



To: Executive Councillor for Housing (and Deputy Leader): Councillor Catherine Smart

Report by: Liz Bisset, Director of Customer and Community Services

Relevant scrutiny committee: Community Services Scrutiny Committee 14/3/2013

Wards affected: All Wards

GRANT FUNDING FOR ALCOHOL SERVICES Not a Key Decision

1. Executive summary

The council is providing grant funding to Crime Reduction Initiatives (CRI) to deliver specialist alcohol services to single homeless or formerly homeless people who are at risk of rough sleeping or currently rough sleeping. The service level agreement (SLA) between the council and CRI is due to expire on 31st March 2013.

2. Recommendations

The Executive Councillor is recommended:

To approve an extension to the existing grant funding and SLA to 31st March 2014

To note that recommendations for future funding of this service will come back to Community Services Scrutiny Committee as part of the Housing General Fund grants to housing agencies report due in January 2014.

3. Background

3.1 An alcohol Community Psychiatric Nurse (CPN) role has been funded by the City Council in partnership with CAM Health Integrated Care, a cluster GP commissioning group. The post was initially funded from Cambridge City Local Strategic Partnership (LPSA Reward fund) from 2009. The post was specifically targeted at street drinkers who were not engaging well with mainstream services and the intention was that the role would contribute both to reducing street-based anti-social behaviour and help to prevent homelessness.

- 3.2 The joint funding arrangement with CAM Health has meant that the client/patient group has been extended to include families and individuals with chronic alcohol problems who are not necessarily Cambridge-based street drinkers. However, some of these clients are threatened with homelessness as a result of their drinking behaviours and could gravitate to Cambridge and become street drinkers
- 3.3 In 2012 the first alcohol CPN left the role and CRI was unable to recruit a direct replacement as the salary did not match that of equivalent roles in the National Health Service (NHS).
- 3.4 CRI proposed a change to the funding arrangements in June 2012 to provide for an alcohol care-coordinator and project worker to work closely with Addaction, the generic provider for alcohol services, to ensure that adequate treatment pathways were provided for through this arrangement. The extension of grant funding for a further year will allow the efficacy of this service to be fully assessed.
- 3.5 Last year the funding was augmented by funds from the Community Development Grant Fund. Although this funding is not available this year the funding shortfall is being met by the Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT)
- 3.6 The service aims to support 30-50 alcohol community detoxifications per annum and is subject to a quarterly monitoring process with funders.

4. Implications

(a) **Financial Implications**

The proposed funding contribution from the council in 2013/14 is £26,190. The total cost of the service is circa £84,000 with the remainder being provided by the DAAT and Cam Health.

(b) **Staffing Implications** (if not covered in Consultations Section)
None

(c) **Equal Opportunities Implications**

This initiative targets improved alcohol treatment outcomes for single homeless people who have traditionally suffered from poor levels of engagement with treatment services.

(d) **Environmental Implications**
None

(e) **Procurement**

This service is covered by a grant agreement

(f) **Consultation and communication**

The County Council is currently conducting a consultation on alcohol commissioning in Cambridgeshire, which will inform recommendations on how this service should align with a wider alcohol commissioning strategy

(g) **Community Safety**

This service is aimed at a service user group that includes street drinkers and, amongst other measures to tackle street-based anti-social behaviour

5. Background papers

These background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

Review of street life anti-social behaviour report to Strategy and Resources Committee (October 2012)

<http://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk/documents/g616/Public%20reports%20pack%2015th-Oct-2012%2017.00%20Strategy%20and%20Resources%20Scrutiny%20Committee.pdf?T=10>

Out-of-cycle funding bid for Community Development funding – January 2012

6. Appendices

None

7. Inspection of papers

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact:

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