

Agenda Item 6

EXECUTIVE

7 MARCH 2023

SUBSTANCE MISUSE GRANT MONIES

On 22 February 2023 the Adults and Community Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee agreed to support the four recommendations to the Executive.

The Committee also agreed to make the following additional statements to the Executive:

- (1) The Committee recognises that the four grants available are focused on services for the treatment of alcohol and drug misuse. These services support a wider drug and alcohol strategy, which includes an emphasis on prevention. The Committee supports this emphasis, as the use of drugs can have a severe impact on individuals, families and their communities, and successful prevention ultimately reduces the need for treatment services. The drug and alcohol strategy has been developed by the Lincolnshire Drug and Alcohol Partnership, which includes representation from the Police, the Probation Service, the NHS and district councils. The Committee would like to see all the services provided by these organisations, which would support the strategy, maintained.
- (2) The Committee would like to see outcome measures and benchmarking applied to the use of the additional funding. For example, increased funding from the Government during 2022-23 had led to the case load of each substance misuse support worker reducing from 70 to 55 clients, which would be expected to lead to improved outcomes. The emphasis on assertive outreach workers was also expected to improve outcomes.
- (3) The Committee recognises that it is usually the Government or national third sector organisations, which take the lead on campaigns highlighting the risk of drugs and alcohol misuse, and suggests that consideration might be given to a local campaign, as has taken place previously, to complement any national campaign.

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