

# Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Report of Lead Commissioner for Prevention and  
Localities  
To

Health & Wellbeing Board

On  
8.9.21

Report prepared by: Jamie Pennycott, Drug & Alcohol  
Commissioning Officer

Agenda  
Item No.

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## Drug & Alcohol Treatment System Tender

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### 1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To apprise the Board of the commissioning intentions for the Drug & Alcohol Treatment System contract from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022
- 1.2 To apprise the Board of actions taken in relation to the Rough Sleeping Drug & Alcohol Treatment Grant issued by Public Health England from January 2021

### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Board notes the intended commissioning plan for the Drug and Alcohol Treatment System.

### 3. Background

- 3.1 The current contract for Southend Treatment And Recovery Service (STARS), delivered by CGL Ltd., is due to expire on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. A secondary contract with CGL Ltd. for the Management of Tier 4 (Detox/Rehab) & Pharmacy Management is also due to expire 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. Both of these contracts will be tendered to the market to ensure best value.
- 3.2 The current contract for the Young People's Drug and Alcohol Team (YPDAT), which is delivered by Southend-on-Sea Borough Council, has been rolled forward each year since 2017 but the Director of Public Health has stated that this service should also be taken to the market at the same time as the adult treatment service.
- 3.3 A third contract, currently delivered by Illy Systems Ltd., relating to the case management database for YPDAT has been rolled forward for the last ten years.

### 4. Plan for future tender

- 4.1 The combined spend across the adults' and young people's drug and alcohol treatment system elements over the last three years has been in the region of

£2.146m. In line with required savings, the combined budget for the adults' and young people's treatment system across the next year will be £1.9m

- 4.2 To enable this level of savings, it is our intention to commission a single, all-age service contract, ideally delivered by a single provider as this should reduce management overheads.
- 4.3 Although we will be looking for providers to be innovative in their service delivery model to maximise the value from this contract, there are several areas of operation for which we are setting some specific requirements. These are:
- (a) The young people's element will be expected to work with young people up to the age of 25 (excepting those dependent on opiates or alcohol, whose treatment requires medical management)
  - (b) The young people's element will not be delivered from the adults' treatment site/s
  - (c) Prospective bidders will be expected to provide proposals that at least maintain the current levels of service delivery, so we have stipulated that the young people's element will require at least four workers. As we are looking for providers to develop effective preventive approaches, we anticipate that the shape of service delivery and the required numbers of specialist workers will be fluid across the life of the contract.
  - (d) In line with agreements made under the Public Health England Rough Sleeping Drug & Alcohol Treatment Grant, the new service will be required to provide five specific roles focusing on homelessness outreach for the life of the grant. This grant funding of around £317k will be in addition to the core £1.9m contract. This grant is currently confirmed through until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023, although it is likely to be extended through to 2024.
- 4.4 A market engagement event held on the 15<sup>th</sup> July was well-attended by a range of interested providers. Feedback from those attending suggested that there is appetite and approval for the model that we are proposing.

## **5. Next steps:**

The advert for the new drug and alcohol treatment service will go live on Contracts Finder from 3<sup>rd</sup> September. The deadline for any clarification questions from prospective bidders will be the 29<sup>th</sup> September, with the tender submission deadline set as the 12<sup>th</sup> October.

The intention is for the contract to be awarded from December 2021 to allow for a 3-month implementation period from 1<sup>st</sup> January through to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. The new contract will then start from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022.