



TACKLING DRUGS CHANGING LIVES

Housing Strategy Group

Wednesday, 12th August 2009
10:00-12:30 hours
Phoenix House

Minutes

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| Present | |
| Tony Oram (Chair) | Strategy Manager, DAAT |
| Jacqui Westrop | Manager, Drug Interventions Programme |
| Claire Leborgne | Strategic Housing Manager, Norfolk Probation |
| Katie Smith | Supported Housing Manager, Merchants Terrace |
| John Hales | Operations Manager, St Martins Housing |
| Lorraine Douglas | Principal Officer Housing Needs, KLWNBC |
| Andrew Stevenson | Substitute representative for Broadland Housing |
| Lisa Prior | Senior Substance Misuse Worker (Housing Pathways), NORCAS |
| Andrew Cleveland | Manager, NORCAS |
| Richard Price | Drug Availability Liaison Officer, Norfolk Constabulary |
| Elaine Horn (Mins) | PA to Strategy Manager, DAAT |
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| Apologies | |
| Ben Curren | Outreach Team Manager, Julian Housing |
| Rob Cooper | Planning Officer, Supporting People |
| Polly Kane | Strategy Officer, NOAF |
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| Item | Subject |
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| 1. | Declaration of Interest Item 5: Capital Bidding Programme – interest declared by providers who may be considering a submission to the programme. |
| 2. | Apologies for absence and introductions. As above |
| 3. | Acceptance of minutes from meeting held on 10th June 2009 (including any confirmation of any part of the minutes exempt under the FoI Act) An update to details of bid being led by RSL Stonham has been made. Minutes accepted and will be published on www.nordat.org.uk . |
| 4. | Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 10th June 2009: <i>£94k – options we have for using this resource to take substance misuse/housing issues faced by substance misusers countywide:</i> TO did not issue NTA programme to group as this guide did not focus on housing. |

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| | <p>LP to issue Core Message Pack to EH who will forward to HSG members.</p> <p>AC noted that Darrell Yaxley is no longer working for NORCAS.</p> |
| 5. | <p>HSG Capital Bidding Programme – the next steps</p> <p>TO issued paper titled ‘Framework For Capital Expenditure’, drafted by Rob Cooper and Richard Price. This document aims to outline a bidding process which will be promoted to treatment providers, supported housing providers, landlords and other allied partners in respect of £94k which will be used toward supporting gaps identified in the needs assessment work. The recommended criteria, proposed application format and evaluation framework are included for HSG discussion and approval. A panel for evaluation and decision making must also be chosen. Group agreed to the approach and panel composition (process and structure) – although panel selection must take into account potential interested parties who are presently group members. Panel will be final decision maker, not Housing Strategy Group. Discussion took place around retrospective bids – the money does not need to be committed by end of financial year, however, a progress report will be required and works must commence within current financial year. Retrospective applications can be made, only from April 2009. Group discussed how recovering capital costs can increase revenue. A maximum limit of 2,500 words used in completing application was agreed. The NHS definition of capital will be worked to, with website details being published for reference purposes.</p> <p>Action: TO/SRW to ensure details are published on www.nordat.org.uk.</p> <p>HSG agree to issue application for funding for capital bids 2009/10 on 31/08/09 with deadline set for applications of 30/10/09.</p> |
| 6. | <p>Senior Substance Misuse Worker (Housing Pathways) – Lisa Prior update</p> <p>LP reports that the visits to Local Authority frontline teams to highlight problems around housing substance misusers have been completed. Interest was shown although 3 ‘champions’ have been nominated, the remaining authorities allocated a team member to deal with issues. RP suggests issuing a bullet pointed ‘champions role’ document which will help to achieve consistency across the county. LP will continue to establish regular contact with authorities.</p> <p>LP working on core message pack, alongside mapping project gauging position on spectrum of tolerance. Appointments have been booked with management teams, closely followed by appointments with frontline teams of each project, to explain how the analysis can identify gaps, with the aim to improve outcomes for clients. RP notes the need to stress that this work is not for outreach training. LP will attend REAP Sub Group on 8/10/09. HSG to consider training in the future.</p> |
| 7. | <p>Producing a Housing & Substance Misuse Strategy for Norfolk – update</p> <p>LP is issuing a 10 point questionnaire to approximately 30 organisations, to put to their clients. The 10 questions will ask for their ideas of current provision for housing substance misuse clients and for their ultimate ideas of how it could look. In this piece of work, the process will look at outcomes first and then check these against data and evidence available.</p> <p>Action: HSG members to supply LP with details of other organisations who could be involved.</p> |
| 8. | <p>HSG work plan – progress to date</p> <p>CBW5 Develop a Substance Misuse Housing Strategy with supporting delivery plan for Norfolk as part of Supporting People programme. LP will rewrite to reflect current position and revise timeframes.</p> |

DAG1 Draft, publish and distribute guidance for those involved in inreach/outreach support services for people with substance misuse issues living in their own accommodation as per the 'Spectrum of Possibility' guide for housing providers. TO pleased to report that publication is on track for 24/08/09 and will be ready for multi-disciplinary training and awareness raising programme developed and delivered Sept-Dec 2009. Further training dates have been issued through to March 2010 with potential waiting list for further training beyond this, however, this would be dependent on ability of RC/MH/RP to facilitate.

DAG2 Assess extent to which those providing housing services for young people affected by substance misuse (their own or that of a parent, carer or sibling) would use guidance along the lines already developed, tailored for their specific service requirements. The group agreed that the pattern allocated to current and previous guides works well and should be used, ie. Develop, consult, publish, train. LP to research other guides available for young people/substance misuse housing and liaise with Dan Mobbs at MAP.

Timeline for workplan will be adjusted.

2010/2011 Young People

2011/2012 Dual Diagnosis

2012/2013 Older People

Action: Agenda item October HSG – discuss topics for inclusion in young people's guide.

YP1 Scope out the nature and extent of accommodation needs for people affected by substance misuse aged 16 & 17 years. Commence target for needs assessment is September 2009 with completion date aiming for March 2010. This will feed into young people's guide.

Action: TO to begin work, discuss with DAAT Research & Information Officer.

9.

Issues facing members of HSG which require action, ideas or support

CL reports (on behalf of PK) that the NOAF Joint Strategic Review of Offender Services will be issued, with 1-month deadline giving final opportunity to check recommendations and this will then be included in the final strategy.

JH reports on a movement being set up towards establishing a day-wet-centre in Norwich, potentially on the site of unused pub premises in Guildhall. Group discussed routing to support and potential problems associated with wet houses.

Action: JH to follow up / HSG to forward relevant emails received around this issue to TO.

LD notes that there will be an informal rough sleeper count taking place 17/08/09 at 4am. Along with Supporting People, providers for young peoples hostel have been shortlisted with view to being in place at time of hostel completion (mid-October 2009).

TO asks colleagues whether providers are noticing increase or changing patterns due to recession. JH comments that it is not noticeably altered, takes time to hit the streets. LD comments that the Government interventions have helped decrease mortgage reposessions. RP comments that police intelligence shows no change in pattern due to recession. JW notes same from DIP but can report increased alcohol referrals.

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| 10. | <p>Hostels involvement in service user engagement work – links?</p> <p>Group note that a questionnaire around this work has recently been issued by Supporting People. JH notes that services users are involved in elements of running hostel through service user forum and a training & development centre led by service user volunteers.</p> <p>Action: TO to discuss this issue further with Supporting People.</p> |
| 11. | <p>Any Other Business</p> <p>JW has been asked by NTA to do presentation on NDAP Housing Strategy (08/09/09). HSG pleased that the work of the group has been recognised. JW to take new guide and note it is published on www.nordat.org.uk.</p> <p>Action: JW/TO to liaise regarding presentation.</p> |
| 12. | <p>Date, time and venue of next meeting:</p> <p>Wednesday, 14th October 2009</p> <p>10.00am – 12.30pm</p> <p>Phoenix House Conference Room</p> |

Copies of minutes and papers can be obtained from:-

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