

**Presented by: Chief Inspector Dave Pate**

**To: West Kent CCG Health and Wellbeing Board**

**Date: 20<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

**Subject: Alcohol Task and Finish Group**

**Classification: Unrestricted**

## **Summary**

The alcohol task and finish group was tasked by the West Kent HWBB to review key issues and make recommendations to address alcohol misuse in West Kent. It was agreed the task and finish group should apply the Total Place and Total Resource methodology to the review. This report provides an update on progress, including the development of an action plan, lead organisations commitment and future working. At the meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2015 the board agreed the following recommendations:

**Recommendation 1:** Agree delivery of West Kent Alcohol Misuse Plan

**Recommendation 2:** Promote actions of the West Kent Alcohol Misuse Plan

**Recommendation 3:** Agree indicators to monitor West Kent Alcohol Misuse Plan

The task and finish group has looked at these approved recommendations and this paper provides an update on progress.

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The task and finish group for alcohol was formed subsequent to a presentation made to West Kent Health and Wellbeing Board on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2015. The aim of the Group was:
  1. To develop an action on how we can collectively address alcohol issues related to multiple and repeat service users
  2. To explore barriers around information sharing relating to alcohol misuse and what operational and strategic actions are needed to improve this
  3. To agree ways to work together to improve alcohol related outcomes for West Kent population
  4. To agree actions on delivery of alcohol strategy in West Kent to strengthen outcomes through ownership of the West Kent Alcohol Misuse Action Plan
- 1.2 Councillor Annabelle Blackmore (Maidstone Borough Council) agreed to be the West Kent Board elected member for alcohol misuse. The task and finish group is chaired by Chief Inspector Dave Pate.

## **2. Progress of the West Kent Alcohol task and finish group**

- 2.1 The West Kent Alcohol Summit was held on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2015 and findings have been collated into an action plan (appendix I), aligned to the six pledges outlined in the Kent Alcohol Strategy.
- 2.2 The task and finish group met regularly during 2016 to:
  1. discuss actions and receive feedback from lead agencies assigned to each action within the action plan
  2. update action plan based on progress
  3. ensure a coordinated approach
- 2.3 A teleconference between the West Kent Health and Wellbeing Board Chair and the West Kent Alcohol Task and Finish Group chair took place on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2016 to discuss the effectiveness and future of the task and finish group. It was concluded that whilst the group had been effective in capturing the West Kent priorities for alcohol misuse, the majority of this work is delivered and monitored in Community Safety Partnerships.

## **3. Next steps**

- 3.1 As district authorities work differently and public health responsibilities are devolved, Community Partnership Groups may restructure to wider geographical areas.
- 3.2 The KCC and Kent Police Kent Drug and Alcohol Strategy 2017- 2022 (draft) consultation closed in February 2017 and is currently pending approval from Adult Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee. It is expected to be formally adopted in May 2017. The strategy has five strategic themes:
  1. Building resilience
  2. Identification
  3. Early help and harm reduction
  4. Recovery
  5. Supply (enforcement)

Revisions to specialist service provision will need to be included and embedded in future working for partners.

3.3 This paper therefore recommends:

1. That the action plan should remain focussed on local priorities, managed by the West Kent Community Safety Partnerships
2. The draft Kent drug and alcohol strategic themes are included and aligned to actions
3. A Community Safety Partnership lead should be nominated to feedback to the West Kent Health and Wellbeing Board

#### **4. Conclusion and Recommendations**

The task and finish group have embedded the West Kent Alcohol Action Plan within existing groups. The actions are discussed and driven forward predominantly by Community Safety Partnerships. As the geographical landscape changes in West Kent the Community Safety Partnerships will be sharing objectives and will be well placed to work towards the desired outcomes. The West Kent Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to consider and agree the following recommendations:

1. That the action plan should remain focussed on local priorities, managed by the West Kent Community Safety Partnerships
2. The draft Kent drug and alcohol strategic themes are included and aligned to actions
3. A Community Safety Partnership lead should be nominated to feedback to the West Kent Health and Wellbeing Board.

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