

Impact Assessment - First Stage

1. Details of the initiative

Initiative description and summary: The report seeks delegated authority to enter into a contract with Figure 8 consultancy on behalf of the Area Planning Board, having regard to the Council's CPR.

The Area Planning Board fulfils the statutory responsibilities of Community Safety Partnerships in respect of substance misuse. 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. The APB is responsible amongst other things, for the commissioning, development and delivery of substance misuse services across the region (NPT and Swansea) and for determining expenditure priorities. The services are provided to residents across the Western Bay Area, which covers both Neath Port Talbot and Swansea. The services are funded through Substance Misuse Action Fund, together with partner contributions.

The APB is a collaboration, it is not a legal entity in its own right and whilst it can make decisions to recommend, it cannot by itself enact those decisions, for example it cannot commission or contract or hold funding in its own name.

This means that one of the responsible authorities to the APB must hold and be responsible for the funding, as well as hosting the regional team, and putting into action 'decisions' of the APB. NPT is the banker and host of the support team.

The APB has recognised that there is need for a change in the way services are delivered and it has agreed to embark on a transformation or change journey to develop an integrated public health model, which is seamless, evidence based and intelligence led.

The APB wishes to work with Figure 8 consultancy and its lead director because this consultancy has the expertise, knowledge and credibility to be part of this change process, through their work in Dundee, which the APB hopes it can mirror.

However as mentioned above, the APB cannot commission in its own right, and NPT as the banker is asked to do this on their behalf. NPT in doing so bears the risk, and must follow its own CPR.

The investment of this fund into this service has already been agreed by the Area Planning Board, which includes health, social care and criminal justice strategic partners operating across Swansea and Neath Port Talbot.

The APB needs this expert advice and guidance, and without this scheme the change would be jeopardised, this would have a negative impact on people and our communities

This report therefore fulfils an internal governance requirement of NPT, in seeking authority to enter into a contract. Albeit the outcome if the recommendation is supported, will be positive in terms of the journey to improve services to make them integrated and seamless and meet people's needs.

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				The decision is to appoint a consultant to help the APB deliver a change in the way services across the region are commissioned and delivered to ensure that services are better integrated (across health, third sector and criminal justice) and that people can move seamlessly between services, and that what is delivered is based on evidence of need, and also service user involvement and

						<p>the views of those with lived experience and staff involved in services are taken into account. And ultimately to reduce drug related deaths</p> <p>This decision has no direct impact in respect of age, but the transformation journey that the Consultant (if recommendation is approved) will be part of, will be positive for people who need services, this will be irrespective of age.</p>
Disability		X				<p>As with age above.</p> <p>At this time it is considered there would be no impact on in relation to this characteristic.</p>
Gender Reassignment		X				<p>Please refer to the explanation above.</p> <p>At this time it is considered there would be no impact on in relation to this characteristic.</p>
Marriage/Civil Partnership		X				<p>It is not envisaged that this will have any impact in respect of this protected characteristic.</p>
Pregnancy/Maternity		X				<p>At this time it is considered there would be no impact on in relation to this characteristic.</p>
Race		X				<p>At this time it is considered there would be no impact on in relation to this characteristic.</p>
Religion/Belief		X				<p>At this time it is considered there would be no impact on in relation to this characteristic.</p>
Sex		X				<p>See above</p>
Sexual orientation		X				<p>See above</p>

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 report recommends the appointment of a consultant who will assist the APB in its journey to improve services and reduce dug related deaths. The consultant will be involved in a specific piece of work which will hear the voices of service users, their families, as well as staff, etc. It is not thought that this proposal will impact on people's opportunities to use Welsh. Ultimately the desired outcomes is that services are improved and deaths averted. I services people will be able to use Welsh should they wish to do so.
Treating the Welsh language no less favourably than English		X				See above.

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 has no impact on biodiversity.
To promote the resilience of ecosystems, i.e. supporting protection of		X			L	No impact

the wider environment, such as air quality, flood alleviation, etc.						
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6. Does the initiative embrace the sustainable development principle (5 ways of working):

	Yes	No	Details
Long term - how the initiative supports the long term well-being of people	X		<p>The proposal is to allow delegated authority to appoint a consultant, who is already working with the APB, up to October 2023. Funding already identified to support this. This is part of the APB's ambition to develop an integrated public health approach that will see long term and sustainable improvements in the way substance misuse services are delivered and how people access those services, reduce harms, improve people's lives and life chances, and to reduce drug related deaths. This is part of a transformation journey</p> <p>This proposal, if agreed, will ultimately 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>
Integration - how the initiative impacts upon our wellbeing objectives	X		<p>The public health model we are working towards, of which the commission is an integral part is fundamentally about integration, ensuring that services are accessible and that people can move freely between any elements of the service, be that criminal justice, health or the third sector. Access will be by need and not a 'label'.</p>

			<p>We want people to live a life free from the use of illegal substances, or misuse of legal substances (alcohol) thereby reducing their potential to be perpetrators or victims of crime.</p> <p>Helping Individuals to overcome their addiction to illegal substances or misuse of legal substances (alcohol) 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>
Involvement - how people have been involved in developing the initiative	X		<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>The consultants will specifically work on a drugs commission which will hear the voices of those with lived experience (users and their families), and those who work in the sector (including clinicians) and other interested parties including e.g. housing, mental health, academics, etc.</p>
Collaboration - how we have worked with other services/organisations to find shared sustainable solutions	X		<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.</p>

Prevention - how the initiative will prevent problems occurring or getting worse	X		This commission is part of a wider change programme which will transform the way substance misuse services are delivered; the intention is to develop a fully integrated public health approach which has prevention at its heart.
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7. Declaration - based on above assessment (tick as appropriate):

A full impact assessment (second stage) is not required	X
Reasons for this conclusion	
<p>If the proposal is agreed, it will contribute to an improvement in substance use services. 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, as well as health outcomes.</p>	

A full impact assessment (second stage) is required	
Reasons for this conclusion	

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	Name	Position	Signature	Date
Completed by	Claire Jones	Strategic Manager Partnerships and Community cohesion	SCJones	9th March 2022
Signed off by		Head of Service/Director		