

HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD

Subject Heading:	Update on the progress of Havering Substance Misuse Strategy
Board Lead:	Mark Ansell, Director of Public Health
Report Author and contact details:	Anthony Wakhisi, Public Health Principal

The subject matter of this report deals with the following themes of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The wider determinants of health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase employment of people with health problems or disabilities • Develop the Council and NHS Trusts as anchor institutions that consciously seek to maximise the health and wellbeing benefit to residents of everything they do. • Prevent homelessness and minimise the harm caused to those affected, particularly rough sleepers and consequent impacts on the health and social care system.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lifestyles and behaviours <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The prevention of obesity • Further reduce the prevalence of smoking across the borough and particularly in disadvantaged communities and by vulnerable groups • Strengthen early years providers, schools and colleges as health improving settings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The communities and places we live in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realising the benefits of regeneration for the health of local residents and the health and social care services available to them • Targeted multidisciplinary working with people who, because of their life experiences, currently make frequent contact with a range of statutory services that are unable to fully resolve their underlying problem.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Local health and social care services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of integrated health, housing and social care services at locality level.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BHR Integrated Care Partnership Board Transformation Board <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Older people and frailty and end of life • Long term conditions • Children and young people • Mental health • Planned Care <div> Cancer Primary Care Accident and Emergency Delivery Board Transforming Care Programme Board </div>



SUMMARY

On behalf of the Combating drugs partnership (CDP), I will be presenting the final draft of the Havering substance misuse strategy. The following are the key highlights:

The draft strategy was out for consultation between 18th September and 5th November 2023. Over this period we received feedback from 39 online participants, engaged with 2 service user groups and several stakeholders.

The final draft incorporating feedback from the consultation was presented on 11th December to CDP and endorsed for onward approval process.

A full report of the consultation and response is included as appendix to the strategy document. Also included is a an equality health impact assessment report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members of the Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to

- consider the presentation content,
- comment on the strategy document, suggesting any amendments to the strategy as necessary, and
- agree that a final draft strategy that takes into account consultation responses be received by the Health and Wellbeing Board or the Chair for a final sign off onward submission for approval by the cabinet meeting in March 2024

REPORT DETAIL

A final draft of the On behalf of Havering Substance Misuse Strategy 2023 has been completed and is now ready for approval. This strategy was produced jointly with all key stakeholders and has been produced in response to the national and to replace the existing local strategy which expired in 2019.

Havering had a similar strategy called “Drug and Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy 2016- 19,” the revision of which was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, a new 10- year national drugs strategy called ‘From harm to hope: A 10- year drugs plan to cut crime and save lives’ was published by the government in December 2021. The national strategy was accompanied by a supplementary grant to increase capacity in local treatment system. The grant requires local partnerships to produce a new strategy. Thus Havering CDP drafted this strategy in response to the national drugs strategy thereby renewing the previous Havering strategy.

Our strategy covers all substances which have the potential for abuse and addiction, except tobacco. It treats addiction as a chronic (long-term) health condition and requires all relevant local agencies to work together to provide effective long-term support. It aims to tackle the stigma around addiction to

encourage individuals and families who are affected to get support, and to minimise community violence towards those with substance-misuse problems.

The draft strategy describes some key findings from the needs assessment; for example, it is estimated that 1 in 5 adults (around 41,000 people) in Havering drink excessive amount of alcohol and 14,000 16 to 74-year-olds use illicit drugs. Two workshops with local and regional partners and people with lived experience followed by direct communication with delivery partners informed the set of actions in the strategy.

Substance misuse and addiction affect more than just the person with dependency problems – they can affect the family and wider community in many ways. Substance misuse can lead to criminal behaviour including domestic violence, assaults, antisocial behaviour, theft and burglaries, sexual exploitation, slavery and gang violence. This is why the partners in Havering will work together to:

- break drug supply chains;
- deliver a world-class treatment and recovery system;
- achieve a generational shift in the demand for drugs; and
- reduce risk and harm to individuals, families and communities.

A plan to address these four key areas was developed through working with all key stakeholders such as the National Health Service (NHS), drug and alcohol treatment services, voluntary care sector, schools, Police, trading standards, licensing, Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), children services, adult services etc. To achieve our intended outcomes of reducing drug use and drug-related crime, harm and deaths, Havering CDP will monitor using national and local outcomes frameworks.

This strategy will be implemented over a five-year period commencing from the date of publication and will be reviewed at least annually by the Havering Combating Drugs Partnership and amendments made where necessary.

Feedback from the consultation and engagement with service users has been incorporated into the final draft and the Equality Health impact Assessment report is also included. Havering Combating Drugs Partnership has signed off the final and allowed submission to Health and Wellbeing Board, Place-based Partnership and Cabinet for noting and approval.

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

No specific implications and risks are identified as a result of agreeing the local strategic approach. Any decisions relating to the implementation of the Havering Strategy will be subject to the relevant governance arrangements of the individual agencies participating in the Health and Wellbeing Board. Havering CDP will have to continue to meet regularly and monitor the delivery of the strategy.

The risk of not publishing a new local strategy will be reputation as this is required through the national strategy and grant.



BACKGROUND PAPERS

The Havering Substance Misuse Strategy final draft.

Executive summary of Havering Combating Substance Misuse Strategy 2023-2028: https://consultation.havering.gov.uk/public-health/havering-combating-substance-misuse-strategy/supporting_documents/Havering%20CSM%20Strategy%20ExcSum%20Consult%20Draft%201.pdf

From harm to hope: A 10-year drugs plan to cut crime and save lives (29/4/2022) <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/from-harm-to-hope-a-10-year-drugs-plan-to-cut-crime-and-save-lives/from-harm-to-hope-a-10-year-drugs-plan-to-cut-crime-and-save-lives>

Havering drug and alcohol harm reduction strategy 2016-19 <https://democracy.havering.gov.uk/documents/s18103/Item%2012%20-%209b%202016%20D%20A%20Harm%20Reduction%20Strategy%20DRAFT%20v0%202.pdf>

Consultation Draft of Havering Combating Substance Misuse Strategy 2023-2028 https://consultation.havering.gov.uk/public-health/havering-combating-substance-misuse-strategy/user_uploads/haveringcsm-strategy- -sep2023_v0.6.pdf

Frequently asked questions regarding the strategy and consultation: https://consultation.havering.gov.uk/public-health/havering-combating-substance-misuse-strategy/supporting_documents/Havering%20CSM%20Strategy%20FAQs.pdf