



Alcohol and Drug Commissioning Framework for Northern Ireland 2013-16

Consultation Questionnaire.

This questionnaire has been designed to help stakeholders respond to the above framework.

Written responses are welcome either using this questionnaire template or in an alternative format which best suits your comments.

Please respond to the consultation document by post or e-mail to

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YOUR RESPONSE MUST BE RECEIVED BY 11th April

(Please the relevant tick boxes)

I am responding: as an individual

on behalf of an organisation

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CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

1. Do you agree with the approach being proposed by the PHA/HSCB in the development of a Drug and Alcohol Commissioning Framework for Northern Ireland as outlined in section 3 of this document?

Yes

Comments: __The Belfast Trust welcomes the approach being proposed by the PHA/HSCB in developing a collaborative and inclusive approach to a significant health care need and particularly welcome the theme of promoting consistency throughout treatment services regionally. However the Trust would welcome more emphasis on an early intervention services and health promotion to establish healthy lifestyle behaviours as well as a clear commitment to employing "Users By Experience" where appropriate.

SECTION ONE: CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

Drugs and Alcohol

7.1 Education and Prevention

2. Do you agree with the commissioning priorities as laid out in this section?

Yes

Comments: __The inclusion of family at the earliest possible stage is an integral part of true partnership working and will assist in the broader social context of changing our cultural beliefs around the part that drugs and alcohol play in our day to day lives.

There should be additional emphasis on the role of the media and licensing laws/regulations.

3. Do you agree with the Service Aims and Role and Functions outlined in this section?

Yes

Comments: Improving access, in particular with schools is an important way to move forward, early awareness is targeted groups will hopefully impact on usage in later years.

As stated previously significant emphasis needs to be put on early intervention.

4. Do you agree with the outcomes listed in this section

Yes

Comments: It may be useful to include to promote alternative life enhancing behaviours for young people so that they can make better lifestyle choices.

However the Trust believes that the list is achievable and realistic if appropriate resources are allocated

7.9 Early Intervention and Treatment

Early intervention

5. Do you agree with the commissioning priorities as laid out in this section?

Yes

Comments: There is a key role for CAMHS Primary Mental Health workers as part of the stepped care model to bridge the gap between youth treatment and CAMHS step 3 and 4 services.

6. Do you agree with the Service Aims and Role and Functions outlined in this section?

Yes

Comments: There needs to be some consideration given to how to engage with “hard to reach” young people who are misusing substances. The Belfast Trust currently operates a successful model for “hard to reach” adults.

7. Do you agree with the outcomes listed in this section?

Yes

Comments: It would be beneficial for the CAHMS Services to fully implement the Regional Initial Assessment Tool (RIAT).

Young people's treatment services including CAMHS

8. Do you agree with the commissioning priorities as laid out in this section?

Yes

Comments: The transition to Adult Services must be carefully managed for the young person and their family so that they remain engaged with the service. This must be managed within a person centred approach.

9. Do you agree with the Service Aims and Role and Functions outlined in this section?

Yes

Comments: The Trust particularly welcomes the concept of the family support hub, which will assist in the development of more integrated pathways of care.

10. Do you agree with the outcomes listed in this section?

Yes

Comments: _____

7.21 Hidden Harm

Early Intervention

11. Do you agree with the commissioning priorities as laid out in this section?

Yes

Comments: The “Hidden Harm” agenda is everyone’s business across all services. Any initiative that will enhance working between services is welcomed.

Training and support will be required for all practitioners to continually remind individuals of the “Hidden Harm” agenda.

12. Do you agree with the Service Aims and Role and Functions outlined in this section?

Yes

Comments: A multi agency approach is required to prevent services working in isolation with clear integrated pathways of care based on evidence based practice and regional outcome measurement tools.

13. Do you agree with the outcomes listed in this section?

Yes

Comments: _____

Treatment and Support

14. Do you agree with the commissioning priorities as laid out in this section?

Yes

Comments: All initiatives are welcome.

15. Do you agree with the Service Aims and Role and Functions outlined in this section?

Yes

Comments: Psychosocial support and resilience building are vital to the overall health and well being agenda and should help empower the individual.

16. Do you agree with the outcomes listed in this section?

Yes

Comments: An additional outcome could relate to a reduction in the exposure of children and young people to the impact of parental substance misuse.

SECTION TWO: ADULTS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC

8.1 Education and Prevention

17. Do you agree with the commissioning priorities as laid out in this section?

Yes

Comments: Early identification and brief advice programmes should be delivered in the areas outlined, however there should be consideration given to targeting additional areas where adults attend facilities such as Housing Departments, Social Security and Further Education in order to reach individuals who do not engage with Health Services.

18. Do you agree with the Service Aims and Role and Functions outlined in this section?

Yes

Comments: There is a need to ensure that ever changing information is consistent across the region.

19. Do you agree with the outcomes listed in this section?

Yes

Comments: Whilst outcomes can be difficult to measure there needs to be a programme of work to identify outcome measurement tools particularly around harmful and hazardous drinking in order to identify early indicators.

8.4 Early Intervention Services

20. Do you agree with the commissioning priorities as laid out in this section?

Yes

Comments: The Belfast Trust would particularly welcome an expansion of the number of substance misuse liaison nurses within the General Hospital setting to develop clear pathways of care. There should also be clear linkages to Self-Harm Services as the Self-Harm Registry has highlighted the link between substance misuse and Self-Harm.

21. Do you agree with the Service Aims and Role and Functions outlined in this section?

Yes

Comments: There is a need to escalate the delivery of Alcohol Brief Interventions and the possibility of GP's being financially rewarded or incentivised to ensure blanket delivery. It would be highly beneficial to have regional literature/information leaflets for GP's and other Practitioners.

22. Do you agree with the outcomes listed in this section

Yes

Comments: An additional outcome would be reduction in the harmful effects of substance misuse on both the individual and their family.

8.11 Substance Misuse Liaison Services

23. Do you agree with the commissioning priorities as laid out in this section?

Yes

Comments: We welcome the change in title to substance misuse worker as there is clear evidence of the coexistence of drug and alcohol usage and the expansion of the resources to meet the national benchmark.

24. Do you agree with the Service Aims and Role and Functions outlined in this section?

Yes

Comments: Expertise in particular the recognition that care pathways will be developed with other areas. Any additional information to enhance “self help” will be positive.

25. Do you agree with the outcomes listed in this section?

Yes

Comments: This should be linked into the development of the Self-Harm/Protect Life strategy as there is a strong connection between alcohol related presentations in the Emergency Department and Self-Harm.

8.20 Low Threshold Services

26. Do you agree with the commissioning priorities as laid out in this section?

Yes

Comments: The Belfast Trust currently has an extensive range of these services and are essential in the engagement of “hard to reach” individuals. Joint commissioning is necessary to develop clear integrated service provision particularly with the NIHE and PHA.

27. Do you agree with the Service Aims and Role and Functions outlined in this section?

Yes

Comments: _____

28. Do you agree with the outcomes listed in this section?

Yes

Comments: Very welcome, but need to be resourced accordingly.

8.28 Community Based Treatment and Support

29. Do you agree with the commissioning priorities as laid out in this section?

Yes

Comments: The Belfast Trust welcomes all these commissioning priorities.

30. Do you agree with the Service Aims and Role and Functions outlined in this section?

Yes

Comments:.

On occasions the adherence to engagements guidelines such as IEAP prevents individuals to engage when “they are ready.” Within the role and function of statutory substance misuse services it would be important to add that “pharmacological interventions to aid on-going alcohol and drug abstinence”.

31. Do you agree with the outcomes listed in this section?

Yes

Comments: The diagram should have arrows of travel going both ways to reflect that patients step down from Tier 4 to Tier 3 services or from statutory Tier 3 to Voluntary Tier 2 services. The arrows appear to go only one way. Clarity needs to be given to where Dual Diagnosis sits - in Mental Health or Addiction Services?

8.41 Inpatient and Residential Rehabilitation Provision

32. Do you agree with the commissioning priorities as laid out in this section?

Yes

Comments_The Trust welcomes the development of the Regional Treatment Network Forum and the Regional Integrated Care Pathway (ICP)_

It is important that the under 18's needs are considered given that early intervention works best and the needs of children currently have to be addressed within mental health, secure care or juvenile justice to receive treatment at this level

33. Do you agree with the Service Aims and Role and Functions outlined in this section?

Yes

Comments:_This is a comprehensive description of alcohol and drug treatment provision._____

34. Do you agree with the outcomes listed in this section?

Yes

Comments: The Trust welcomes the outcomes, but this will require significant resource at all levels including resilience building within communities._____

SECTION THREE: CAPACITY

9.1 Service User and Family Involvement

36. Do you agree with the commissioning priorities as laid out in this section?

Yes

Comments: We welcome Service User involvement – an issue that was strongly voiced at the recent ‘Future Search’ Conference and took forward to Users by Experience being employed within our service.

37. Do you agree with the Service Aims and Role and Functions outlined in this section?

Yes

Comments: Particularly welcome the role of the family in supporting service user involvement

Point 9.5.2 refers to “be aware of and comply with the requirements of the Children Act (2004).” However in Northern Ireland the legislation is ‘Children (NI) Order (1995).

38. Do you agree with the outcomes listed in this section

Yes

Comments:

9.7 Workforce Development

The workforce development commissioning priorities are designed to ensure that those working in the field of alcohol and drugs as commissioned by PHS/HSCB are competent and confident to deliver all aspects of this work commensurate with their role and function.

39. Do you agree with the commissioning priorities as laid out in this section?

Yes

Comments: This will aid staff to be better equipped to deliver evidence based practice within a complex and dynamic area of work. Broadening out and enhancing all staff for those organisations that interface with alcohol/drug related issues can only be viewed as positive.

40. Do you agree with the Service Aims and Role and Functions outlined in this section?

Yes

Comments: This is comprehensively detailed in the document.

41. Do you agree with the outcomes listed in this section

Yes

Comments: _____

42. Do you agree with the findings of the Equality, Good Relations and Human Rights Template that accompanied this document

Yes

Comments: Consideration must be given to needs of young people in all sections.

43. Are there any priorities for commissioning that are not reflected in this framework?

No

Comments:

FURTHER COMMENTS

44. Please use the space below to inform us of any additional comments you wish to make in relation to the Drug and Alcohol commissioning framework.

The Belfast Trust welcomes this comprehensive and detailed Drug and Alcohol Commissioning Framework and views this as a solid platform to develop integrated services to tackle a significant health and well being need that will require joined up commissioning and strategic planning to enhance resource allocation where possible.
