

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET

ALCOHOL MISUSE AND HEALTH

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To update the Cabinet on the visit of the Alcohol National Support Team and subsequent Support Plan

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The National Support Team visit, took place last autumn and the feedback meeting was in early 2010. However work on developing the NST support plan was delayed until April 2010 to allow existing capacity to focus on developing and implementing the contract for the new community alcohol service.
- 2.2 The report of the National Support Team took in to account many of the findings of the scrutiny panel, published last year. In addition it proposed a partnership wide visioning process at LSP level to engage all partners in the cross cutting theme of alcohol harm reduction.
- 2.3 At a stakeholder meeting held in June it was agreed to hold the visioning event in Mid-September. It was also agreed that there should be an Executive Strategy Group composed of organisational representatives at a senior level, supported by a Delivery Group. Both these groups are planned to meet in September closely following the visioning event.
- 2.3 An update report was considered and approved by the Safer Neighbourhoods Strategy Board at its meeting on the 18 March 2010. The Board also resolved to forward the report to this Cabinet meeting for its information and consideration. This paper is in effect an updated version of that report.
- 2.4 The Healthier Communities and Older People Scrutiny Panel published its report on Alcohol Misuse and Health in May 2009. Work on the 15 recommendations in the report is ongoing and will be incorporated as part of the visioning process and subsequent refresh of the Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 Endorse the NST recommendations and associated support plan.
- 3.2 Support the development of a North Lincolnshire vision for dealing with alcohol issues, via the Local Strategic Partnership and in particular North Lincolnshire Council's contribution to that process. It is expected that this visioning process will pick up all the current drivers for change, nationally and across the local partnership in respect of alcohol and specifically include the recommendations of the National Support Team and the Scrutiny Panel.
- 3.3 Following the visioning process, support and contribute to the development of a refreshed Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy and the formation of an Executive Strategy Group and an operational Delivery Group to oversee the process and its delivery. It is anticipated that refresh of the Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy will incorporate a response to both the scrutiny report and the NST reports, referred to above.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

- 4.1 A new vision for alcohol as an LSP cross cutting theme will help to create ownership of alcohol as a strategic issue across the partnership and achieve an integrated response.
- 4.2 Expected outcomes will be a reduction in NI39 - alcohol related hospital admissions (and its parallel NHS indicator, Vital Sign C26), a reduction in alcohol related violent crime, sexual assaults, teenage pregnancies. It could also be expected to achieve a narrowing of the health inequalities gap, an improvement in health and well being and a decrease in alcohol fuelled anti-social behaviour and public perceptions of it.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)

- 5.1 Immediate resource implications would be limited to the involvement of appropriate members and/or officers in the visioning process and subsequent steering group/delivery group meetings.
- 5.2 The development of a joint strategic vision for North Lincolnshire will require a partnership approach and appropriate funding decisions on the outcome of the process and delivery of related action plans will need to be considered by all partners.
- 5.3 The Safer Neighbourhoods Strategy Board have commissioned a review of the substance misuse commissioning team (due to report in September) and one aspect of the brief is to identify how the partnership can fund alcohol commissioning and associated work which is currently unfunded.

6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, ENVIRONMENTAL, DIVERSITY, SECTION 17 - CRIME AND DISORDER, RISK AND OTHER)

6.1 The process as described will assist in the delivery of the Council's section 17 responsibilities.

7. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION

7.1 The NST report itself was compiled following extensive interviews with stakeholders.

7.2 The report has already been considered and accepted by the Safer Neighbourhoods Strategic Board and the NHS North Lincolnshire Board.

7.3 Neighbourhood and Environment colleagues have been consulted and will be playing a key role in the strategic steering group and associated activity.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 That the Cabinet endorse and support the report

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report

Report of the National Support Team