

## **Adults and Health Committee**

### **Written responses to questions raised by Committee Members**

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## **Adults and Health Committee – January 2025**

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#### **Question 1:**

Members requested information on the balance of the deferred payments.

#### **Response 1:**

Officers confirmed that the value of the deferred debt from the end of October 2024 working was £3.6 million.

#### **Question 2:**

Members requested a written response on the substance misuse work being undertaken within schools.

#### **Response 2:**

Change Grow Live Cheshire East offers a range of activities, classroom sessions and assemblies for primary school learners through to further and higher education. Each session is interactive, non-judgemental and designed to encourage open conversations around drugs and alcohol. This is to help learners understand the risks associated with using substances and provide harm reduction guidance.

Schools can utilise the offer as much as they require. This includes up to five sessions in one day, often supporting cross-curriculum days allowing work with whole or multiple year groups in each school.

Additionally, schools are also able to book training with the provider around making a referral. The goal of this session is for teaching and pastoral staff to feel confident when doing this, ensuring the correct information is provided, and to feel confident when speaking to students about substance and alcohol misuse. They can also learn more about support available.

#### **Question 3:**

Members requested a written response on what could be done to provide a holistic treatment journey for recovering users, details of the grants which have been awarded, and details on what is in place for relapse prevention?

#### **Response 3:**

Details of what can be done to provide a holistic treatment journey for recovering users:

The service provides a range of support for individuals which spans across prevention and harm reduction to structured interventions and support for sustaining recovery. More specifically this includes:

- Information advice and guidance, including via community events and social media
- Harm reduction such as access to naloxone (a medication that can reverse opioid overdose), needle exchange and same day prescribing for those at risk of using synthetic opiates
- Psychological and psychosocial interventions delivered via one-to-one or group sessions together with support for families.
- Pharmacological interventions such as prescribing methadone, buprenorphine and buvidal
- Wider healthcare support including screening for blood born viruses
- Wraparound support to help people sustain their recovery, including support to access housing and meaningful activity such as employment, education and volunteering.
- A comprehensive recovery offer, including peer-led groups (e.g. crafting and music groups in Wilmslow); Macclesfield Recovery Garden, a service user led project to maintain the recently landscaped garden at our Macclesfield hub; and outdoor activities to promote physical and mental health.

Details of the grants which have been awarded:

OHID funding				
	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26
Drug strategy allocation	346,706	£353,541	524,528	Unconfirmed indicative amount
In Patient Detox allocation	47,784	£47,784	£47,784	Unconfirmed indicative amount
Individual placement support (IPS)			£159,253	£158,546
Partner grants				
	Current contract		New contract 25/26	
Housing	£242,095 (From September 22 – March 25)		Unconfirmed indicative amount	
Probation	£204,790 (From August 22- March 25)		Unconfirmed indicative amount	

Note – the new drugs and alcohol service has been planned around the funding provided through the Public Health Grant. This is because, whilst we have received

additional contributions in the past from partners and may do so again, amounts are not currently confirmed.

If this additional funding was not forthcoming, the service would still deliver a range of support e.g. employment and training and inpatient detox. However, it would not be to an enhanced level (for relevant service elements).

Details on what is in place for relapse prevention:

The service offers a range of relapse prevention and recovery support across Cheshire East, tailored to individual service user needs.

From the start of the treatment journey, assessments and service user plans for both adults and children and young people focus on recovery goals, including holistic needs (e.g. housing/family support) and relapse prevention planning. Service user plans are reviewed every 4 weeks. Full risk reviews are completed every 12 weeks.

Alongside evidence-based prescribing interventions (methadone/buprenorphine/buvidal), service users are helped to develop skills to manage stress, anxiety and triggers that could contribute to relapse via one-to-one and group-based psychosocial interventions. Keyworkers discuss with service users how to manage things like celebrations, peer pressure and/or trauma. Additionally, wraparound support is put in place, involving referral routes into other services, such as housing support and domestic abuse provision.

Volunteering opportunities provided by CGL give people in recovery the opportunity to access high-quality training, supervision and employment pathways. Support is also available for individuals with CV writing, job searching, interview preparation and employability skills.

A menu of sustainable recovery options is also available including drop-ins, groups and therapeutic activities.

The service offers additional support for individuals re-presenting to services, including same-day reassessment, rapid access to prescribing and a new co-produced care plan with adaptations, increased support, and more frequent, flexible check-ins.

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