

Report No.
ACS09123

London Borough of Bromley

PART 1 - PUBLIC

Decision Maker: **Public Protection and Safety Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee**
Adult and Community Services Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee

Date: **29 November 2011**
30 November 2011

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

TITLE: **Substance Misuse Commissioning Annual Report 2011**

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Ward: Borough Wide

1. Reason for report

This report is presented annually to the Adult and Community Services Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee and the Public Protection and Safety Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee to update them on the work of the Substance Misuse Services in respect of substance misuse treatment. The report covers areas of progress and activity in relation to specific aspects of performance over the last year.

1. **RECOMMENDATION**

1.1 The Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee are asked to:

- **Note the performance information contained within the report.**

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Public Protection and Safety Portfolio Plan 2009/2010, Building a Better Bromley, Local Area Agreement, Community Safety Strategy 2008 - 2011
 2. BBB Priority: Safer Bromley, Increasing Independence
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: £2,996,016
 2. Ongoing costs: £2,996,016
 3. Budget head/performance centre Drug Action Team – Budgets shared across LBB and PCT
 4. Total current budget for this head: £2,996,016
 5. Source of funding: Combination of Pooled Treatment Budgets, Partner Agency mainstream funding and Central Government Grant.
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Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional) –2FTE x Substance Misuse Co-ordinators plus 0.5 FTE administrative and 1FTE x data support
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours – N/A
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: No statutory requirement or Government guidance
 2. Call in: Call in is not applicable
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected) - Approximately 2000 people involved with substance misuse services at any time
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? N/A
2. Summary of Ward Councillor's comments: N/A

3. COMMENTARY

Background

- 3.1 Substance misuse services in Bromley are commissioned by the Council and Bromley NHS Business Support Unit and overseen by the Substance Misuse Board (previously the Drug Action Team Board) which comprises of representation from the local authority (children's services, adult services, and housing) health, probation, police and the voluntary sector.
- 3.2 The strategic aims for substance misuse services are developed annually through the partnership planning process and with the National Treatment Agency. This takes place in November of each year with a needs assessment being updated annually in April.
- 3.3 The overarching aims for substance misuse services are.
- To counter the spread of drugs and to take rigorous enforcement actions both against dealers and drug users through focused action on disrupting drug markets and tackling all drug and alcohol related crime to ensure Bromley continues to be a safer, stronger and vibrant community.
 - Drug users will be identified and directed into appropriate treatment to break the cycle of addiction and appropriate harm minimisation interventions will be provided for people where complete abstinence is not yet possible.
 - Ensure that particularly young people understand the health, social and legal consequences of drug and alcohol misuse.
 - Deliver these services ensuring positive outcomes for service users efficiently and effectively delivering value for money.

3.4 The delivery of these aims has been achieved this year through the following actions

3.4.1 Redesign of substance misuse services and tendering of these services with improvements in pathways and access: Bromley substance misuse services are currently provided by a range of providers for separate drug and alcohol services with a single point of contact, separate prescribing services and aftercare. Individuals who are in the criminal justice system and who are identified as having substance misuse problems are seen by the Drug Intervention Project and if appropriate referred to substance misuse services. Whilst the performance of these services is good, the access to services can be confusing and there is potential for duplication in assessments and some interventions offered.

A new service model has been developed and tendered it provides an integrated drug and alcohol service, improves access for individuals as well as simplifying the pathway, ensuring that there are approximate timeframes for each stage. This will ensure that individuals are aware of the services being offered and they will move through to abstinence in a shorter time.

The service will be delivered through three new individual service contracts these will complement the existing services of Rapid Prescribing and Shared Care.

- **Stabilisation and Assessment Service** - This service will assess individuals within a short time frame and ensure that they have the services required to stabilise them. Referrals will be made to the prescribing services and, once the individual is stable, to the recovery service.

- Recovery Service - This service will provide treatment interventions and support to ensure people become abstinent and will include work with Job Centre Plus to move people into work.
- Intensive Prescribing Service - is a substitute prescribing service for individuals for up to two years with the aim of people becoming abstinent during this time.

The new service will be in place for 1 December 2011 with all organisations users and carers being given information on the new services and contact information. Cri, a current provider in Bromley has been awarded all the adult services contracts.

The expansion of Needle Exchange for wider coverage and to deliver additional functions like provision of general healthcare information and leaflets at points of contact, health checks, supply of sterile injecting equipment and advice on safer injecting and disposal, reduces the health related harms to both the individual and the community as will increasing the rates of Hepatitis vaccination and screening across the borough.

3.4.2 Continuous improvement on number of people in treatment: Problematic drug users are defined as those using heroin and crack; whilst those in effective treatment are people retained in treatment for twelve weeks or more and successfully discharged. Bromley's numbers in treatment year to date increased to 820 in 2009/10. An 11.5% increase on 2008/09 figure (735). The improvement can be attributed to revisions made to the treatment system in 2008 which developed a more 'joined up' and systemic approach to working across services. However, whilst the rate of penetration into the problematic drug user population has improved, there are continuing challenges to increase the percentage of problematic drug users who stay in effective treatment. This will form a key strand of the priorities for the new integrated service.

3.4.3 Drug Intervention Programme: The Drug Intervention Programme involves identifying Class A drug misusing offenders as they enter the criminal justice system putting into action a range of interventions to deal with their behaviour, getting them 'out of crime and into treatment' and other support. The programme is funded through a ring fenced grant from the Home Office. Arrest Referral workers work at the police station and the court to engage offenders into treatment. Bromley performance is consistently good across all these areas ensuring that the grant level is maintained. Overall for 2010/11 the number of assessments at 221 has decreased compared to 249 in the previous year.

3.3.6 Commissioning of young peoples substance misuse service: The current service to children and young people (known as Bypass) is provided by KCA and works directly with children and young people who abuse substances, their parents, schools and other services. This service model was reviewed by commissioners in conjunction with stakeholders and it was agreed that the current model meet the needs of this group. It provides an integrated drug and alcohol service with one point of access, important links with the Local Authority Children and Families services, mental health services and schools. It also ensures that the education training and information remit is undertaken in a proactive way to engage with children and young people.

Nationally alcohol and cannabis are by far the most prevalent drugs of choice in the overall under 18's population. Trends in Bromley are in line with the national trends. In Bromley in 2010/11 the primary drugs of choice for young people who misuse substances is cannabis and alcohol at 48.5%. The numbers of young people in treatment to date for the year 2010/11 is 176. This represents a decrease on the previous year but an increase against 2008/09. Alcohol solely is the second most reported primary drug at 41%, an increase of 10% which is significantly higher than the London average. A full alcohol needs assessment has been

completed to establish a more accurate picture of alcohol misuse by young people and to identify how services can be reconfigured to meet the need.

3.3.7 Alcohol needs assessment and action plan: The alcohol needs assessment and action plan was developed over the last year, with partners signed up to the following actions which are underway and will be reported on next year. The plan focuses on the following areas of work

- **Community Safety:** Crime figures would indicate that although crime is decreasing there are areas which require further development whilst maintaining the existing initiatives and services. To continue to work with drug and alcohol agencies to ensure that contracts are sufficiently flexible to enable agencies to support local borough and police initiatives which promote access into services.
- **Prevention:** In line with the Chief Medical Officer’s guidance; agencies in Bromley will continue to communicate with parents, carers and professionals the message of strict abstinence for under 15s and supervised drinking if at all for the 15-17 age group to minimise alcohol harm both in the short term and in the long term Services will also provide increased alcohol awareness and education amongst young people highlighting the importance of accurate and consistent messages in relation to harm reduction, safer drinking limits, and prevention
- **Primary care:** GP’s and primary care services provide a valuable point of contact for individuals, both in terms of providing information on alcohol harm and also in identifying health consequences of alcohol consumption, support to GP’s to provide this contact is continuing by direct contact with GP’s and by continued participation in GP training information on the services available in Bromley.
- **Access to services:** Services in Bromley continue to meet the demands of people accessing services although there are a number of issues which need to be addressed, firstly that people aged 18-24 years appear to be accessing services less, work needs to be undertaken to understand what the obstacles may be and to ensure if necessary this age is targeted.. Further work will also be undertaken in the following areas: Increase the numbers of points of access to treatment for problematic drinkers, including expanding outreach services.
- **Information and data:** There is limited data on the effects of alcohol on the elderly this will be an area for further work.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The table below sets down the amounts and sources of funding available and the funding source. As part of the integration of health and social care commissioning work is underway to form an agreement for the pooling of these budgets which will be managed and monitored by substance misuse commissioning.

Budget	Banked by	Amount £	Used for
Pooled treatment budget (DH and Home Office grant)	PCT	1,373,635	Drug misuse treatment, ranging from the provision of advice, counselling and support to more complex medical interventions such as detoxification and substitute prescribing. This pooled treatment budget remains ring fenced.
Adult and Community Services	LBB	256,350	Funding allocated to meet needs of those requiring long term interventions following the completion of

			detoxification. For example provision of care management, day programmes or significant residential treatment.
Young People' Partnership Grant	LBB	53,500	Funding for Young People's Treatment Service, as well as other YP focussed services to support delivery
PCT Mainstream	PCT	1,066,224	Drugs Alcohol
Drug Intervention Programme (Home Office grant)	LBB	246,307	Funding for a DIP staff and other Criminal Justice specific posts. In addition an allocation for specialist prescribing
Total		2,996,016	

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The priorities for substance misuse supports the Council's Building a Better Bromley priority to build a safer and stronger community in the borough.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Personnel implications, Legal implications
Background Documents:	N/A