

West Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board



Report Title

Testing Community Based Models of Access to Health Services: HARP Project, West Sussex

Date

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Report by

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Executive Summary

This paper concerns the award of Public Health England grant monies, to test community based models of access to health services.

In West Sussex, the grant will fund a twelve month project - the Hospital Admission Reduction Pathway (HARP). This will improve access to health services for adults with co-occurring substance misuse and mental health needs who are experiencing or at risk of returning to rough sleeping.

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to:

- 1) Acknowledge background and work to date.
- 2) Provide strategic leadership and governance of the twelve month project.
- 3) Receive regular updates through the life of the project and consider learning from its implementation and delivery.

1. Background

- 1.1 In May 2019, Public Health England (PHE) announced availability of £1.9million revenue funding to be awarded in 2019/20 and sought expressions of interest from partnerships between local authorities and clinical commissioning groups.
- 1.2 The aim of the funding is to test community based models that will improve access to health services for adults with co-occurring substance misuse and mental health needs who are experiencing or at risk of returning to rough sleeping.

- 1.3 The West Sussex Expression of Interest (EOI) was a partnership bid, drawn up with input from: Turning Tides; Stonepillow; CGL; Emerging Futures; Crawley Open House; A+E Consultant at Worthing Hospital; Primary Care; NHS Coastal West Sussex Clinical Commissioning Group and West Sussex County Council.
- 1.4 In the EOI, West Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board was identified as the local body to provide strategic leadership and governance.
- 1.5 Following shortlisting and interview, PHE has awarded funding to six projects, of which West Sussex is the only non-unitary. The other selected areas are: Lambeth, Leeds, Newcastle, Portsmouth and Westminster.
- 1.6 PHE will be funding an external evaluation.
- 1.7 West Sussex bid has been awarded £345 529 revenue, non-recurring.
- 1.8 The project in West Sussex is HARP (Hospital Admission Reduction Pathway). The model is made up of i) three nursing posts co-located in homeless services who will provide street triage and support high risk individuals; ii) three non-clinical posts located in hospitals, who will co-ordinate integrated treatment and support health colleagues; iii) qualified coaching support from people with lived experience.
- 1.9 HARP will assume the Systems Leadership approach now embedded through West Sussex in the sector, and will provide training from the Leadership Centre.
- 1.10 The model aims to engender a better understanding of pressure points in the current system, and how impact can be maximised by this one year intervention that supports individuals with multiple needs, often at times of crisis.

2. Proposals

- 2.1 Funding from PHE is made available to the local authority via a Section 31 Agreement under the Local Government Act 2001. There are no match funding requirements.
- 2.2 A Grant Agreement is drawn up between the County Council and the prime contractor, Change Grow Live (CGL).
- 2.3 The programme will run for twelve months from February 2020. Project timelines are drawn up, with February start in Worthing, followed by April start in Chichester/Bognor and Crawley.
- 2.4 Contract review meetings will be held between WSCC and prime contractor CGL a minimum of quarterly.

- 2.5 The HARP Steering Group will have collective oversight of the project and receive regular updates on progress and learning, but this will not cross over into performance management duties.
- 2.6 West Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board will provide strategic leadership and governance.
- 2.7 CGL will sub contract with relevant parties (Turning Tides; Stonepillow; Open House Crawley; St Johns Ambulance and Emerging Futures).
- 2.8 The Chief Executive of Turning Tides will lead on the Systems Leadership element of the HARP programme, and has secured the National Director for Systems Leadership at the Leadership Centre to run master classes.

3. Next Steps

- 3.1 Mobilisation group (chaired by Substance Misuse Commissioner, WSCC) and Steering Group (chaired by Chief Executive, Stonepillow) are established and will continue to meet regularly.
- 3.2 A launch event is scheduled for April 2020 in Worthing.
- 3.3 The grant will be monitored by PHE in accordance with Cabinet Office minimum standards. The Council will be required to submit regular financial and performance returns. All funding may be immediately repayable to PHE if any of the grant conditions, contained in the grant agreement, are not met.
- 3.4 The HARP partnership will co-operate in the learning process with all other successful areas, and will co-operate and share anonymised data with PHE and external evaluators.
- 3.5 Regular updates will be brought to West Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board with the purpose of:
 - Identifying what is effective in improving access to services for adults with substance misuse and mental health needs who are experiencing or at risk of returning to rough sleeping.
 - Informing priorities and policy making in this area.
 - Informing local commissioning for people who rough sleep.

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Appendices: None

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