

**Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee**

**Briefing Note for Members**

**Purpose of the meeting**

As you may be aware Combined Health has asked to attend the next Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting. Their objective in attending this meeting is to seek support for a proposal to change the Enhancement of Community Older people's Mental Health Outreach Team.

However this is an excellent opportunity for Members to scrutinise the work Combined Health are doing specifically around alcohol (prevention, education and treatment) such as the Edward Myers Unit. It also allows Members to tease out and identify any potential opportunities for further preventative work around alcohol, working in partnership with Newcastle Borough Council and other partners.

Regarding possible questions to ask Combined Health the following questions have been suggested;

- How do people get referred to Combined Health?
- How does Combined Health assist people with alcohol issues?
- What is provided as part of any aftercare provision?
- What does Combined Health do to prevent people from experiencing alcohol issues?
- How much do these services cost?
- What more is needed in the County to prevent escalation?
- How can partners contribute?

There is a clear opportunity for Members to examine what Combined Health is doing /not doing and whether lessons can be learnt around, especially, prevention and/or early intervention.

We would also like to remind the Committee about the proposal we put together several years ago on using Let's Work Together to identify alcohol related issues. This proposal was discussed with Tony Bullock from Public Health – please see the document attached for more details.

Prior to the presentation from Combined Health there will be a presentation from Trevor Smith (Community Safety Officer – Alcohol Lead) and Sarah Moore (Partnerships Manager) on what work we undertake as a partnership around preventing and dealing with alcohol related issues in the Borough, the needs of the Borough in relation to alcohol, the strategic process the partnership goes through to identify key actions around these needs, what projects are in place to prevent alcohol misuse, what the success rates, the role of the

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Partnership HUB and groups such as the Responsible Bodies Group and Reducing The Strength.

There will also be a presentation from One Recovery who provides a comprehensive array of prevention and treatment services across the County will also be attending to take questions from the Committee on their services and referral processes.

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