

Adult Services & Health Select Committee

A meeting of Adult Services & Health Select Committee was held on Monday, 3rd September, 2007.

Present: Cllr Mrs Ann Cains (Chairman), Cllr Jim Beall and Cllr Ken Dixon.

Officers: R Hill (CESC - Head of Adult Strategy), S Maddison (CESC - Joint Strategic Commissioner Drugs, Prison Healthcare and Social Inclusion), K. Azam (CESC - Joint Strategic Commissioner); G Birtle, P K Bell (LD).

Also in attendance: J. Fraser – Public Health Representative; Dr J. Berry – GP Representative.

Apologies: were submitted on behalf of Cllrs Apedaile, Cockerill, Mrs Craggs, Gardner, Javed and Mrs Nesbitt.

ASH Declarations of Interest

16/07

There were no interests declared.

ASH Minutes - 6th August 2007

17/07

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd September, 2007 were agreed as a correct record.

ASH Review of Alcohol Services

18/07

As part of the Review of Alcohol Services J. Fraser – Public Health Representative; Dr J. Berry – GP Representative; S. Maddison – Joint Strategic Commissioner Drugs, Prison Healthcare and Social Inclusion and K. Azam – Joint Strategic Commissioner were in attendance at the meeting to present evidence to Members.

S.Maddison outlined that Drugs Action Team (DAT) was mainly responsible for helping drug users, funding streams that come in to the DAT are ring fenced and treasury linked for use on drugs and can not be used for alcohol with the exception of the Young Persons Substance Misuse Grant (YPSMG) funds. It (YPSMG) funds a service for Young People with Drug and Alcohol problems STASH (Stockton Together Against Substance Harm). STASH provide alcohol interventions for young people in need of specialist interventions. After specialist intervention the client would be referred back into normal everyday services as soon as possible. The budget figures were also reported to Members. A large percentage of the budget went into STASH. A list was provided of all the ways people could find out about STASH.

It was reported that 4 years ago the main problematic substance for young people in the Borough was drugs but evidence is now that the most problematic substance for young people is alcohol.

K. Azam – Joint Strategic Commissioner reported that his service was preparing a Young Persons Alcohol and Drug Misuse Strategy. A draft would be put out for wide consultation in the near future.

Members discussed the benefits and the drawbacks of having a DAAT (Drugs and Alcohol Action Team). It was felt that there was an expectation that a DAAT would help with the alcohol problem but without the necessary resources this would prove difficult.

Members received information on the service provision offered in Primary Care and detail of how this operated in the Borough (Local Enhanced Service Information).

Members felt that to identify the extent of the alcohol problem they needed to identify how many people in the Borough have an alcohol problem.

It was also reported that the four posts that had gone into NRF had made a huge difference.

J. Fraser outlined that a Gap Analysis Paper was being produced and that Dr Cainer may be available to give evidence to Members.

The Chair thanked the witnesses for their attendance at the meeting.

CONCLUDED that the evidence be received.

**ASH
19/07**

Work Programme

The Work Programme for 2007/08 was noted.