

## Impact Assessment - First Stage

### 1. Details of the initiative

**Initiative description and summary: The report seeks delegated authority to enter into a grant agreement for two services. This is an internal function of the Council to ensure people act within their authority.**

Provision of funding via a grant agreement to the Amman Tawe Partnership of GP Practices, to extend their provision of low threshold, maintenance, prescribing for opiate substitute therapy, for people who are working towards overcoming an addiction to opiates (heroin).

Provision of funding via grant agreement to the PCC to continue to provide capacity for rapid access clinical Opiate Substitute Treatment (OST) for up to 30 individuals identified by the Western Bay Engagement team and Swan project in response to current Critical Incident group concerns.

The services will be provided to residents across the Western Bay Area, which covers both Neath Port Talbot and Swansea. It will be funded through the Welsh Government's Substance Misuse Action Fund (SMAF). The investment of this fund into this service has already been agreed by the Area Planning Board, which includes health, social care a criminal justice strategic partners operating across Swansea and Neath Port Talbot.

This Board is responsible for planning treatment services and coordinating funding from the Welsh Government to ensure that people living with in the region have access to services that meets their needs and improves their wellbeing.

**Service Area:** Partnerships and Community Cohension (Western Bay Area Planning Board)

**Directorate:** Education & Lifelong Learning

### 2. Does the initiative affect:

	Yes	No
Service users	X	
Staff		X
Wider community	X	
Internal administrative process only		X

**3. Does the initiative impact on people because of their:**

	Yes	No	None/ Negligible	Don't Know	Impact H/M/L	Reasons for your decision (including evidence)/How might it impact?
Age	X				L	These are generic services, for anyone who needs maintenance prescribing of opiate substitute therapy and access to OST and is considered at risk. It is not targeted at any specific group, or by age, albeit the age of clients is recorded. Individuals who have protected characteristics can access this service as easily as anyone who does not. The proposal is to increase the level of provision of this service, which will not have a negative impact on any group, and will have apposite impact, but this is not determined by age.
Disability	X				L	Access to this service/support is determined by the need and suitability; disability is not a determining factor in accessing this service, but successful engagement with this service will have a positive impact for someone with this protected characteristic, as it would for someone without.
Gender Reassignment		X				At this time it is considered there would be no impact on in relation to this characteristic.
Marriage/Civil Partnership		X				It is not envisaged that this will have any impact in respect of this protected characteristic.
Pregnancy/Maternity		X				This is a generic service, for anyone who needs maintenance prescribing of opiate substitute therapy, irrespective of their status.
Race		X				At this time it is considered there would be no impact on in relation to this characteristic.
Religion/Belief		X				At this time it is considered there would be no impact on in relation to this characteristic.
Sex		X				See above

Sexual orientation		X				See above
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**4. Does the initiative impact on:**

	Yes	No	None/ Negligible	Don't know	Impact H/M/L	Reasons for your decision (including evidence used) / How might it impact?
People's opportunities to use the Welsh language		X				The GP who provides clinical input in PSALT is a fluent Welsh speaker. There are also fluent Welsh speakers within the GP Practice who can ensure that letters can be produced bilingually. The Key Workers who provide the 1:1 support for Individuals in receipt of the services do not necessarily speak Welsh, but, there have not been any requests to provide the service in Welsh.
Treating the Welsh language no less favourably than English		X				The Key Workers who deliver the support to the Individuals do not speak Welsh, so it is not currently possible to provide this service in Welsh. However, there have been no requests to provide this service in Welsh to date.

**5. Does the initiative impact on biodiversity:**

	Yes	No	None/ Negligible	Don't know	Impact H/M/L	Reasons for your decision (including evidence) / How might it impact?
To maintain and enhance biodiversity		X			L	This proposal relates to increasing investment in a low threshold prescribing service, and access to OST, which will have no impact on biodiversity.

To promote the resilience of ecosystems, i.e. supporting protection of the wider environment, such as air quality, flood alleviation, etc.		X			L	
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**6. Does the initiative embrace the sustainable development principle (5 ways of working):**

	Yes	No	Details
<p><b>Long term</b> - how the initiative supports the long term well-being of people</p>	X		<p>Increasing the level of investment in the low threshold prescribing service will enable Individuals to maintain their recovery from addiction.</p> <p>Increasing the level of provision in low threshold prescribing will also free up spaces in services that are able to offer opiate substitute therapy for Individuals who have more complex health, social care and criminal justice issues.</p> <p>The RAPS service commenced in March 2020 and has been working with individuals requiring OST who are leading chaotic lifestyles and identified as high risk by Engagement Team and Swan project. These individuals have been able to gain a rapid clinical assessment and access to clinical treatment with a view to stabilising their use and preparing them for longer term referrals to other prescribing services that are available.</p> <p>This will have a long term positive impact for the well-being of the individual their families and friends and for the wider community.</p>

<p><b>Integration</b> - how the initiative impacts upon our wellbeing objectives</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>In addition to the above, by being able to maintain Individuals on opiate substitute therapy, we are enabling them to live a life free from the use of illegal substances, thereby reducing their potential to be perpetrators or victims of crime.</p> <p>Helping Individuals to overcome their addiction to illegal substances also increase their ability to become economically active and enter into, or remain in, employment, education or training, thereby enabling Individuals to work towards achieving their potential.</p> <p>Individuals who are addicted to illegal substances are often socially excluded. By helping them to overcome this addiction, we will be enabling them to work towards becoming more active and valued members of their communities.</p> <p>The delivery and commissioning of substance misuse services is through a multiagency partnership board, and this proposal stems from a recommendation/decision of the Area Planning Board.</p>
<p><b>Involvement</b> - how people have been involved in developing the initiative</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>In developing the business case for the need for additional investment in low threshold prescribing and RAPS, consideration has been given to the needs of Individuals who are on the waiting list to access this type of service, as well as Individuals who are waiting to access more intense opiate substitute treatment services.</p>
<p><b>Collaboration</b> - how we have worked with other services/organisations to find shared sustainable solutions</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>This follows a decision by the Western Bay Area Planning Board. This Board includes representation from the Swansea Bay Health Board, NPT and Swansea Council Social Services, as well as Criminal Justice Agencies. These services identified the need to extend the provision of low threshold prescribing and continue with RAPS.</p>
<p><b>Prevention</b> - how the initiative will prevent problems occurring or getting worse</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>By providing additional units of low threshold prescribing, we will be helping and enabling Individuals to overcome their addiction to illegal substances.</p> <p>The service commenced in March 2020 and has been working with individuals requiring OST who are leading chaotic lifestyles and identified as high risk by Engagement Team and Swan project. These individuals</p>

		<p>have been able to gain a rapid clinical assessment and access to clinical treatment with a view to stabilising their use and preparing them for longer term referrals to other prescribing services that are available.</p> <p>During the time that Individuals receive opiate substitute treatment, they are also able to work through and overcome/resolve the underlying issues that led to their addiction, as well as the consequences of their addiction, in areas such as housing, relationships, engagement with the criminal justice system, as well as social and financial exclusion.</p>
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**7. Declaration - based on above assessment (tick as appropriate):**

A full impact assessment (second stage) <b>is not</b> required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reasons for this conclusion	
<p>This proposal, if agreed, will increase the number of Individuals who will be able to access a service that they need to assist them on their road towards recovery from addiction to illegal substances. This proposal will therefore not have any negative impacts. The impacts will have a positive effect both for the Individuals who receive the service and for the wider community. The proposal will have a positive impact on reducing engagement in criminal activity and increasing engagement in education, training and employment.</p>	

A full impact assessment (second stage) <b>is</b> required	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reasons for this conclusion	

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	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
Completed by	Erica Barrett	Contract Monitoring Officer		
Signed off by		Head of Service/Director		