

APPENDIX 2

Background Information

Legislation & other key drivers

1. The Government's agenda in relation to substance misuse since 2010 is clear with significant changes to the wider policy context in conjunction with the drive towards reductions in public expenditure. Several policy developments are drivers of change for this agenda.
2. There are many different definitions of what constitutes 'recovery' in the context of substance misuse. The definition outlined by the UK Drug Policy Commission (UKDPC) will be adopted in order to promote a shared understanding across all stakeholders of the ambition of the future borough-wide treatment system. This states 'the process of recovery from problematic substance use is characterised by voluntarily-sustained control over substance use which maximises health and wellbeing, and participation in the rights, roles and responsibilities of society.' Full details of the UKDPC's definition can be found in Appendix 1.
3. The National Drug Strategy 2010 sets out the Government's ambition to promote the recovery of drug users in their communities and how this commitment would be delivered. Within the key thematic area of 'Building recovery in communities', the strategy identifies two overarching aims:
 - Reduce illicit and other harmful drug use; and
 - Increase the numbers recovering from their dependence.
4. The Government's Alcohol Strategy (2012) focuses on irresponsible drinking, support for individuals to make informed choices about their alcohol use and reducing the numbers of individuals drinking to excessive levels.
5. The National Treatment Agency's (NTA - now Public Health England) 'Medications in Recovery: Re-orientating Drug Dependence Treatment' (2012) provided recommendations in relation to maximising individuals' recovery outcomes through the delivery of good practice in Opiate Substitution Therapy (OST).
6. The NTA's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) Pack for Commissioners (2011) provided guidance and recommendations to inform the commissioning of a recovery-orientated treatment system. This aligned with the National Drug Strategy 2010's ambition to replace the substance misuse national service framework (Models of Care 2002 and 2006) with a new model focusing on recovery and updated evidence base.
7. The NTA's 'Commissioning for Recovery' (2010) set out guidance for partnerships on a shift towards outcome-based commissioning for the drug treatment system inclusive of recovery and reintegration identifying key areas of good practice within a recovery-oriented treatment system.
8. The 'Building Recovery in the Community' consultation (NTA, 2011) identified the following key factors for consideration in an integrated recovery-orientated treatment system:

- Collaborative working between all partners to commission services based on outcomes.
 - Prompt access to appropriate treatment interventions for drug-dependent individuals including those involved in the Criminal Justice system.
 - High-quality treatment that prepares service users for recovery while protecting the wider community.
 - Encouraging service users to successfully complete treatment without putting them at risk.
 - Links to support networks to sustain long-term recovery and reintegrate individuals back into society.
9. A cross-governmental paper 'Putting Full Recovery First' (2012) set out the Government's ambition for a new recovery-based treatment system based on the three principles of wellbeing, citizenship and freedom from dependence.
 10. The Ministry of Justice (MOJ) Green Paper: Breaking the Cycle Effective Punishment, Rehabilitation and Sentencing of Offenders focused on the rehabilitation of offenders in order to reduce crime with a directive that offenders will be required to address the issues that contribute to their offending behaviour. This included supporting drug and alcohol dependent offenders to address their use through engagement with effective treatment programmes in prison and the community.
 11. The White Paper 'Healthy Lives, Healthy People – Update & Way Forward' (2011) proposed a new public health system for England (now implemented) with an enhanced focus on outcomes. These outcomes are measured within the Public Health Outcomes Framework and monitored by the DAAT. The paper outlined the shift of responsibility, as of 1 April 2013, from PCT's to local authorities for the commissioning of substance misuse services (including prevention), which provided an opportunity to integrate the commissioning of drug and alcohol intervention and recovery services at a local level.
 12. In addition to the above policy drivers, there are other wider policy developments impacting on the Drug & Alcohol Action Team's (DAAT) business area and approach to commissioning responsibilities including the Troubled Families agenda, the Localism Bill (2010), the Welfare Reform Act (2012) and the Care Act 2014.