

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE : 3 NOVEMBER 2005

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR ALCOHOL AND DRUG TREATMENT

Report by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Social Work Committee of new resources for the treatment of problematic alcohol and drug use.
- 1.2 To advise committee of tender for a new community based alcohol rehabilitation service for Ayrshire.
- 1.3 To seek approval to tender for a new community based drugs rehabilitation service.

2. BACKGROUND

Alcohol Misuse

- 2.1 Problematic alcohol use in Scotland in 2002/03 was estimated to have cost social work services £96.7M. (Source: 'Alcohol Misuse in Scotland Trends and Costs Update', Scottish Executive, 2004)
- 2.2 On 1 July 2005, the Scottish Executive announced additional resources of £351,000 for the treatment and rehabilitation of problematic alcohol users in Ayrshire for year 2005/06.
- 2.3 This additional funding, routed via health was allocated to Ayrshire Drug and Alcohol Action Team (ADAT) who are the strategic partnership charged with the implementation of the National Drug and Alcohol Strategies at a local level.
- 2.4 Ayrshire Alcohol and Drug Alcohol Team has agreed to develop separate treatment and rehabilitation services for people recovering from problematic alcohol abuse.
- 2.5 The treatment service will be managed by Health and will cost £153,000. This money will be allocated directly to Health. This has been supported by the multi agency Joint Planning Implementation groups in North, South and East Ayrshire.
- 2.6 The commissioning of the rehabilitation service will be led by South Ayrshire Council and has been supported by the multi agency Joint Planning and Implementation groups in North and East Ayrshire. This service will cost £198,000.

- 2.7 This alcohol rehabilitation service will provide a rehabilitation programme for problem alcohol abuse and will focus on providing practical support and assistance to reintroduce people to training, employment and educational opportunities

Drug Misuse

- 2.8 In December 2004, additional resources were announced by the Scottish Executive to tackle drug misuse. In July of 2005, NHS Ayrshire and Arran was awarded £117,000
- 2.9 ADAT led local consultation on these additional resources for drug misuse services and this resulted in approval from the Scottish Executive for an abstinence based drugs rehabilitation programme for Ayrshire.
- 2.10 South Ayrshire Council will lead on the commissioning process on behalf of East Ayrshire Council, North Ayrshire Council and NHS Ayrshire and Arran.
- 2.11 The drug rehabilitation programme which is planned to run for an 18 month pilot will aim to tackle relapse via motivational techniques developed in the USA but running successfully in Highlands within the Northern Criminal Justice Partnership.

3. PROGRESS IN EAST AYRSHIRE

- 3.1 East Ayrshire Council in partnership with North and South Ayrshire and NHS Ayrshire and Arran provide community alcohol support services via Ayrshire Council on Alcohol. Demand for this service in East Ayrshire has led to waiting lists. The development of additional community support networks will lead to increased service provision for problem drinkers, their families and carers.
- 3.2 The new drugs support programme will provide drug users with the necessary skills via the teaching of problem solving techniques and coping strategies that may enable them to lead drug free lives thereby increasing the opportunity for community re-integration.
- 3.3 New addiction services will be required to submit regular monitoring reports detailing their impact on alcohol and drug misuse in East Ayrshire.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Funding for both services is provided by additional alcohol and drug resources allocated by the Scottish Executive to Ayrshire Drug and Alcohol Action Team (ADAT) and held by NHS Ayrshire and Arran.

5. LEGAL AUTHORITY/IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 As funding is provided by the Scottish Executive via NHS Ayrshire and Arran, there are no financial or resource implications for East Ayrshire Council.

6. COMMUNITY PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The treatment of problematic alcohol users corresponds with the two key community planning themes of improving health and improving community safety. Alcohol continues to be a major contributor to poor health in East Ayrshire and was responsible for 1075 admissions to hospital in 2003/04.
- 6.2 Alcohol use in terms of binge drinking, intoxication and street disorder has a negative impact on the feelings of personal safety within local communities.
- 6.3 The Community Learning Plans of Kilmarnock North, Northern Area, Cumnock and Doon Valley specifically mention substance misuse.
- 6.4 The local substance misuse Joint Planning and Implementation Group (JPIG) that comprises key community planning partners such as health, police, and East Ayrshire Council officers as well as representatives from the voluntary sector have scrutinised and endorsed the proposal.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 Members of the Committee are invited to:-
- (i) note allocation of money from the Scottish Executive;
 - (ii) advise of the tendering and commissioning process being led by South Ayrshire Council; and
 - (iii) otherwise note the contents of the report.

John Mulgrew
Executive Director Educational and Social Services
11th October 2005
Enc (0)

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Ayrshire and Arran Alcohol & Drug Action Team Proposals for New Alcohol Money
2. Ayrshire and Arran Alcohol & Drug Action Team Abstinence Service Proposal – ADAT Priority 2

For further information please contact: Sally Ann Kelly, Senior Manager Children and Families and Criminal Justice, telephone: 01563 576907

IMPLEMENTATION OFFICER: JACKIE DONNELLY