community Safety Partnership for consultation and their comments have been incorporated.</p> <p>The Health and Wellbeing Board has also received and endorsed the Strategy. It is now being presented to Cabinet for comment and final approval.</p>	
<b>Recommendation(s)</b> <p>The Cabinet is recommended to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(i) Agree to adopt the Substance Misuse Strategy 2016 - 2020 at Appendix 1 to the report; and</li><li>(ii) Authorise the Strategic Director for Service Development and Integration, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health Integration, to agree any minor amendments to the Strategy prior to its publication.</li></ol>	

## **Reason(s)**

The Strategy sets out a broad range of actions designed to improve public health, encourage social responsibility, reduce demand on public services and enhance community safety. Delivery of the strategy's aims would support the Council's priority of enabling social responsibility, through improving access to healthcare, protecting the vulnerable and encouraging people to take responsibility for their health and wellbeing. It would also contribute to the Council's commitment to borough growth by supporting those with substance misuse problems into employment.

### **1. Introduction and Background**

- 1.1 It is necessary to have a Substance Misuse Strategy in order to tackle the impact that drugs and alcohol have on the Borough and to reduce the harm they cause.
- 1.2 The Strategy is also necessary to strengthen and build upon existing partnership working with criminal justice colleagues, in order to identify those individuals who use drugs and alcohol problematically and ensure that they are offered the most appropriate therapeutic interventions.
- 1.3 Drug and alcohol treatment provision have been designed to ensure that people do not re-present to services. More emphasis has been placed on offering interventions to those who have stabilised in treatment and are now ready to re-integrate into society.
- 1.4 A greater focus on early intervention will be embedded in the action plan. Many individuals who misuse substances do so as a way of coping with traumatic events in their lives. More therapeutic work needs to take place for children with parents who misuse substances, and for those that have witnessed or experienced trauma such as abuse or violence.
- 1.5 Cabinet will receive a further report on the process for expanding the remit of Public Spaces Protection Orders in order to encompass the use of Nitrous Oxide (Laughing Gas) in November, following a discussion which was scheduled for the Community Safety Partnership on 14 September.
- 1.6 The Substance Misuse Strategy has been presented at the Substance Misuse Strategy Board, Community Safety Partnership Board and Health and Wellbeing Board for consultation and their recommendations implemented. The Corporate Strategy Group has also approved the Strategy with the recognition that the action plan has recently been added. The action plan will be open to influence and be on the Council Portal for wider consultation and comment. This recognises the cross-cutting nature of substance misuse issues and the impact that they have on the borough's growth potential, with a corresponding need for wide sign-up from across the Council.

### **2. Proposal and Issues**

- 2.1 The purpose of the Strategy is to ensure that investment in substance misuse education and treatment continues in order for provision to be the most effective and relevant it can be.

2.2 The action plan, which will dictate future work in this area, will be on the Council Portal for wider consultation and comment and will be reviewed and monitored at the Prevention Sub Group of the Community Safety Partnership.

2.3 The key priorities the Strategy seeks to deliver are:

- (i) to encourage residents to provide drug hot spot evidence to support interventions such as the Public Spaces Protection Order to ban the use of Nitrous Oxide (Laughing Gas) in public;
- (ii) to have an inclusive integrated community substance misuse service by 2018/19;
- (iii) to continue to raise drug and alcohol awareness in schools through the PSHE programme;
- (iv) to better link domestic violence and substance misuse services in order that victims receive more holistic interventions. Furthermore, identifying perpetrators and supporting their needs in a more specialised way;
- (v) early intervention and therapeutic support for young people who have experienced some level of trauma including parental substance misuse and violence.

### **3. Options Appraisal**

3.1 Cabinet has the option to approve or not to approve the document and, should they decide not to approve it, then either to reject it entirely or to request specific amendments. Not to approve a substance misuse strategy, when the case for action on drugs and alcohol has been noted in a number of other previously-approved documents (the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, the Health & Wellbeing Strategy and the Crime & Disorder Strategic Assessment amongst them) would raise the prospect of there being no statement of action on an issue of agreed importance.

3.2 Should Cabinet request substantial amendments to the document at this stage, it would need to return to the Community Safety Partnership for further work with partners and be re-presented for approval.

### **4. Consultation**

4.1 The four year Substance Misuse Strategy 2016-20 has been presented at the Substance Misuse Strategy Board, Service Development and Integration meeting (previously DMT) and the Community Safety Partnership meeting for consultation and comments have been incorporated.

4.2 The Strategy has been presented at the Health and Wellbeing Board. It was agreed that the Strategy would be updated to reflect areas of change that had occurred since it had originally been drafted for consultation. These included governance changes, to incorporate the LSCB, the monitoring of the Strategy Action Plan becoming the responsibility of the Community Safety Partnership and the recent change in legislation in regards to 'legal highs'.

The Board:

- (i) Noted the amendments and governance changes to the draft Substance Misuse Strategy 2016-2020, as reported by Matthew Cole;
- (ii) Discussed a number of aspects of the Strategy and noted that the Action Plan would be monitored by the Community Safety Partnership;
- (iii) Recommended to the Cabinet that it adopts the Strategy, subject to the amendments; and
- (iv) Recommended that Partner organisations also take the steps necessary to formally adopt the Strategy through their own organisational arrangements.

4.3 The action plan has been recently added and therefore is open to influence. The action plan will be added to the Council Portal in order for wider consultation and comments. The action plan will continue to develop, in line with the aims of the strategy, as partners work on its delivery.

## 5. Financial Implications

Implications completed by: Richard Tyler, Interim Group Finance Manager

5.1 The strategy set out by the Substance misuse team will be delivered using funding received from the public health grant and London Crime Prevention funding received from Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime.

5.2 The funding allocation from the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime is £110,000 for the 2016/17 financial year. This however is expected to be the last year of the London Crime Prevention funding. Funding for this initiative will need to be reviewed annually as this may change if cuts are required or if any of the grants cease. Any major variation in the funding could impact on the delivery of the strategy. Funding streams will be regularly reviewed to minimise this risk.

5.3 This strategy is a health priority and so any costs will be contained within the overall Public Health grant allocation

## 6. Legal Implications

Implications completed by: Dawn Pelle, Adult Care Lawyer

6.1 There are no legal implications with regards to this report.

## 7. Other Implications

7.1 **Risk Management** - Through approaches to service commissioning, there are mechanisms for ensuring that the risks around individuals who use substances are managed, jointly as necessary with the systems in place for offender management.

In terms of the delivery of the Strategy and its action plan the Community Safety Partnership Prevention Sub Group will have in place a risk management system to ensure that delivery remains on track and remedial action can be taken as necessary.

7.2 **Contractual Issues** - The Substance Misuse Strategy raises no immediate contractual issues and any arising from services proposed within the Strategy would be subject to separate reports as per the Council's constitutional requirements.

- 7.3 **Staffing Issues** – The strategic aims contained within the Strategy are to be delivered within existing Council and Partnership resources.
- 7.4 **Corporate Policy and Customer Impact** – the Key Deliverables that shape the action plan within the Strategy have incorporated the Council priorities.

- (i) The Strategy aims to reduce the harmful impact of substance misuse on the wider community
- (ii) Ensure everyone can access good quality healthcare when they need it and continue to enable access to effective treatment and promote sustained recovery
- (iii) Enable social responsibility by supporting residents to take responsibility for themselves, their homes and their community
- (iv) Protect the most vulnerable, keeping adults and children healthy and safe

In line with the visions of Ambition 2020, the commissioning of substance misuse services need to be less traditional and more efficient. Early intervention to support those that have been affected by substance misuse is imperative to prevent the next generation of problematic drug and alcohol users.

It would also contribute to the Council's commitment to growth by supporting those with substance misuse problems into employment.

- 7.5 **Safeguarding Children** - Substance use presents a range of behaviours that pose a risk to the individuals themselves and others around them, and can give rise to a range of safeguarding concerns, including domestic violence. The borough's systems for reporting and investigating both adult and child safeguarding concerns have established links to drug and alcohol services, and the Strategy recognises the need for commissioning interventions to continue to foster these links, and provide training for those involved in safeguarding. All agencies commissioned to work with adults and young people are aware of LBBB safeguarding procedures and must adhere to incident reporting as part of their contractual obligations.
- 7.6 **Health Issues** - The strategy supports priorities from the Health and Wellbeing Strategy by proposing work which will cause fewer adolescents and adults to problematically use substances
- 7.7 **Crime and Disorder Issues** - Substance misuse impacts on many areas of crime and disorder including anti social behaviour and offending behaviour. These implications have been extensively reviewed by the Community Safety Partnership in their approval of the Strategy.

**Public Background Papers Used in the Preparation of the Report:** None

**List of appendices:**

- **Appendix 1** - Substance Misuse Strategy 2016-20