

Meeting: Haringey Strategic Partnership

Date: 4 November 2008

Report Title: Haringey's Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy 2008 -11

Report of: Sharon Kemp – Assistant Chief Executive – Policy, Partnerships & performance

Purpose

To inform the HSP of the development of an Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy for Haringey.

To encourage comment and feedback.

Summary

The Alcohol Strategy for 2008-11 builds upon Haringey's first strategy that ended in March 2008 and takes into account new statutory duties and guidance.

Its aims are to tackle the health and social harms associated with alcohol, as well as alcohol-related crime and anti-social behaviour.

Haringey has the highest rate of male alcohol-related mortality in London, and as is the case elsewhere, rising rates of alcohol-related hospital admissions.

Alcohol is also linked to violent crime in the Borough, as well as anti-social behaviour such as street drinking. Parental drinking is a factor in a significant proportion of cases that come to the child protection register.

The new Local Area Agreement includes a target to reduce alcohol-related hospital admissions. The strategy addresses this, along with a number of other targets where alcohol misuse is a contributory factor.

The strategy proposes a strategic framework that places different strands of activity within the relevant HSP Thematic Board to manage delivery. A separate strategy group will ensure all the strands are coordinated.

Legal comments

Legal have been consulted and have made the following comment:

The *Crime and Disorder Act 1998* places a duty on the Council, together with the local police authority, chief officer of police, fire and rescue authority and primary care trust, to formulate and implement strategies designed to reduce crime and disorder and to combat the misuse of alcohol (and other substance abuse) in the local authority area.

This strategy has been drafted in accordance with that duty.

Finance Comment

Finance have been consulted and made the following comments:

Much of the activity proposed in the strategy forms part of core business and will be covered by existing budgets however some additional resources have been identified as necessary particularly to support the change in emphasis in the strategy from interventions based on enforcement & treatment to a more pro-active approach based on local intelligence and targeted prevention.

The Haringey Teaching Primary Care Trust (HTPCT) has earmarked £250k in its investment strategy for 2009/10 to deliver the Alcohol Strategy however, as more detailed costings are worked up additional requirement may be identified which will have to be addressed separately.

Recommendations

- i. To endorse the strategic priorities contained in this strategy.
- ii. To endorse the proposed strategic/monitoring & evaluation framework as outlined on page 24 of the strategy.
- iii. To support and collaborate with the proposed approach and delivery programmes, wherever relevant.

For more information contact:

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Background

The production, implementation and monitoring of this strategy is a statutory requirement under the *Crime and Disorder Act 1998* and subsequent reviews of this legislation.

The Government new National Alcohol Strategy – calls for strategies that address all alcohol related harms – which is the approach taken by Haringey in the development of this strategy. The broad headings and overall content has been proposed in guidance published by the Home Office and Department of Health.

All priorities in the strategy reflect levels of need and ways of working locally, and the content of the strategy is in line with Haringey's Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement. To be effective in reducing alcohol-related harm, there needs to be a coordinated response from a wide variety of organisations – this is not just an issue for enforcement agencies, or for the health service. The strategy proposes a strategic framework that places different strands of activity within the relevant HSP thematic board to manage delivery. An Alcohol Strategy Group reporting into the Safer Communities Executive and Wellbeing and Children & Young Peoples Strategic Partnership Board will ensure all the strands are coordinated.

Appendices

Strategy and Annual Action Plan attached.