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| Approved By: Charles Garbett, acting Chief Executive and Treasurer (s151 officer) | Classification of Paper: Not Protectively Marked |
| Report to PCC | Report reference number PCC/0036 |
| Date of Decision Date of Report: 4 th April 2013 | Area of County/Stakeholders affected Countywide |
| Title of report: 2013/14 funding to the Thurrock Drug and Alcohol Action Team to maintain the commissioned provision of Criminal Justice Interventions across Thurrock previously funded from Home Office Grants | |
| Report by: Substance Misuse and Youth Inspector | |
| Enquiries to: Jasmine Frost, Essex Police; jasmine.frost@essex.police.pnn.uk | |

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. To seek approval to allocate £48,907 to Thurrock Drug and Alcohol Team to support their work in substance misuse related to the criminal justice system clients.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To approve the allocation of the above funding to support the substance misuse work

3. Benefits of Proposal

- 3.1 Substance Misuse (Drugs and Alcohol) continues to be clearly identified as a contributory factor to a considerable proportion of reported crime and disorder across Essex.

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- 3.2 Thurrock DAAT has historically commissioned Criminal Justice treatment and support for drug misusing offenders through allocation of the Drug Intervention Programme (DIP) budgets across Thurrock.
- 3.3 Data shows Q1 numbers referred to DIP and starting treatment being 83% (national equivalent 63%) and latest data at Q2 is 94% (national equivalent 63%). For those entering and completing treatment in Q1 39% did so successfully (national 15%) and in Q2 41% (national 15%). Numbers representing were high but these have improved significantly over the last year to be equivalent to the national average and Thurrock DAAT anticipate this improvement will continue
- 3.3 There is empirical data to show that people who enter an effective treatment programme and stay within the programme reduce their offending.

4. Background and proposal

- 4.1 The proposal is that Thurrock DAAT will use the £48,907 to part fund resources and infrastructure at OASIS as the posts are based there. A decision was taken to move the DIP service from the Prescribing Service to the Open Access Service in 2005 as a discrete service. This evolved during the retender in 2009 to form generic key working roles which incorporate both treatment and specialist DIP functions. Streamlining the role has improved the service offered to DIP clients and this improvement continues in current performance.
- 4.2 Thurrock is currently the top performing DAAT within the Country.

5. Police and Crime Plan

- 5.1. This proposal to support the provision of DIP workers in police custody suites supports the key priority area in the Police and Crime Plan around substance misuse.
- 5.2. It aligns with the PCCs approach to the allocation of the Community Safety Fund set out in the Police and Crime Plan which involves working closely with partners such as the Drug and Alcohol Action Teams.
- 5.3 It also accords with the PCC's approach set out in the Police & Crime Plan where there is a continuing need to support those existing services involved in tackling the causes and consequences of crime. This service was previously funded through the Drugs Interventions Programme Main Grant from the Home Office

6. Police Operational Implications

- 6.1 Acceptance of this proposal would ensure that police custody issues in relation to drug misusers are retained and that drug misusing offenders are supported into appropriate provision thereby freeing up Police resources.

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7. Financial Implications

- 7.1 The long term financial implications should there be a decision to not invest would be a reduction in people being identified in the CJ system as drug dependant and their offending would remain the same.
- 7.2 The PCC would fund a £48,907 contribution to the Contract and will use the existing measures within the contract to monitor outcomes and performance to ensure that the service delivers on his priority to tackle the consequences of drugs, alcohol abuse and mental health issues.
- 7.3 The monitoring and evaluation of the service during 2013/14 will allow the PCC to develop his long term commissioning strategy in relation to substance misuse treatment and support.
- 7.4 The long term financial implications would be the predicted rise in drug related crime and increased demand upon policing.

8. Legal Implications

- 8.1 The grant award is subject to terms and conditions within the PCC's funding agreement.

9. Staffing and other resource implications

- 9.1 There are no staffing issues. Staff delivering the contract are all employed directly by OASIS.
- 9.2 There are potential resource implications for the PCCs Office as the service and performance outcomes and to a lesser extent financial performance, will have to be regularly monitored to ensure effective and efficient delivery against the Police and Crime Plan priorities

10. Equality and Diversity implications

- 10.1 The continuation of this service would ensure that an underserved and hard to engage section of society would continue to have a specific element of support.

11. Background

- 11.1 Funding partly supports resources and infrastructure at OASIS as the posts are based there. A decision was taken to move the DIP service from the Prescribing Service to the Open Access Service in 2005 as a discrete service. This evolved during the retender in 2009 to form generic key working roles which incorporate both treatment and specialist DIP functions. Streamlining the role has improved the service offered to DIP clients and this improvement continues in current performance with Q1 numbers referred to DIP and starting treatment being 83% (national equivalent 63%) and latest data at Q2 is 94% (national equivalent 63%). For those entering and completing treatment in Q1 39% did so successfully (national 15%) and

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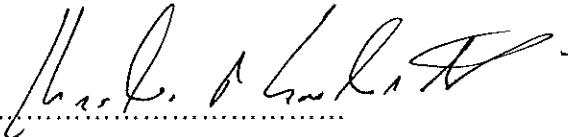
in Q2 41% (national 15%). Numbers representing were high but these have improved significantly over the last year to be equivalent to the national average and we anticipate this improvement will continue.

- 11.2 Funding supports contracted generic drug worker staff at OASIS. Additional specialist DIP only services have increased to cover out of hour's attendance at custody in Thurrock and attendance at Basildon Court on relevant days to pick up clients. A dedicated Prison Link Worker now liaises closely with prisons releasing clients to Thurrock and ensures that they are collected and supported into treatment and has housing and other immediate issues dealt with. Current levels of funding for the DIP service are a vital part and goes into supporting these generic posts.
- 11.3 An example of some positive pieces of work undertaken by the DIP is as follows:
- A client who was using cocaine and cannabis and 'sofa surfing' was arrested and referred and has been in treatment for 6 months, is coming to the end of his treatment, is now drug free and with help is now in stable accommodation. He has had support through health issues and his court case, which resulted in no further action due to the good progress he has made.
 - One client who's partner had died and who had descended into chaos and as a result had significant cocaine and crack issues and had a number of court cases. He was helped by DIP workers through these issues including support with child protection issues to regain access to his child, to find accommodation and financial support for debt issues. He has engaged well in treatment throughout and is moving positively towards a successful outcome.
 - A client with acute BBV issues and receiving treatment and substitute prescribing at the Community Drug & Alcohol Services was joint-worked through the OASIS DIP service and supported through financial and housing issues. This client has since left treatment and has been totally drug free for the last 14 months.
- 11.4 All the work undertaken is on-going - no fixed term projects have been set up based on this funding and therefore on the basis of the above, funding requirement stretches beyond 2013-14. If funding stays the same the excellent work of the last year will have been consolidated and the successes are likely to continue into this year. If funding is reduced for the DIP service we know from the funding forecast tool (provided by the NTA) that for each client who does not enter and succeed in treatment it will cost £4273 in crimes which could have been prevented and generate a further £4559 in health related costs.

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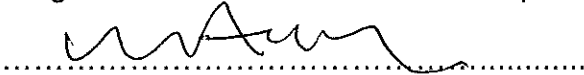
Report Approval

The report will be signed off by the Chief Executive and CFO and the PCC Solicitor where legal implications arise.

Chief Executive/M.O. 
Chief Financial Officer
PCC Legal Advisor (As necessary)

Decision

I agree the recommendations to this report


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PCC/Deputy PCC

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because

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PCC/Deputy PCC

Publication

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Reasons for non-publication (*state 'None' if applicable*)

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Signed/Print name

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|------------------------|------------|--------------------------|
| Report for publication | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> |

If the report is not for publication, the Chief Executive will decide if and how the public can be informed of the decision.

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