

Swindon Substance Misuse Strategy 2017-2022

Health and Wellbeing Board

Date: 13th December 2017

Author:	Frances Mayes – Senior Public Health Manager, Swindon Borough Council
Wards:	All
Parishes Affected:	All

1. Purpose and Reasons

- 1.1 The purpose of this strategy is to:
 - 1.1.1 Set out the vision for tackling substance misuse in Swindon.
 - 1.1.2 Identify the key priorities for reducing the impact of substance misuse in Swindon.
 - 1.1.3 Engage local partners and communities to ensure local needs are met.
 - 1.1.4 Ensure the optimum commissioning of substance misuse services.
- 1.2 Drug and alcohol misuse has a significant impact on children, adults, families, and communities including increases in crime, physical and mental health problems, domestic abuse, child exploitation, abuse and neglect, family breakdown and homelessness.
- 1.3 The annual costs of drug addiction in England is estimated to be £15.4 bn and the total cost of alcohol related harm £21 bn. This includes costs relating to crime, NHS, taking children in to care and loss of productivity. For every £1 spent on young people's drug and alcohol intervention brings a benefit of between £5-£8. PHE estimates that every £1 spent of drug treatment saves £2.50 to society.
- 1.4 The strategy has been informed by the Swindon substance misuse needs assessment.
- 1.5 The vision for Swindon is to prevent the harms caused by drugs and alcohol to individuals, children, young people, families and communities, by encouraging healthy choices, promoting recovery and reducing crime. We will strive for a Swindon free from the harms caused by substance misuse.
- 1.6 Swindon and Wiltshire Councils are currently procuring a substance misuse prevention and treatment service to cover Swindon and Wiltshire. The priorities of the new service have been informed by the development of this strategy and it is important that Swindon and Wiltshire strategies align. This will be achieved through the development of a Swindon and Wiltshire Substance Misuse Strategic Group. A full governance structure is included in the strategy, attached at Appendix 1 to the report.

Swindon Substance Misuse Strategy 2017-2022

Health and Wellbeing Board

Date: 13th December 2017

2. Recommendations

The Board is recommended to:

- 2.1 Discuss and approve the Swindon Substance Misuse Strategy 2017 - 2022 attached at Appendix 1 of the report.
- 2.2 Endorse the development of a full action plan, and agree to receive annual updates on progress.
- 2.3 Recommend to Cabinet and the Swindon Clinical Commissioning Group Governing Body that they adopt the Swindon Substance Misuse Strategy 2017 – 2022.

3. Detail

- 3.1 In Swindon there are estimated to be 1140 opiate and or crack cocaine users, 577 of whom were in treatment. Just over 500 are estimated to be injecting drug users. New trends in drug misuse are emerging with the use of New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) increasing alongside image and performance enhancing drugs and the increased challenge of poly substance misuse. Fewer drug users are coming into treatment who use opiates, mainly heroin. However, those who are in treatment for opiate misuse are older, often have physical and mental health problems and entrenched drug dependence.
- 3.2 In Swindon we have a higher proportion of the population who abstain or are very light drinkers than nationally, a smaller cohort of moderate drinkers and a higher proportion of problematic or higher risk drinkers. We have higher rates of alcohol related hospital admissions in Swindon than the national average and this has risen since 2014. This particularly relates to women under the age of 40 years and older males. In contrast alcohol related hospital admissions for under 18 years have decreased since 2013 and we are now in line with the national average.
- 3.3 National and local data indicates that young people's substance misuse is declining. Cannabis and alcohol are the two substances most commonly misused by the under 18s in Swindon. However, hospital admission for substance misuse for 15 -24 year olds has increased in Swindon over the past three years. This may be partly due to NPS and multi-substance use.
- 3.4 20% of children on a child protection plan had a parent who misused alcohol and 18% had a parent who misused drugs. 33% of adults in alcohol treatment are parents with child care responsibilities and a further 20% are parents whose child lives elsewhere. 28% of opiate clients in treatment are living with a child under the age of 18 years. It is important that children most at risk from the impact of drugs and alcohol are identified and parents are supported to provide the optimum care possible to safeguard children.

Swindon Substance Misuse Strategy 2017-2022

Health and Wellbeing Board

Date: 13th December 2017

- 3.5 The Key priorities identified for Swindon are:
 - 3.5.1 Prevention and early intervention particularly with young people and their families.
 - 3.5.2 Reduction of health related harms and addressing inequalities.
 - 3.5.3 Promotion of sustained recovery for those dependent on substances.
 - 3.5.4 Reduction of substance misuse related crime and anti-social behaviour.
 - 3.6 The strategy aligns to national drivers and local priorities including:
 - 3.6.1 The National Drugs Strategy (2017).
 - 3.6.2 The National Alcohol Strategy (2012).
 - 3.6.3 The Modern Crime Prevention Strategy (2016).
 - 3.6.4 Swindon Health and Wellbeing Board Priorities.
 - 3.7 The Strategy outlines some local successes in Swindon such as:
 - 3.7.1 Swindon Local Alcohol Action Area (Phase 2).
 - 3.7.2 Swindon Street Drinkers Project.
 - 3.7.3 Social Norms interventions in Schools.
 - 3.7.4 Substance misuse Arrest Referral Project to link those arrested into brief interventions and treatment services.
 - 3.7.5 Funding identified to roll out a children's screening project to identify those most at risk from substance misuse.
 - 3.7.6 A Cumulative Impact Zone in the Broad Green Area identified in 2016.
 - 3.7.7 Referral pathways developed between Great Western Hospital and U-turn (Children and Young People's treatment service).
 - 3.7.8 U-turn was judged to be safe, effective, caring and well led in the latest CQC inspection.
 - 3.7.9 A targeted review of licenced premises resulted in action being taken on some problematic licensed premises.
 - 3.7.10 The introduction of breathalysers on licensed premises to reduce access for those under inappropriate influence of alcohol.
 - 3.8 The strategy also highlights some key issues including:
-

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Frances Mayes, 01793 444677, FMayes@swindon.gov.uk.

Swindon Substance Misuse Strategy 2017-2022

Health and Wellbeing Board

Date: 13th December 2017

- 3.8.1 Tackling Drug Related Litter.
- 3.8.2 Introducing digitalisation and innovation with regard to prevention and treatment.
- 3.8.3 The impact of welfare reforms and homelessness.
- 3.8.4 The impact of County Lines and criminal and sexual exploitation.
- 3.8.5 Ensuring treatment services meet the needs of our diverse population.
- 3.9 The strategy goes on to highlight the key actions to be taken to achieve the four priorities highlighted above. It also identifies the key measures for monitoring the outcomes of the strategy including:
 - 3.9.1 A reduction in hospital admissions.
 - 3.9.2 Reductions in offences related to substance misuse.
 - 3.9.3 Increases in successful completions of treatment (particularly for criminal justice clients).
 - 3.9.4 Reductions in the number of people in the Borough dependent on drug misuse.
 - 3.9.5 Increases in the number of people in 'effective treatment'.
 - 3.9.6 Increases in identification of parental substance misuse and early referrals of children to support services.
- 3.10 The strategy outlines the governance structure for the strategy which highlights the need for all agencies and communities to work in partnership. The Strategy will be owned by the Swindon Community Safety Partnership Board with progress co-reported to the Health and Wellbeing Board. The Swindon Dangerous Drugs Network and Substance Misuse Group will ensure the effective delivering of the strategy.

4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 To not support the Substance Misuse Strategy 2017 - 2022.

5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 There are no direct financial or procurement implications arising from the development of the strategy. Planned work as outlined in the strategy and under the priorities is covered by existing budgets or will go through appropriate

Swindon Substance Misuse Strategy 2017-2022

Health and Wellbeing Board

Date: 13th December 2017

Swindon Borough Council approval processes. In the longer term the impact of the strategy may reduce health, social care and criminal justice costs.

Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 5.2 There are no legal or human rights implications identified through the strategy.

All Other Implications (including Staff, Sustainability, Health, Rural, Crime and Disorder)

- 5.3 The strategy has the potential to reduce health inequalities associated with substance misuse. It also aims to reduce the impact on crime and disorder. The strategy in combination with the re-commissioning of the treatment service will have a positive impact on rurality with regard to improving access to treatment.

Diversity Impact Assessment

- 5.4 A diversity impact assessment has been undertaken for this strategy.

Risk Management

- 5.5 No specific risks have been identified at this stage for this report.

6. Consultees

- 6.1 The Board Director, Resources (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.
- 6.2 A full list of all partners and stakeholders who have engaged with the development of the Strategy is contained on page 22 of the Strategy.

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 None.

8. Appendices

- 8.1 Appendix 1 – Swindon Substance Misuse Strategy 2017 – 2022 (*circulated to Board members under separate cover and is available on the Council's website at:*
<http://ww5.swindon.gov.uk/moderngov/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=933&MId=8081&Ver=4>).