

PEOPLE'S BOARD

25 September 2019

MULTI AGENCY ACTION PLAN FOR TACKLING ALCOHOL HARM

Update on Priority Workstreams

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide a progress update on the top 3 priority workstreams within the Multi Agency Action Plan for tackling Alcohol Related Harm in St Helens for delivery in 2019/20.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Reducing harm from alcohol was identified as one of the Peoples Board's priorities for action in the Peoples Plan (2017-2020). The overarching goal was to improve outcomes for people at risk of alcohol abuse and reduce the number who suffer from alcohol harm.

2.2 In response to this, a multi-agency task group was established in 2018 and two workshops were held to develop an action plan. This action plan was presented in full to the Peoples Board in January 2019. It included actions across three key areas:

- i) **Prevention and Early Intervention:** Encouraging responsible drinking attitudes and behaviour. Identifying and reducing alcohol risk.
- ii) **Treatment and Recovery:** Delivering accessible, high quality treatment, shaped by service users and supported by recovery champions. Integrated working to support people with multiple & complex needs. Supporting children and families where alcohol problems are identified
- iii) **Enforcement and Control:** Reducing crime and anti-social behaviour as a result of alcohol misuse. Influencing government policy and local licensing decisions to reduce the availability of cheap, high strength alcohol, and supporting a safe, thriving and vibrant night-time economy

2.3 The Peoples Board requested oversight of **three 'priority' workstreams** within the action plan that will be delivered during 2019/20. Short progress reports are presented in Table 1. The Board will also receive a detailed presentation on the Building Bridges Innovation Funded project to support families affected by alcohol.

Table 1. Reducing Alcohol Harm in St Helens – Update on Our Top 3 Priorities for 2019/20

Priority	Part	Key Actions	Lead Responsibility	Timescale	Progress
(1) Families experiencing alcohol harms are identified, and supported	i)	Delivery and evaluation of the 'Building Bridges' programme (supported by the National Innovation Fund) to support Children of Alcohol Dependent parents	CGL - Rachel Fance Public Health - Michelle Loughlin	January 2019 to Dec 2021	<p>In November 2018 St Helens Council successfully secured £275,772 of grant funding from the Department of Health and Social Care and the Department for Work and Pensions for 'Building Bridges', an ambitious and innovative new programme to identify & support children of alcohol dependent parents.</p> <p>St Helens is one of only nine local authorities across the country to be awarded funds. The Peoples Board will receive a presentation about this work and the progress made so far.</p>

Priority	Part	Tasks	Lead Responsibility	Timescale	Progress
(2) People who present at hospital for alcohol related conditions receive treatment and any support to meet their wider needs.	i)	Review, develop and secure the hospital alcohol liaison nurse service	Public Health – Michelle Loughlin	1 Jan to 31 March 2019	<p>A service review has been completed. It suggested the Alcohol liaison service has contributed to slowing the rise in alcohol admissions and a reduction in average length of stay needed in hospital.</p> <p>The review suggested NHS costs savings may have been made as a result of the service:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In one year 2,784 A&E attenders received a pre admission assessment from the service. For every 3 people seen pre-admission, research suggests 1 future admission could be avoided. This could mean 928 potentially avoided admissions, and cost saving of around £1.6 million. • A reduction in the rate of increase in alcohol specific admissions for St Helens is estimated to have meant 344 fewer admissions in one year, with an estimated cost saving of over £500,000.

					The NHS Long Term Plan recommends that Alcohol Care Teams are established in Acute Hospital Trusts. The Alcohol Liaison service at St Helens & Knowsley NHS Trust will continue to be commissioned and developed in line with national guidance on Alcohol Care Teams.
	ii)	Establish a frequent alcohol attenders' system to reduce unnecessary repeat hospital admissions by ensuring peoples wider social needs are met outside the NHS setting.	Alcohol Liaison – Lisa Worsley CGL- Rachel Fance Public Health- Michelle Loughlin	March 2019 to September 2019	<p>A system is in place in the trust to identify and support patients who frequently attend hospital, including those who attend frequently for alcohol related issues.</p> <p>A system of assertive in-reach is in place from the community alcohol team a social work team also work alongside the alcohol liaison team.</p> <p>Work is underway to develop a system where patients receive an enhanced package of care outside of hospital, designed to meet their wider social needs eg debt, housing, access to community alcohol service.</p>
	iii)	Develop the Hospital to Home pathway / protocol to improve treatment and reduce length of stay needed in hospital	Alcohol Liaison – Lisa Worsley CGL- Rachel Fance	March 2019 to September 2019	A hospital to home pathway has been reviewed and established to support earlier safe discharge from hospital. Members of the community alcohol teams in St Helens, Knowsley and Halton are providing in-reach support to patients in touch with the hospital alcohol liaison service in A&E and on the wards at Whiston. Their primary role is to engage people into the community service, facilitate access to Mutual Aid, harm reduction and assessing support needs in the community after discharge.

Priority	Part	Tasks	Lead Responsibility	Timescale	Progress
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<p>(3) A positive drinking culture and vibrant safe night time economy is developed</p>	<p>i)</p>	<p>Support the local ambition to obtain Purple Flag Status across the Town Centre</p>	<p>Town Centre Joint Action Group – Roy Benyon (Chair) and Glenn Taggart</p>	<p>Jan 2019 to Dec 2019</p>	<p>The Purple Flag standard is an accreditation process similar to the Green Flag award for parks and Blue Flag for beaches. It allows members of the public to identify town & city centres that offer an entertaining, diverse, safe and enjoyable night out.</p> <p>Managed by the Association of Town and City Management (ATCM) the accreditation process takes towns and cities through a set of standards, and good practice examples all designed to help transform the evening & night time economy</p> <p>A project group is in place under the Town Centre’s Joint Action Group. Membership includes council, police, fire & rescue, substance misuse service, licensees, licensing, St Helens Chamber and will include elected member representation, St Helens College, the Street Pastors, and PubWatch, Sankey Canal Restoration, Danny Fox Foundation, taxi firms, and residents associations at the Purple Flag working group meeting organised for Thursday 15th August at 10am.</p> <p>ATCM met with St Helens on the 16th July to discuss progress in preparation for a ‘walkaround’ self-assessment evening planned for 30th August</p> <p>The communications team will prepare a brief for licensees and other night time economy businesses, to give them:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · a summary of what Purple Flag is · date of the walkarounds (main self assessment 30th Aug and follow-up self assessment on 13th Sept) · what it means for them (ie it’s about the town centre as a whole, not them being singled out etc) <p>We are working towards a submission deadline for accreditation on 11th October, with the assessment by ATCM likely for mid- to late November</p>

Priority	Part	Tasks	Lead Responsibility	Timescale	Progress
	ii)	Develop the Best Bar None Scheme to improve standards in licenced premises	Licensing- Lorraine Simpson	Jan 2019 to Dec 2019	<p>Best Bar None is an Accreditation Scheme with National Awards supported by the Home Office and the drinks industry. It aims to promote responsible management and operation of alcohol licensed premises.</p> <p>First piloted in Manchester in 2003 the scheme improved standards in the Evening and Night Time Economy, and has been adopted by 75 town and cities across the UK.</p> <p>Four assessors have been trained locally from council and partner agencies and work is underway to encourage local licensed premises to participate in the scheme.</p> <p>A number of premises have engaged in discussion, with two currently identified to participate in the assessment process to be completed in September. These are Sabroso on George Street and Bar 44 on Westfield Street.</p>

3. **IMPACT**

These three priority workstreams cover each of the three key strategic areas; prevention and early intervention, treatment and recovery and enforcement and control.

These three priority workstreams are designed to:

- Reduced levels of alcohol harm and domestic abuse within families.
- Protection of children and young people who may be at risk
- Support front line staff to identify and respond to alcohol related risk in families
- Develop a multi agency response to identify and better meet the needs of those who repeatedly attend hospital due to alcohol
- Reduce the number of people who need to attend hospital due to alcohol and the length of time they need to stay in hospital.
- Promote a culture within the Borough where people drink responsibly.
- Make a positive contribution to the development of a vibrant and safe night time economy in the Town Centre.

5. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Peoples Board:

- Notes progress made against the 3 priority workstreams for 2019-2020

6. **RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED DECISION**

ALCOHOL RELATED HARM AND HEALTH INEQUALITY WILL CONTINUE TO RISE IN THE BOROUGH IF NO ACTION IS TAKEN

7. **OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

Issue	Implications Identified
Legal	None
Financial	Not directly but effective partnership action should reduce demand for services
Anti-Poverty	The impact of alcohol harm is generally greatest on the more deprived segments of our population
Effects on existing Policy	The proposal is in line with the Peoples Plan 2017-2020
Effects on other Activities	None
Human Rights	None
Equalities	Alcohol related harm is associated with significant health inequality
Asset Management	None
Health	Will improve Health and Wellbeing by reducing alcohol related risk, harm, illness

	and mortality
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BACKGROUND PAPERS -The following list of documents was used to complete this report and they are available from the Contact Officer named above;

NONE