

**REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER, ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH**

**THE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COMBATING SUBSTANCE MISUSE PARTNERSHIP (THE PARTNERSHIP) STRATEGY AND DELIVERY PLAN 2023-2025**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek approval of the Nottinghamshire Combating Substance Misuse Partnership Strategy and Delivery Plan 2023-2025
2. This is a key decision due to the anticipated impact on multiple electoral divisions in the County. It has been informed by the Substance Misuse Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and the Health Needs Assessment.

**Information**

**Strategy Context**

3. The Government's [Drug Strategy: From Harm to Hope](#) was published in December 2021 to combat illegal drugs by cutting off the supply of drugs by criminal gangs and giving people who use drugs a route to a productive and drug-free life. The strategy is underpinned by investment of over £3 billion over the next three years, with the aim to reduce drug-related crime, death, harm, and overall drug use. The three strategic priorities of the strategy are:

- Priority 1: Break drug supply chains
- Priority 2: Deliver a world-class treatment and recovery system
- Priority 3: Achieve a generational shift in demand for drugs

4. Nottinghamshire has so far been allocated over £8,000,000 in From Harm to Hope grants, which are aimed at delivering Priority 2: Deliver a world-class treatment and recovery system. These allocations were confirmed by the Office of Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2023 and are a continuation from the grants allocations in 2021-2022, this is detailed below:

<b>From Harm to Hope Grant</b>	<b>Year 1 2022/23</b>	<b>Year 2 2023/24</b>	<b>Year 3 2024/25</b>
Supplementary Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery Grant	£850,409	£1,656,644	£2,718,779
In Patient Detoxification Grant (as part of East Midlands Consortium)	£693,196 (of which £128,203 for Nottinghamshire)	£693,196 (of which £128,203 for Nottinghamshire)	£693,196 (of which £128,203 for Nottinghamshire)
Individual Placement Scheme Grant	£138,936	£170,082	£176,530
Substance Misuse and Housing Grant	£38,231 Low amount due to what we can realistically spend in this financial year	£899,248	Amount to be confirmed
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,720,772</b>	<b>£3,419,170</b>	<b>£3,588,505</b>

5. The Supplementary Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery Grant must be spent on a menu of interventions defined by OHID which improves substance misuse treatment outcomes and increases the number of people who present to treatment. This funding will therefore be used to expand on the provision of the current service provider, Change Grow Live, via a contract variation.
6. The operational plans for Year 2 of the Supplementary Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery Grant spend must be submitted to OHID by 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023. Nottinghamshire County Council has negotiated an extension of this deadline to 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023 and is currently finalising the submission, in line with the Strategy and Delivery Plan proposed below and as agreed with the Combating Substance Misuse Partnership for Nottinghamshire. They will be submitted by 20<sup>th</sup> March and shared with the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health and the Cabinet Member for Children and Families prior to this.
7. Nottinghamshire County Council lead on the East Midlands Consortium for the Inpatient Grant and commissioned Framework Housing Association for three years (2022-2025) to deliver detoxification services to residents. £693,196 describes the full value for the Consortium; the allocation for Nottinghamshire is £128,203.
8. The Placement Grant is an evidence-based programme which aims to support people in substance misuse treatment to gain sustained employment and started in November 2021. The additional funds up to 2024/25 will be allocated to the existing contract in place with Change Grow Live via a contract variation.
9. Nottinghamshire County Council has been identified by the Department of Levelling up, Housing and Communities as eligible to receive funding for a programme of housing support interventions for those who use substances under the From Harm to Hope Strategy. The Substance Misuse and Housing Grant will provide funding for a programme of housing support in a targeted number of areas to deliver interventions for people in drug and alcohol treatment with a housing need. The total amount of funding for the first two years will be £937,479.

## Nottinghamshire Combating Substance Misuse Partnership (The Partnership)

10. The Partnership was approved as an outside body at the [July 2022 Cabinet](#). The Council is a member of The Partnership which is a multi-agency forum accountable for delivering the outcomes of the From Harm to Hope Strategy. It will provide a single setting for understanding and addressing shared challenges related to substance use-related harm, based on the local context and need. Other members include the Police and Crime Commissioner, the Chief Constable and the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board. The Council will work closely with these to address the causes, treatment and recovery needs and consequences of substance use for the population of Nottinghamshire.
11. It has an obligation under the From Harm to Hope Strategy to develop an initial three year local strategy delivery plan. This will implement the Government's From Harm to Hope commitments and also the recommendations from the [Nottinghamshire Substance Misuse Joint Strategic Needs Assessment](#) and Health Needs Assessments. Reporting on an annual basis on progress on the local implementation of the From Harm to Hope Strategy is required by the National Joint Combating Drugs Unit. This is done using the National Outcomes Framework.
12. The resulting local Nottinghamshire Combating Substance Misuse Partnership Strategy and Delivery Plan also:
  - a. Includes a local fourth priority - the Bigger Picture: Reducing Health Inequalities and Tackling Wider Determinants. This recognises the wider reasons for people using drugs and alcohol.
  - b. Places an equal focus on alcohol as well as drugs, recognising the greater level of alcohol abuse in the County and that it is a priority for the [Nottinghamshire Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy](#) and the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care System Health Inequalities Strategy.
  - c. Seeks to provide an additional focus for integrated partnership working between the large number of organisations involved in implementing From Harm to Hope.
13. The first Nottinghamshire Combating Substance Misuse Partnership Strategy and Delivery Plan has been endorsed by The Partnership at its meeting on 25 January 2023.
14. Although a partnership strategy, the Nottinghamshire Combating Substance Misuse Partnership Strategy and Delivery Plan will contribute significantly to the delivery of the vision and ambitions set out in [The Nottinghamshire Plan 2021-31](#). In particular:
  - Ambition 1: Helping our people live healthier and more independent lives
  - Ambition 2: Supporting communities and families
  - Ambition 3: Keeping children and vulnerable adults and communities safeIt is now being presented to Cabinet for adoption by the Council.

## Background of Need

15. The infographic in **Appendix 1** gives a summary of the need surrounding substance misuse in Nottinghamshire. The key facts are:

- a. Local estimates suggest that there could be in the region of at least 175,600 individuals in Nottinghamshire who use substances frequently and could benefit from a substance misuse intervention, with 12,800 dependant on substances. These figures are likely to be under-estimates due to the hidden nature of some substance misuse<sup>1</sup>.
  - b. Nottinghamshire has a greater unmet need for alcohol compared to drugs. This is the reason for the equal emphasis on alcohol and drugs in the Local Strategy.
  - c. Substance misuse is associated with a wide range of health and social issues and has enormous health and social care financial costs.
  - d. Anyone could be at risk of developing a substance misuse problem during their lives. Everyone has the potential to develop an addiction to a health harming behaviour.
  - e. There are recognised risk and protective factors at different stages of life, and these are inextricably linked to the family and community environment. Certain populations are particularly at risk.
  - f. Substance misuse does not exist in isolation. Effectively addressing a community's substance misuse issues means addressing the wider determinants of health: the social, economic and environmental factors that impact on peoples' health.
16. The Partnership outlines how it will address these issues and prevent residents from misusing substances but also support and treat those who do to enable them to live healthier and happier lives and remain independent for longer within the new Nottinghamshire Combating Substance Misuse Partnership Strategy and Delivery Plan 2023-2025. This is provided in **Appendices 2 and 3**.

### Summary of the Combating Substance Misuse Strategy and Delivery Plan

17. The ambitions of the new strategy align with other plans across the Nottinghamshire system. These include [The Nottinghamshire Plan](#), The Nottinghamshire Integrated Care System's Health Inequalities Strategy and [The Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Plan](#).
18. The overarching objectives for the three year life of the strategy are:

Overarching Objective	Impact on Nottinghamshire People and Communities
A sensitive and resilient co-produced process will be fully embedded for the voices of those who use or could use substance misuse services to be heard and influence the work of The Partnership and the implementation of this strategy	By working with and empowering people through co-production we can transform power into individual and communities, enhancing their autonomy, empowerment and trust <sup>2</sup> . A population that has these elements can more readily address the wider determinants that underpin (their) health mentioned above, leading to improved health and wellbeing.
Services that come into contact with the at-risk and most vulnerable populations	By identifying people who need to access substance misuse services early, we can treat

<sup>1</sup> Paragraphs a-f are taken from Nottinghamshire Substance Misuse JSNA

<sup>2</sup> [The Value of Co-Production: Healthwatch Suffolk](#)

<p>will routinely and systematically include substance misuse in the Risk Assessments they complete, and referrals should be made as appropriate, especially regarding parental substance misuse and the impact of that on the child(ren)/family unit.</p>	<p>people early and prevent escalation to the wide range of health and social issues and health and social care financial costs. The impact on Nottinghamshire People is likely to be a healthier population overall and more available funding for other important health and social care issues.</p>
<p>The Partnership will own and lead on pathways for those who use substances to ensure that they are fully integrated across the system. In particular, priority areas are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•individuals experiencing co-existing mental health and substance use issues</li> <li>•individuals in the criminal justice system</li> <li>•individuals who are drinking alcohol at health harming levels</li> <li>•individuals who are experiencing multiple disadvantages for example Substance Misuse, homelessness, Domestic Violence</li> <li>•children and young people whose parents are misusing substances</li> <li>•individuals leaving prison who have substance use issues</li> <li>•more evidence-based prevention activity for those who are at risk of substance use.</li> </ul>	<p>As can be seen, opposite and stated above, there are a number of people who are more at risk of substance misuse, a stark inequality in the population. By improving prevention and treatment pathways for those who are more at risk, we will reduce those inequalities. The beneficial impacts of reducing health inequalities are both economic and social<sup>3</sup>. Social benefits include a fairer society which means people are equally empowered to live their lives independently. Economic benefits include a healthier population that will not only reduce the cost to the health and social care services but also be more economically active in the County.</p>
<p>Eliminate barriers and challenges to collecting and sharing data across public sector services regarding substance misusers that come into contact with those services (including hospital Emergency Departments, primary care, maternity services, Police and criminal justice services (including prisons, probation and community rehabilitation companies)) and identify any opportunities.</p>	<p>Improving the quality of data plays a role in improving services and decision making, as well as being able to identify trends and patterns (including identifying health inequalities), draw comparisons, predict future events and outcomes, and evaluate services<sup>4</sup>. Thus the impact of improving data quality is a more effective public health, healthcare and social care system meaning the population can be supported to have better health and wellbeing.</p>
<p>Develop and maintain system wide alignment and oversight of substance misuse funding and spend in order to obtain visibility and transparency for all partners and avoid overlapping and gapping</p>	<p>By avoiding overlapping and gapping in funding we will make more funding available to address all aspects of substance misuse, particularly its' prevention.</p>

<sup>3</sup> [Institute of Health Equity: Benefits of Reducing Health Inequalities](#)

<sup>4</sup> [Data Quality Improvement: NHS England](#)

<p>There will be a better understanding of the current landscape in terms of young people’s drug / alcohol use and risk of Child Criminal Exploitation.</p>	<p>This is related to the objective regarding data quality where the impact would ultimately be improving health and wellbeing. In improving health and wellbeing for children (continuing on from giving them the Best Start<sup>5</sup>) we increase the chances of preventing substance misuse in adult years, leading to reduced health inequalities and a fairer and more economically active population.</p>
<p>Tackle the conditions in which people in Nottinghamshire are born, grow, live, work and age (wider determinants) which have a huge impact on the health and wellbeing of Nottinghamshire and there are a large number of inequalities with regard to those who are more susceptible to substance misuse.</p>	<p>As outlined in the Nottinghamshire Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy<sup>6</sup>, the “building blocks of health” such as work, housing and education are vitally important to achieving good health and wellbeing. Those who access substance misuse services are often lacking these building blocks. By addressing these we can improve the health and wellbeing of the whole population.</p>
<p>Improvement on all local outcome framework metrics</p>	<p>The Local Outcome Framework is part of a mechanism to monitor how well we are progressing towards achieving the objectives above. As part of the co-production process we will also include the voice of lived experience from those who access substance misuse services or who have otherwise been affected by substance misuse.</p>

19. The priorities of the strategy have been identified from the From Harm to Hope Strategy requirements and also evidence of need outlined in the Substance Misuse Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Health Needs Assessment. In terms of engagement, the short deadline given by the Government in developing the Delivery Plan meant that engagement was via Substance Misuse Services providers. Ongoing engagement and co-production are an integral part of this strategy and delivery plan, exemplified in the overarching objective: “A sensitive and resilient co-produced process will be fully embedded for the voices of those who use or could use substance misuse services to be heard and influence the work of The Partnership and the implementation of this strategy” and therefore engagement will continue to take place.

**Other Options Considered**

20. The other option considered was that The Partnership Strategy and Delivery Plan was not put forward for approval by the Council. This was not considered a viable option because it is a national requirement for The Partnership to produce a delivery plan detailing local implementation of the From Harm to Hope Strategy. As the Council is a member of The Partnership, failure to approve the Strategy and Delivery Plan would result in The Partnership being unable to fulfil this responsibility.

**Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

<sup>5</sup> [Nottinghamshire Best Start Strategy 2021-2025](#)

<sup>6</sup> [Nottinghamshire Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2026 \(healthynottinghamshire.org.uk\)](https://healthynottinghamshire.org.uk)

21. The Combating Substance Misuse Partnership is one of the Council's outside bodies. The Partnership has an obligation under the Government's From Harm to Hope Strategy that it develop an initial three year local strategy delivery plan. This will implement the Government's From Harm to Hope commitments and also is informed by the recommendations from the Nottinghamshire Substance Misuse JSNA and Health Needs Assessments. The Partnership have agreed the Local Strategy and Delivery Plan and therefore the Council, as a member of The Partnership, needs to adopt the Local Strategy and Delivery Plan to work with the partners on achieving the Governments From Harm to Hope Strategy at a local level in Nottinghamshire.

## **Statutory and Policy Implications**

22. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

## **Financial Implications**

23. This strategy aims to deliver the National From Harm to Hope Strategy with our local evidence based objectives. Funding will be via Government grants and therefore there are no financial implications for the Council.

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

That Cabinet:

- 1) Approves the new Nottinghamshire Combating Substance Misuse Partnership Strategy and Delivery Plan 2023-2025

**COUNCILLOR MATT BARNEY**  
**CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH**

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## **Constitutional Comments (CEH 27/01/23)**

24. The report and recommendations can be considered by Cabinet.

## **Financial Comments (DG 28/02/23)**

25. Grants have been confirmed by OHID as per para 4 for Year 1 £1,720,772, Year 2 £3,419,170 and Year 3 £3,588,505 to support the delivery of the Combating Substance Misuse Partnership Strategy and Delivery Plan 2023-2025. All of the grants received have been included in the budgets at their draft allocations except for the Individual Placement Scheme Grant, which will be an in-year virement. All grant have been approved by Nigel Stevenson as the S151 officer.

### **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- None

### **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

- All