

**FALKIRK COUNCIL CORPORATE AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES
FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT
2012/2013**

Organisation Name	Forth Valley Alcohol and Drug Partnerships – (Contract to Addictions, Support and Counselling)
Project	Forth Valley Family Support Service
Agreement Dates	01 April 2012 – 30 March 2013
Name of Lead Officer	Caird Forsyth

A OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS

Summary of Key Aims & Objectives

- Provide Family Support Service across Falkirk, Stirling and Clackmannanshire Council (Forth Valley) areas
- Provide a separate service for individuals (family and friends) (adults) affected by substance misuse from any service provided to substance user or misusers
- Provide a range of support to those referred/self referred, dependant on need including group work, peer support groups, one to one, telephone support and home visits
- Promote the service to organisations/agencies within the area

List of Agreed Outcomes

- Recruit suitably qualified staff to support persons referred/self referring to the service
- Accept referral/self referral to the service
- That those who engage with the service are given access to all available support or where necessary signposted to support
- Services become more aware of service provided
- Establish self help Family Support Groups in communities throughout Forth Valley

Why Service/Project is Funded Externally Rather than by the Council

Service is funded externally in line with other alcohol and drug treatment services in Forth Valley and whilst working separately from established services for problematic alcohol and drug the service becomes part of the network of support provided throughout Forth Valley with the long term aim to establish and sustain support networks required to stabilise families and promote recovery. The Forth Valley aspect of the service allows individuals to access the service out with their home area and provides the anonymity that some seek when engaging with a service of this nature.

B ACTUAL PERFORMANCE vs. OBJECTIVES / AGREED OUTCOMES

Summary of Key Achievements

- Staff recruited and operational June 2012
- Publicity material produced and distributed to key locations throughout the area
- Referrals accepted by the service

Summary of Key Issues/ Challenges Facing Organisation

The service was established as a pilot to test the Forth Valley Model for Family Support as agreed through the PSP process in conjunction with Family Support Groups existing pre April 2012 with agreement from those groups that the Forth Valley Model should be pursued. There has been no Family Support Service within the Clackmannanshire Council for approximately 3 years. One group (Stirling) decided to tender for the contract however were unsuccessful and thereafter disengaged from the process other groups ceased to exist and all enquiries were directed toward the new service. The pilot has been evaluated externally with issues about the delivery of the service being raised in this. The existing service should be in place until end of September 2013. The FVDAP are reviewing the delivery of this service as a matter of urgency, to ensure it meets the specification originally envisaged by the partnership.

How has Organisation Contributed to Council/ Service Priorities

SOA - Health Inequalities and Physical Activity – Harms to Health (including alcohol and drugs) – Support for family and friends of those affected by substance misuse.

Falkirk Alcohol and Drug Partnership / Forth Valley Alcohol and Drug Partnership – provision of support to family and friends of problematic substance users.

List any Areas where there has been Shortfall in Performance

Low numbers due to new service establishing and marketing to services who engage with problem substance users and lack of development of local support groups. Discussion with commissioning group (FVADP) to consider future service provider still covering Forth Valley.

How often are Review Meetings held with Lead Officer

Service is reviewed quarterly by FVADP Monitoring Group.
Service has been subject to external evaluation

C FINANCIAL / RISK ASSESSMENT OVERVIEWTotal Support Provided (Financial & In- Kind Contributions)

£20,000.00 – Falkirk Council

Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts

Service will be audited within accounts of host agency, Addictions, Support and Counselling. Service present a balance sheet at each monitoring group meeting with no cause for concern.

Future Risks (Financial, Operational or Structural) Faced by Organisation

Employees in service are on fixed contract for the duration of the service if the service were to be closed there would be no TUPE issues. Host service have premises in Falkirk and Stirling and access to premises in Clackmannanshire and have been encouraged to seek use of community premises when establishing community groups as required.

<u>Overall Risk Rating (Low/Medium/High)</u>	
Medium	
D CONCLUSIONS	
<u>Summary/ Opinion of Organisations Overall Progress During Year</u>	
<p>Support of provision of family support service should continue for family and friends of those with problematic substance misuse, basic support is not offered by any other service and service assists in signposting clients to appropriate services where there are more complex needs. This service is for adults (over 16's) only and where services have knowledge of children within families they make the appropriate referral and in some cases work with the adult and child(ren) or refer to young carers organisation.</p>	
E COMPLETED BY	
<u>Name</u>	Caird Forsyth
<u>Designation</u>	Policy Officer (Substance Misuse)
<u>Date</u>	20 th August 2013