

Report of: Commissioning and Contracts Officer, Strategy & Commissioning

Report to: Director of Public Health

Date: 13th March 2017

Subject: Transfer responsibility for the 2017/18 out of area residential detoxification (from drugs or drugs and alcohol) budget (£180,000) from Leeds City Council to DISC.

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. The current framework agreement for the Out of Area Residential Detoxification will expire on 31st March 2017 and a new arrangement needs to be agreed.

Recommendations

The Director of Public Health is recommended to:

- 1.) Transfer responsibility for the 2017/18 out of area residential detoxification (from drugs or drugs and alcohol) budget (£180,000) from Leeds City Council to DISC.

1 Background information

- 1.1 The current framework agreement for the Out of Area Residential Detoxification Service was established in 2014 for the period 1st April 2014 – 31st March 2017. Five organisations were included on the framework.
- 1.2 Forward Leeds is commissioned to provide the Community Drug and Alcohol Prevention, Treatment and Recovery Service - an integrated drug and alcohol service in Leeds, offering a range of support options including access to detoxification treatment. DISC is the lead member of the Forward Leeds consortium.
- 1.3 The funding for residential detoxification placements currently sits outside the Forward Leeds service and the process for accessing funding for the placements is as follows:
 - agreement between the client and Forward Leeds that residential detoxification is the most appropriate form of treatment and an aftercare plan is agreed

- a placement for detoxification is arranged with the treatment centre, subject to approval of funding
- Forward Leeds sends a funding request form to the Strategy and Commissioning Team who will make a decision on funding within 48 hours of receipt.

1.4 Demand for this service remains high. In 2015/16, 46 people accessed out of area detox placements (of which 78% completed their treatment successfully). In the first three quarters of 2016/17, 34 applications for funding have been approved.

2 Main issues

2.1 It is proposed that the 2017/18 Leeds City Council (LCC) budget for residential detoxification treatment (£180,000 per annum) be transferred to DISC via a contract variation. Forward Leeds will assume responsibility for managing this budget and for ensuring that it is used to support those clients who will most benefit from residential detox treatment.

2.2 The effectiveness of this arrangement will be evaluated in December 2017 and, if both parties agree, the intention is to request permission to extend the arrangement for the same time-frame as the Community Drug and Alcohol Prevention, Treatment and Recovery Service.

2.3 This funding will be ring-fenced for the purpose of residential detoxification treatment only. Any underspend at the end of the financial year (31st March 2018) will be returned to LCC.

2.4 Transferring responsibility for the residential detoxification budget to DISC will make residential detox a more integral element of the overall Forward Leeds service and streamline the process for allocating funding to clients to access detox treatment. It will enable Forward Leeds to make more informed decisions around planning and prioritisation of placements. Forward Leeds has a detailed understanding of residential options and is able to match the client to the most appropriate establishment to suit their treatment needs and is able to develop strong relationships with residential treatment providers, ensuring smooth transitions from community to residential services and back again. They are also well placed to negotiate best prices and ensure value is added to service delivery wherever possible.

2.5 Performance management information relating to residential detox treatment will be added to the existing Forward Leeds performance management framework. This will include:

- number of clients being prepared for a residential detox placement
- number of clients who were admitted
- number of clients who were discharged (separated between those who successfully completed and those who didn't)
- number of clients who successfully completed who have remained abstinent after 2 weeks of leaving treatment (and number who haven't)
- number of clients who successfully completed who have remained abstinent after 3 months of leaving treatment (and number who haven't)

2.6 Forward Leeds will provide a quarterly budget position to LCC. This will include:

- amount that has been spent (i.e. invoices have been received and paid)
- amount that has been committed (i.e. placements have been approved/are in progress)
- amount of funding that remains available

2.7 A protocol which sets out in detail the responsibilities of all parties under the new arrangement has been drawn up and is appended to this report for information. This protocol will form part of the formal variation agreement.

Corporate Considerations

3.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 3.1.1 Forward Leeds has confirmed that it is in agreement that the new arrangement will be beneficial and has contributed to the protocol.
- 3.1.2 Colleagues in the Projects Programmes & Procurement Unit have been kept informed of progress and have commented on the protocol.
- 3.1.3 Senior management and the Executive Member within Public Health have been briefed and are supportive of the proposal.
- 3.1.4 Colleagues in Adult Social Care who contract manage the residential rehabilitation service have been consulted and are supportive of the proposal.

3.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 3.2.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening Tool has been completed in relation to this decision and is attached as a background document for information. The EIA Screening Tool indicates that a full EIA does not need to be completed. The reason for this is that the transfer of the budget from LCC to DISC will not involve any major changes to the services which could impact negatively on service users or stakeholders.

3.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

- 3.3.1 The Residential Detoxification service supports the 'Vision for Leeds 2011-2030' and the delivery of wider outcomes for the Council and its partners including those related to community safety, health and well-being and social inclusion.
- 3.3.2 It supports the delivery of key outcomes and priorities within the Best Council Plan 2015-20, specifically the 2016/17 outcomes for everyone in Leeds to:
 - be safe and feel safe
 - enjoy happy, healthy, active lives
 - live with dignity and stay independent for as long as possible
- 3.3.3 The service also contributes to the priorities set out in the Leeds Drug and Alcohol Strategy & Action Plan 2016-2018, by reducing harm and supporting people to recover from drug misuse.

3.4 Resources and value for money

- 3.4.1 There are no additional resource implications to this decision.
- 3.4.2 The new arrangement will save significant officer time within both Forward Leeds and LCC by streamlining the funding approval process.

3.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

- 3.5.1 The decision is a significant operational decision and is not subject to call-in. This report does not contain any exempt or confidential information.

3.6 Risk Management

- 3.6.1 DISC will be paid quarterly in arrears based on actual expenditure. Payment will therefore only be made for treatment which has already taken place.
- 3.6.2 LCC and Forward Leeds will meet quarterly – and more frequently if necessary – in order to ensure the new arrangements are working smoothly.
- 3.6.3 Progress will be reported to the Public Health Programme Board. Risks and issues will also be reported to this group as appropriate.

4 Conclusions

- 4.1 Both Leeds City Council and DISC agree that this is a sensible business decision which is also in the best interest of service users.

5 Recommendations

The Director of Public Health is recommended to:

- 1.) Transfer responsibility for the 2017/18 out of area residential detoxification (from drugs or drugs and alcohol) budget (£180,000) from Leeds City Council to DISC.

6 Background documents¹

- 6.1 EIA Screening
- 6.2 Protocol

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available for inspection on request for a period of four years following the date of the relevant meeting. Accordingly this list does not include documents containing exempt or confidential information, or any published works. Requests to inspect any background documents should be submitted to the report author.