

Meeting: Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership
Date: 25 September 2008
Report Title: Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy and Action Plan
Report of: Drug and Alcohol Action Team Partnership Board

Summary

Haringey was one of the first Boroughs to have a cross-cutting Alcohol Strategy, following the 2004 publication of the Government's first National Alcohol Strategy. This new draft strategy for 2008-11 (attached) builds upon Haringey's original strategy that ended in March 2008 and takes into account new statutory duties and guidance. It is supported by an annual Action Plan.

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

The Strategy was developed over a five months period from April – August 2008, through interviews with stakeholders and a conference in July 2008. It incorporates the findings of a review of local alcohol related problems and takes into account available alcohol related data, alcohol problems and concerns.

Significant Issues

- Haringey has the highest rate of male alcohol-related mortality in London
- Alcohol-related hospital admissions rates have more than doubled over a five year period from 2002/03-2006/07. This is part of a regional and national picture.
- 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 number of cases focused on the protection of children.

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 contributing factor.

To be effective in reducing alcohol-related harm, there needs to be a coordinated response from a wide variety of organisations. The Strategy objectives and action plan fall into the remit of three of Haringey's Strategic Partnerships Boards: Children and Young Peoples Strategic Partnership

Board(CYPSPB), Safer Communities Executive Board and the Well-Being Board.

An alcohol strategy group sitting underneath the DAAT will have oversight of the implementation as a whole but it will be the responsibility of the individual boards to monitor delivery against their part of the Action Plan.

Recommendations

That the CYPSPB endorse the Strategy and Action Plan.

To note that the Strategy will be considered by Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 6 October and Cabinet on 18 November 2008.

Financial Comments

The new indicative health costs required to deliver the Strategy are £200K. Funding decisions will be made by the Teaching Primary Care Trust's Priorities Panel following submission of a Business Case. The focus will be on brief interventions in primary care, Accident & Emergency and ward based settings.

Legal Comments

The *Crime and Disorder Act 1998* places a duty on the Council, together with the local Police Authority, chief officer of Police, Fire Service 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.

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