

Joint Public Health Board

9 November 2022 Clinical Services Performance Monitoring

For Decision

Portfolio Holder: Cllr P Wharf, Adult Social Care and Health, Dorset Council
Cllr J Kelly, Communities, Health and Leisure, Bournemouth,
Christchurch and Poole (BCP) Council

Local Councillor(s): All

Executive Director: Sam Crowe, Director of Public Health

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Report Status: Public

Recommendations:

The Joint Board is asked to:

- consider the information in this report and to note the performance and changes in relation to drugs and alcohol, and sexual health.
- agree that oversight of performance in drug and alcohol services should in the future be delegated to the Combating Drugs Partnership Board and its subgroups to avoid unnecessary duplication.

Reason for Recommendation:

Close monitoring of performance will ensure that clinical treatment services deliver what is expected of them and that our budget is used to best effect.

The new Combating Drugs Partnership Board and its subgroups will have oversight of the performance of the treatment systems in both Dorset Council and BCP Council, and particularly the progress towards delivering the targets agreed with the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) and the use of grant monies.

1. Executive Summary

This report provides a high-level summary of performance for drugs and alcohol and sexual health services, with supporting slides in an appendix.

A report on clinical treatment services performance is considered every other meeting.

2. Financial Implications

None

3. Environmental implications

No direct implications.

4. Well-being and Health Implications

Improving access, programmes and referral links with partners will have a positive implication for health and wellbeing

5. Other Implications

N/A

6. Risk Assessment

Having considered the risks associated with this decision, the level of risk has been identified as:

Current Risk: LOW

Residual Risk: LOW

7. Equalities Impact Assessment

An Equalities Impact Assessment is not considered necessary for this agreement.

8. Appendices

Appendix A - Supporting slides

9. Background Papers

Previous reports to the JPHB.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Joint Public Health Board reviews performance of commissioned services on a six-monthly basis. This report focuses on our core treatment services for drugs and alcohol and for sexual health and associated services commissioned from pharmacies.
- 1.2 Alongside this the Board also receives regular updates against the Public Health Dorset Business Plan to monitor progress against agreed deliverables.

2. Drugs and Alcohol

- 2.1 BCP Council is responsible for commissioning all its drug and alcohol services, except for pharmacy services for needle exchange and supervised consumption. Public Health Dorset are responsible for commissioning all services for residents in the Dorset Council area and pharmacy services.
- 2.2 The new Pan-Dorset Combating Drugs Partnership Board to support the delivery of the ambitions of the national drug strategy, *From harm to hope: A 10-year drugs plan to cut crime and save lives*, has now been established. The Board has agreed three subgroups to focus on each of the three priorities within the strategy (enforcement activity to break drug supply chains; delivering a world class treatment and recovery system; and achieving a generational shift in the demand for drugs) and a fourth subgroup which is focused on the development of a needs assessment and analytical work so that progress towards achieving the aims of the strategy can be monitored.
- 2.3 Commissioners in both Dorset Council and BCP Council are working closely with providers to implement the plans agreed with OHID and the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities for use of additional grant monies received in 2022/23.
- 2.4 The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic have lessened within the treatment system with improvements in access for inpatient detoxification and residential rehabilitation.
- 2.5 Drug related deaths remain a priority locally, and despite the pandemic the number of deaths has remained stable in the past few years. The Pan-Dorset Drug Related Death Panel continues to meet regularly to review and learn from all deaths.
- 2.6 Opiate and alcohol completion rates in BCP Council remain low although opiate completions have improved slightly. The overall number of people in treatment for opiates continues to increase, particularly the cohort who are homeless or at risk of homelessness the proportion. This means that the proportion of those in long term treatment remains below the national average because of the large influx of new clients in the past 18 months.

- 2.7 The recommissioning of the new BCP services which mobilised from November 2021 had an impact on service engagement and capacity due to staff vacancies. However, services have now settled down after transition, and vacancy numbers have fallen. The expectation is that outcomes should start to improve with the additional provision that will be on offer.
- 2.8 Overall numbers of people in treatment in Dorset Council remains stable although there has been a small drop in those presenting to treatment. Treatment completion rates are better than national averages for both opiates and alcohol.
- 2.9 The numbers of young people accessing both tier 2 and tier 3 treatment in Dorset Council has continued to decline. Treatment providers are working closely with Dorset Council Children's Services to address this by strengthening links and referral routes with locality teams and schools.

3. Sexual Health

- 3.1 All new STIs (excluding Chlamydia in under 25s) per 100,000 population aged 15 to 64 years showed that in 2020 infection diagnoses were lower than England average in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole combined and lower in Dorset. There has been a longer-term trend, which has remained relatively stable since 2012, new data published for 2021 shows an increase in new STIs locally and nationally, with Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole now above England average.
- 3.2 For chlamydia screening Sexual Health Services in Dorset have adopted a more targeted focus in directing screening to areas of greater need. To increase positivity rates and subsequent treatment. So, the proportion of those 15-25 years olds screened in higher prevalence areas are higher. The numbers screened aged between 15-25 in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole combined are shown as higher than England average and Dorset are much lower. New data published for 2021 shows testing is starting to improve now. The diagnoses for those 15-25 and over 25 are lower than England average across both council areas and continue to decline, compared to a slight increase in England average overall.
- 3.3 The rate of Gonorrhoea has been increasing since 2016 but show a levelling off during 2020, and a slight decline for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole and Dorset, which was more in line with the England trend. Figures both remain lower than the England average at 62.2 and 14.0 per 100,000 population respectively compared to 90.3. However, new data published for 2021 shows that declining figures are starting to level off.
- 3.4 Nationally rates of syphilis diagnoses have shown a rising trend, rates in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole peaked again in 2018 following a decline since 2014, figures for 2020 showed continued declining trends, new data

- published for 2021, shows figures for Dorset continue to decline and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole show the decline is now levelling off and the England average is now on the rise, at 13.27, 7.30 and 3.19 respectively.
- 3.5 The prevalence rate for HIV in 2020 was 2.7 per 1000 population in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole, which was higher than the England average (2.3), new data published for 2021 shows a slight decline (2.69). However, trends remain higher than average, which is largely due to vulnerable groups residing in the area. This gives an amber ranking against the national goal of less than 2 per 1000 population. Rates for Dorset (0.8) were below average and ranked green.
 - 3.6 New data published in 2021 shows that HIV new diagnosis rates fell overall in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (5.2) compared to the previous year but not significantly and remain above England average (4.76). Dorset remains low (1.84). Late diagnosis for HIV has improved since 2011 as people are presenting and getting tested earlier and awareness of clinical indicators for HIV among care professionals has improved.
 - 3.7 Nationally conception rates have fallen over time from 22.8 to 13, in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole figures were below England average in 2018, the declining rates are levelling off and new data published 2021 show figures are now in line with the England average (13) and Dorset remains below average (10.59).

4. Conclusion and recommendations

- 4.1 This paper provides a high-level summary of performance, and more in-depth information is available on request. The Joint Public Health Board is asked to note the performance data in this report for sexual health and substance misuse and consider whether the future monitoring of service performance for drug and alcohol services should be delegated to the Combating Drugs Partnership Board and its subgroups.

Sam Crowe
Director of Public Health