

### ITEM 5: SUSTANCE MISUSE SERVICES - RECOMMISSIONING

On 28 June 2023, the Adults and Community Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee agreed to support the two recommendations on the recommissioning of Substance Misuse Services. The Committee recognises the serious impacts of alcohol and drugs misuse on individuals, their families, and communities as a whole.

The Committee has been advised that the number of dependent alcohol users in Lincolnshire is estimated at 7,000 and the number of crack cocaine and opiate users is at 4,000. The Committee feels that these estimates represent a likely understatement of the level of need. In view of this, the Committee's view is that the service is may only be able to 'scratch the surface' in terms of tackling needs, but acknowledges the existing constraints on expenditure.

The Committee also makes the following observations:

- (1) Development of the New Contract – The Committee recognises that there has been significant work in developing the proposed content of the contract, including a detailed review of the existing service, and an assessment of need through the joint strategic needs assessment. This has led to several changes, including the treatment service and the recovery service being placed in one contract lot.
- (2) Public Health Grant for Substance Misuse Family Support Service (Paragraph 6.1 of the report) – The Committee has been assured that the figure of £60,000 of public health grant for the substance misuse family support service does not represent the expected level of expenditure on this service. Subsequent to the meeting, it was confirmed that the amount of expenditure on the family support service was expected to be £240,000 per annum (funded by £60,000 public health grant and £180,000 supplemental grant). The remaining supplemental grant funding would be allocated to treatment and recovery services.
- (3) Signposting and Pathways into the Service – The Committee emphasises that professionals and communities need to be aware of the services offered, including digital routes into the service and the facility of self-referral. In addition, an aspiration could be that existing public sector assets are used to enhance local provision, improving access and the range of services on offer, in this contract and contracts for other services, that would benefit from a local community base.
- (4) Investment in People and Communities – During the Committee's discussion, a figure of £1 expenditure on treatment services leading to an estimated £4 of savings from reduced demand on other services was cited. The Committee has been advised government is developing ways to capture the range of benefits from investment in substance misuse services as part of the national strategy, which when available Lincolnshire would follow. Irrespective of these figures, the Committee has concluded that service represents a direct investment in the wellbeing of people and communities.

- (5) Key Performance Indicators – The Committee looks forward to the development and implementation of the key performance indicators, as outlined in paragraph 9.5 of the report, with these indicators supporting a high-performing service.