

APPENDIX A

YOUNG PEOPLES SUBSTANCE MISUSE TREATMENT PLAN 2012/13

To ensure that all young people are able to improve their wellbeing and lead a life which is happy, safe and successful, Insight Southwark will continue to provide access to information, advice and specialist treatment to all young people in order to prevent them becoming substance misusers.

It was agreed that following the success of the work Insight completed in 2011/12 that they would also continue the development of new and existing partnerships to increase numbers of young people in treatment; this would form the basis of their work for 2012/13.

The aim of this paper is to reduce the numbers of young affected by substance misuse (including alcohol). By ensuring that as a borough we have a balance of prevention, early intervention, harm reduction and specialist treatment. In order to meet the above aim we will focus on universal, targeted and specialist services that cover the following:

Universal work (entail building individual's knowledge around substance misuse):

- promote health and emotional wellbeing
- provide preventative advice and information to young people and their parents
- provide professionals with training to empower them to recognise substance misuse in young people and provide appropriate support

Actions

- Continue to develop in-house and Basic Drugs Training across the borough
- Continue to work with partners to deliver effective ways to address young people's substance misuse (including community safety issues)
- Encourage universal substance misuse education and prevention via PSHE
- *Establish close links with Social Services, supporting parents and carers of young people who misuse substances (possible Parenting Programmes) and vice versa.*

Outcomes:

- Young people and parents are more aware of the dangers of substance misuse and know where to go for information, advice and guidance
- Young people and parents are able to make informed choices regarding their substance misuse or non use
- Professional are able to recognise substance misuse in young people and provide appropriate support.

Targeted work (reaching vulnerable groups)

- Identify young people who are at risk of engaging in substance misuse
- Ensure that hidden harm groups are identified early and have access to appropriate support
- Increase referrals from targeted groups

Actions

- Develop Education, Employment and Training group to tackle worklessness and develop job skills in order to reduce NEETS population.

- Launch and implement service for LGBTQ community.
- Look at the feasibility of setting up Hidden Harm Group – follow with bid
- Develop programme of activities to engage more young people (Breakfast club/entertainment evenings)
- Develop a mapping of services/area young people are at risk of engaging in substance misuse – use to follow up referrals and to plug gaps.

Outcomes

- Improve outcomes for children and young people of substance misusers
- Improve outcomes for LGBTQ substance misusers
- Increased numbers of young people accessing Insight from under representative groups (CAMHS, LGBTQ)

Specialist work (young people have access to structured treatment)

- Deliver a range of young person centred and specialist interventions.
- Focussed treatment interventions for young people with substance misuse related needs

Actions

- Further develop the service to deal with complex cases (deliver a full range of services to young people with high substance misuse related needed)
- Launch and implement the 18-24 Transitional service
- Facilitate referral and signposting into other treatment
- *Look at legal highs/club drugs – what structure work can be done around this?*
- *Develop and deliver harm reduction programme for cannabis/alcohol users?*

Outcomes

- Young substance misusers have access to appropriate specialist support

Conclusion

This paper builds on the achievements Insight has made in 2011/12 and recognises that Young Peoples Substance Misuse is an ongoing issue, which in order to reduce the numbers affected requires a partnership approach. Overall Insight will consolidate existing work with new areas of work and will ensure better collaborative working with all local services. By continuing to work in partnership we should be able to:

- Prevent substance misuse among young people
- Prevent young people transitioning into substance misuse adults
- Prevent harm caused to young people via parental substance misusers

This paper gives clear outcomes of what we would like to achieve and how we expect to get there. However with financial pressures resulting in cuts to service provisions, there could be a change for commissioning services, which could impact on what we want to deliver.

The challenge going forward will be to ensure that all Young People continue to receive appropriate treatment that prevents them from misusing substance, and that substance misuse remains a key priority for all parties working with young people and families.