

Recommendations of Overview & Scrutiny Committee

6.1 Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 17 October 2018

6.1.1 Drug Intervention Services in Test Valley

Consideration was given to a report of the Community Engagement Manager which set out the provision of drug support services in Test Valley in order to understand the multi-agency support available in the borough for people with drug dependency. Drug support services for Young People and Adults in the Test Valley were commissioned by Hampshire County Council.

These services work with other agencies, including Test Valley Borough Council, Police and others, to support and advise local multi-agency partnerships dealing with all aspects and impacts of drug related matters.

The provision of support services for those with a drug dependency within Test Valley was the responsibility of Hampshire County Council. Currently, those services were operated by Inclusion, for adults; and Catch-22 for young people, each of whom report directly to Hampshire County Council. Where drug related issues arise in a criminal justice context, these would be the responsibility of the Police to investigate.

Hampshire County Council had recently concluded a consultation process into the future provision of these (and other) services. However, the outcome of this process was not yet known.

The Committee stressed the importance of early intervention and were keen to explore opportunities and funding streams that may be available to the Council and others for the provision of drug education services for young people.

Members requested that the report title be changed from 'Drug Prevention Services in Test Valley' to 'Drug Intervention Services in Test Valley' to better reflect the work and services undertaken by multi agencies.

Recommended:

That opportunities for funding drug prevention education programmes be explored.

6.1.2 Public Involvement Panel Final Report

Consideration was given to a report of the Lead Member of the Public Involvement Panel which set out how the review findings into public involvement would be put into practice as part of the Council's approach to strengthening public involvement.

The panel had undertaken a review into public involvement which reflected on the progress the Council had made over recent years to engage and involve communities and the public more effectively in informing decision making.

The Panel had identified a number of proposals which could help the Council continue to strengthen its approach to public involvement. The Member and Community Development Working Group had endorsed the proposals and developed an action plan for how they could be implemented in a practical way.

Recommended:

That the proposed action plan emanating from the Public Involvement Review be endorsed.

(It is proposed that the Action Plan will form part of the work programme for the Member and Community Development Working Group)