

6. ALCOHOL AND DRUGS PARTNERSHIP SERVICES AND FUNDING

The Board considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Director advising of the £350k reduction in direct grant funding for Alcohol and Drugs Partnerships in 2016/17 and the proposed actions to bring commissioned service expenditure in line with available financial resources.

The current ADP Commissioning Plan 2015-2018 was attached as Appendix 1 to the report. It had been developed with the collaboration and support of all the partners. In line with the standard approach for strategic commissioning in the IJB, the plan was informed by an independent needs assessment.

The Board was informed that the Scottish Government draft budget published in December 2015 included a reduction in the combined drug and alcohol funding from £69.2 million in the current financial year to £53.8 million in 2016-17.

The Cabinet Secretary for Health wrote to Health Board Chief Executives in early January 2016 stating her expectation that existing services, resources and outcomes would be maintained at 2015/16 levels and that increased Board baseline budgets were expected to go towards meeting the funding shortfall.

The Scottish Government had subsequently confirmed ADP funding allocations to NHS Boards for 2016-16 in a letter of 4 July, a copy of which was attached as Appendix 2. The result of that was that the ADP funding allocation for Lothian had reduced from £11.470 million to £8.887 million (23% reduction).

For West Lothian, the total budget reduction for commissioned services would be £350,000 in 2017/18.

The report explained that a series of stakeholder consultation events had been arranged to review the ADP commissioning plan with the objective of bringing investment in line with available resources from 1 April 2017. The process included engagement with service users.

The stakeholder consultations had focused on trying to establish a consensus around the mix of provision consistent with the strategic needs assessment and the revised budget. There had been a general agreement to the following changes in commissioned services:-

Therapeutic Support Service
Assertive Outreach and Criminal Justice Services
Services for Children and Young People Affected by Parental Substance Misuse
Recovery Service – Public Social Partnership
In-house provision

It was recommended that the Board:-

- Note the reduction of £350k from 2015/16 in the Scottish Government's

direct grant funding to Alcohol and Drugs Partnerships in 2016/17.

- Note the consultation with stakeholders on the possible measures to achieve the budget reduction within the context of the current commissioning plan.
- Agree the following specific measures from 1 April 2017 in respect of commissioned services:-
 1. Renegotiate the current Therapeutic Support Service contract for a further year with a reduced budget saving of £11,533 on current expenditure
 2. Tender for the procurement of a service providing early intervention support for vulnerable adults using an assertive outreach model and treatment and recovery support for those involved in the criminal justice system, with a saving of £51,095 on current expenditure.
 3. Tender for the procurement of a service to focus on support for children and young people affected by parental substance misuse using a whole family holistic service model. It was proposed that the service operated alongside in-house staff providing additional key working support to young people who were experiencing a wide range of problematic behaviours. The new service specification would be developed following a period of collaboration with stakeholders and service users with a saving of £42,865 on current expenditure.
 4. Continue with the Recovery Service PSP but with a reduced budget, saving £42,426 on current expenditure.
 5. Reduction of £102,081 on current budgets for in-house addictions services.

There followed a discussion concerning the potential impact of the proposed actions to bring commissioned service expenditure in line with available financial resources. It was acknowledged that the impact would be known at a later stage, but that work could start now to gather information with a view to writing to the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport. It was suggested that, by writing to the Cabinet Secretary, the IJB could seek clarity regarding her expectation that existing services, resources and outcomes could be maintained at 2015-16 levels. At the same time, the IJB would highlight concern for the risks associated with service users.

Decision

1. To note the terms of the report.
2. To agree the recommendations set out in Section B of the report; and
3. To agree to write to the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport, Shona Robison MSP seeking clarity regarding her expectation that existing services, resources and outcomes be maintained at 2015-16 levels, given that the Scottish Government funding allocation for 2016-17 had

reduced by 23%.