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To: The Kent Community Safety Partnership
Subject: Substance misuse services in prisons
Classification: Unrestricted

The following paper was presented to the Kent Drug and Alcohol Action Team Board on 19th January 2012 where the Board agreed to note the progress made following a previous recommendation for the retendering of substance misuse services across the Kent prison estate, Dover Immigration Removal Centre and Rochester prison on behalf of Medway.

Summary

There has been substantial development in the work to recommission substance misuse services across the prison estate. The Prison Profiles and Needs Assessment are complete and a service specification is attached for information, which will now form part of the wider consultation process for the delivery of an integrated substance misuse service for prisons.

1. Introduction

- 1(1) The Ministry of Justice (MoJ), National Treatment Agency (NTA) and the Department of Health (DoH) wrote to DAAT Partnerships in March 2011 (see Appendix 1) to announce the funding and responsibility for commissioning all substance misuse services in prisons would transfer to DAAT from April 2011.
- 1(2) Since this announcement, work has progressed to commission a more integrated substance misuse service across the Kent prison estate that meets the identified needs and leads to improved outcomes for prisoners and the wider community.

2. Current Provision

- 2(1) KDAAT has been responsible for commissioning and monitoring of IDTS¹ services for the prisons in Kent as part of a national phased process. The table at Appendix 2 provides an overview of the current IDTS services in Kent.

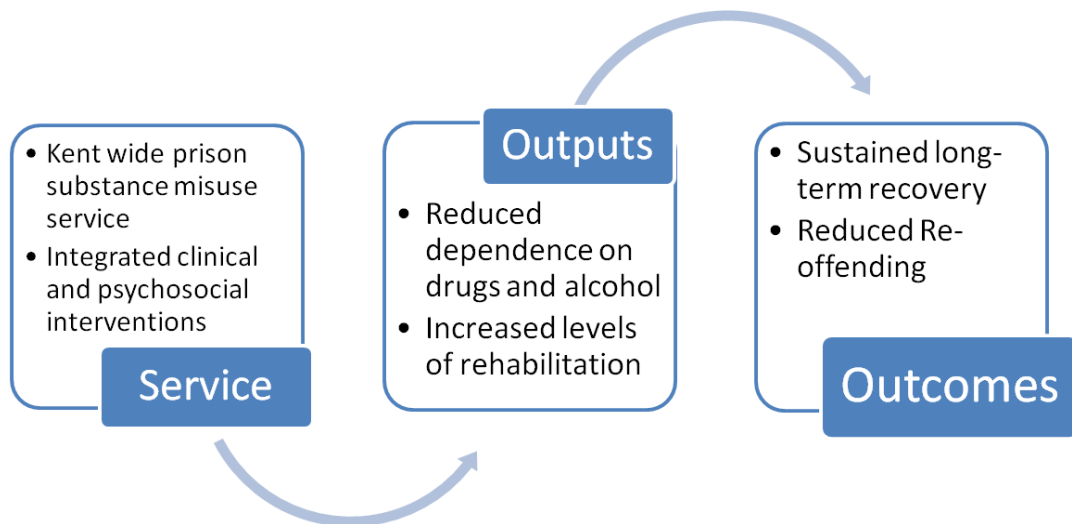
Until April 2011, the National Offender Management Service (NOMS) had responsibility for commissioning psychosocial interventions through the prison based Counselling, Assessment, Referral And Throughcare (CARAT) service and substance misuse rehabilitation programmes. The government announced in March 2011 that this responsibility would transfer to local DAAT partnerships with effect from April 2011.

- 2(2) CARAT services and prison based rehabilitation programmes in Kent are delivered by CRI or RAPT alongside prison staff.

3. Future Vision

¹ Integrated Drug Treatment System

- 3(1) The decision to combine responsibility for commissioning prison based substance misuse services within DAAT partnerships presents an opportunity to commission a reshaped substance misuse service across the Kent prison estate that meets the identified needs and leads to improved outcomes for prisoners and the wider community in terms of:
- Reduced re-offending following release from prison
 - Sustained long term recovery from substance misuse problems.
- 3(2) The diagram below provides an illustration of the proposed for commissioning these services:



4. Progress

- 4(1) The Co-commissioning group, which consists of all of Kent's Prison Governors, provides the overarching governance structure for the re-commissioning of substance misuse services. This group reports directly in to the JCG and the KDAAT Board.
- 4(2) The Operational Group has been helping to develop the service specification, which is based on the Needs Assessment.
- 4(3) Public Health have completed a substance misuse needs assessment and establishment profile for each of the Kent prisons and Dover IRC. This can be found on the Public Health Observatory website at: <http://www.kmpho.nhs.uk/population-groups/prisoners/?assetdet957414=204141>
- 4(3) Rochester prison has been included in the county wide development process and work is underway in establishing the governance and accountability links with Medway council.
- 4(4) The service specification has been developed (See Appendix 2) and included for your information/comments as part of the formal consultation process.

5. Next Steps

- 5(1) The table below sets out the key tasks and timescales that is being followed in order to commission a integrated substance misuse service across the Kent prison estate.

Timescale	Task
July - September 2011	Needs Assessment
October - November 2011	Develop service model and specification
December 2011 – February 2012	Consultation
March – May/June 2012	Tendering and evaluation process and contract award
June/July - September 2012	Transition and service mobilisation
1 st October 2012	New service operational

6. Consultation and Communication

- 6(1) A targeted consultation with stakeholders and service users has commenced, which forms part of the commissioning process to inform the overall shape of the service alongside the needs assessment.
- 6(2) Focus groups with service users, prisoners, families and carers will take place throughout January.
- 6(3) A market engagement event is planned to gather views and opinions on the ability to deliver the service based on the final specification.

7. Financial Implications

- 7(1) Funding for the Integrated Drug Treatment System (IDTS) in Kent prisons has remained fairly static in 2011/12 and is being managed and monitored through the individual IDTS partnership project Boards.
- 7(2) The transfer of responsibility for commissioning substance misuse services in prisons to local DAAT partnerships will be accompanied by an increased prison substance misuse commissioning budget for KDAAT. This funding will be distributed down to the local PCTs and routed through into DAATs. The precise funding allocations are still not known.
- 7(3) Work is progressing with the finance leads from each establishment to clarify the budget arrangements for the existing CARAT contracts. This will enable the DAAT to understand each delivery model and its allocated funding.
- 7(4) A meeting has also taken place with east Kent PCT finance to make arrangements for the transfer of the associated funding for the existing CARAT contracts.
- 7(5) Further meetings are required with the respective PCT medicines management/pharmacy leads to discuss the drug and prescription costs going forward as these budgets currently sit with the PCT.

8. Legal Implications

- 8(1) KDAAT is obligated to ensure services are commissioned in an open and transparent way. Existing contracts for IDTS have been extended for a further year and are due to expire at the end of 2011/12. This is in parallel with the existing CARAT/Programmes contracts that have previously been procured by the National Offender Management Service (NOMS).
- 8(2) In aligning these services it is essential that KDAAT undertakes a competitive procurement exercise to minimise the risk of any legal challenge and to ensure delivery of best value for money in the resulting contract.
- 8(3) KDAAT has now taken over the monitoring of CARAT services following the novation of contracts from the Ministry of Justice to KCC.

9. Equality Impact Assessment

An Equality Impact Assessment Screening has been completed to ensure all equality issues are identified and incorporated into the service specification (see Appendix 3).

10. Sustainability Implications

- 10(1) KDAAT remains committed to ensuring the services are commissioned on a sustainable basis.

11. Risk and Business Continuity Management

- 11(1) There are risks associated with the retendering of any services but this is mitigated by the fact that the aligning of these funding streams will bring added benefit for stakeholders, in particular the offenders using the services. The DAAT also has a proven track record in commissioning good quality services and obtaining excellent value for money.

12. Conclusion

- 12(1) Significant progress has been made in the development of the retendering process for substance misuse services in prisons.
- 12(2) The Prison Profiles and Needs Assessment are now finalised and form a critical part of the specification development.
- 12(3) A service specification has been developed and is attached for information/comment.

13. Recommendation

- 13(1) To note the developments for substance misuse services in prisons and to continue to support the necessary work required for aligning the Integrated Drug Treatment System contracts with the Counselling, Assessment, Referral, Advice and Throughcare (CARAT) Services, Programmes and Compact Drug Testing.
- 13(2) To note the Needs Assessment.
- 13(3) To note the draft service specification and to provide comment/feedback to KDAAT by 31st January 2012.

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