



Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Health)

Date: 26 April 2011

Subject: Leeds Alcohol Harm Reduction Plan (2011 – 2015) – consultation

Electoral Wards Affected:

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide members of the Scrutiny Board (Health) with the opportunity to comment on the draft Alcohol Harm Reduction Plan (2011-2015).

2.0 Background

2.1 Alcohol plays an important role in society, being consumed by the majority of adults and making an important contribution to the economy. However, the consumption of alcohol has health and social consequences borne by individuals, their families and the wider community. As previously reported, the cost of alcohol in Leeds (to the NHS alone) has been estimated to be in excess of £20 million per year.

2.2 At its meeting in January 2011, the Scrutiny Board (Health) received and considered a report on the economic and social costs of alcohol-related harm in Leeds (2008/09). At that meeting, the Board was advised by the Joint Director of Public Health that the report was being used to inform the development of a revised strategy/ action plan that would focus on:

- Leadership
- Reducing consumption
- Reducing crime and disorder
- Reducing alcohol related ill-health
- Impact of alcohol on children and young people

2.3 At that meeting, the Board agreed to consider the draft action plan prior to its completion.

3.0 Leeds draft Alcohol Harm Reduction Plan (2011-2015)

3.1 Leeds draft Alcohol Harm Reduction Plan (2011-2015) is attached at Appendix 1 for consideration of the Scrutiny Board (Health). It details proposed actions to address the following priority areas:

- Partners working across the City of Leeds prioritise effective actions that tackle the different ways that alcohol impacts on local people and communities
- More people of all ages who consume alcohol do so within nationally recognised safe limits
- Fewer people experience alcohol-related violent crime and Anti-Social Behaviour in our Communities
- Fewer people experience alcohol-related ill health
- Fewer children and young people's whose lives are adversely affected by their parents drinking including neglect, physical and emotional abuse
- Fewer under 18 year olds who develop drinking habits which impact on their health, personal safety and offending behaviour

3.2 The draft action plan was launched for consultation on 21 March 2011, which runs until 13 May 2011.

3.3 This report provides members of the Scrutiny Board (Health) with an opportunity to comment on and provide a formal consultation response, with regard to the proposed Alcohol Harm Reduction Plan (2011-2015). A consultation response form is attached at Appendix 2.

4.0 Recommendations

4.1 Members are asked to consider the details presented in this report and appendices, and, if/ where appropriate, agree any specific matters to be highlighted as part of the Board's formal consultation response.

5.0 Background Documents

- The economic and social costs of alcohol-related harm in Leeds (2008/09) – Scrutiny Board (Health), 25 January 2011