

Equality Impact Assessment



Name of project/proposal

Provision of grant funding to the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner to enable the commissioning of support services to reduce re-offending by substance misusing offenders as part of the Integrated Offender Management programme

Contact name

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Purpose for project/proposal

It is proposed that grant funding is made available to the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (OPCC) from the Public Health Grant to support the OPCC's commissioning of enhanced support services for substance misusing offenders as part of the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) programme.

Integrated Offender Management (IOM) is a nationally recognised partnership approach to coordinating the management of offenders whose crime causes most damage locally so as to reduce re-offending.

The Hampshire Integrated Offender Management Service (HIOMS) is a specialist team commissioned by HCC on behalf of the IOM partnership in 2011/12. The service provides enhanced support to IOM offenders and substance misusing offenders previously supported under the Drug Intervention Programme (DIP). The contract term expires on 31st March 2016 and there is no provision for a further extension.

The Offender Rehabilitation Act (ORA) introduced a range of structural changes within the criminal justice system including the establishment of the National Probation Service (NPS) and Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRCs) and the reassignment of key statutory responsibilities in respect to the management of offenders. The system is currently in transition and full implementation of these changes is not anticipated until 2017/18.

The OPCC is proposing awarding, via single tender approval (STA), a 12-month contract to provide a re-modelled HIOMS-type service from 1st April 2016 to ensure continuity of provision for IOM and substance misusing offenders during the transitional period pending full implementation of NPS and CRC service models in Hampshire.

By providing enhanced support to substance misusing offenders, the proposed service will support the delivery of a number of Public Health performance targets including:

- Public Health Outcome framework (PHOF) indicator 2.15 - successful completions of drug misuse treatment
- PHOF Indicator 2.16 - People entering prison with substance dependence issues who are previously not known to community treatment
- Successful referral rates for released prisoners referred to community treatment services.

Calculation of the Public Health Grant incorporates an amount that, historically, formed the Department of Health (DH) Offender Health Access Grant. This funding was intended to secure enhanced access to treatment services for substance misusing offenders in line with the DIP programme model.

The service would be commissioned by the OPCC using directly received funding plus grant funding from HCC and other IOM partners.

Consultation

Has a consultation been carried out?

Yes

Strategic IOM partners were consulted on the proposed recommissioning arrangements for the HIOMS service as part of a joint review of IOM provision across the Southampton, Hampshire, Isle of Wight and Portsmouth (SHIP) area via the IOM Steering Group in November 2015. The proposals were agreed by the Police & Crime Commissioner in December 2015.

Strategic IOM partners consulted:

- Hampshire Constabulary
- Hampshire Community Rehabilitation Company
- National Probation Service
- Portsmouth City Council
- Southampton City Council
- Isle of Wight Council

HCC's strategic Substance Misuse partners were consulted on the proposed recommissioning arrangements for the HIOMS service via Hampshire Strategic Drug & Alcohol Action Team Board in November 2015. The identification of funding for this purpose was agreed at the November meeting.

HCC's strategic Substance Misuse partners represented on the Strategic DAAT:

- Hampshire Constabulary

- Hampshire Community Rehabilitation Company
- Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner
- Department of Work & Pensions
- National Probation Service
- HMP Winchester
- NHS England (Wessex)
- Public Health England
- Wessex YOT
- Hampshire Lower Tier Local Authorities (via representation from Rushmoor BC)
- Hampshire Active Recovery Community (ARC)*

*ARC is a peer-led organisation representing substance misuse service users in Hampshire.

Consultation with the current provider of specialist substance misuse treatment services within Hampshire (Inclusion Recovery Hampshire) and the current provider of the HIOMS service (Society of St James) has been progressed through usual commissioning interactions.

Statutory considerations

Impact

Age	Low
Disability	Low
Sexual orientation	Low
Race	Low
Religion and belief	Low
Gender reassignment	Low
Sex	Low
Marriage and civil partnership	Low
Pregnancy and maternity	Low

Other policy considerations

Poverty	Low
Rurality	Low
Other factors	None
If other please describe	

Geographical impact All Hampshire
 Have you identified any medium or high impact?* Yes No

Why do you consider that your project/proposal will have low or no impact?

The proposal is assessed as having no or low impact on all categories of individual and community with a protected characteristic.

This is because the proposal seeks to secure the continued provision of existing specialist support to substance misusing offenders as part of the SHIP-wide IOM programme for 12 months pending the full implementation by other partners of changes to the provision of criminal justice services in compliance with national legislative change.

By ensuring continuity of the current HIOMS provision the proposal seeks to mitigate any impacts on individuals and communities during the transition to full implementation of new criminal Justice and offender management practices as directed under the Offender Rehabilitation Act.

Final decision date

Final decision date due 24 Feb 2016
 Decision to be made by Executive Member