

The background of the slide features a large, light blue watermark of the Seal of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The seal consists of a shield divided into four quadrants. The top-left quadrant shows a bent arm holding a broadsword. The top-right quadrant shows a Native American figure holding a bow and arrow. The bottom-left quadrant shows a sailing ship on the water. The bottom-right quadrant shows an eagle with its wings spread. Above the shield is a crest depicting a bent arm holding a sword. A ribbon scrolls across the bottom of the shield with the Latin motto "ENSE PETIT PLACIDAM SVB LIBERTATE QVIETEM".

Agenda Item 6

Commissioning Update: Services for Survivors of Trauma

Falkirk Council

Title: Commissioning Update: Services for Survivors of Trauma
Meeting: Executive
Date: 15 August 2017
Submitted By: Head of Social Work Adult Services

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Executive with information about the work that is currently being undertaken to commission a fit for purpose service for survivors of trauma.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Executive is asked to:-

- (1) Note progress towards the development of a new service for survivors of trauma, which now falls within the scope of services governed by the Integration Joint Board (IJB).**

3. Background

- 3.1 In August 2016, Falkirk Council agreed that future services for survivors of trauma would be commissioned via tender. It was originally intended that the service would be in place by 1 April 2017. However, the opportunity was taken during 2016/2017, to review the commissioning direction. The intention of this review was to ensure that the approach taken allows for integrated delivery and recognises good practice in relation to treatment and support for people who have experienced trauma.
- 3.2 On 30th March 2017, the IJB formally approved a budget of £97,644 for services for survivors of trauma, for 2017/2018.
- 3.3 During the period 2016/2017, no specialised service for survivors of trauma has been funded by Falkirk Council or NHS Forth Valley. Open Secret, now known as Wellbeing Scotland, previously received funding to provide a service, however this award ceased on 31 March 2016. During the interim period, on-going support has been provided to survivors, by organisations including Wellbeing Scotland, Falkirk & District Mental Health Association, Committed to Ending Abuse (formally Women's Aid) and Forth Valley Rape Crisis.

4. Considerations

- 4.1 During the period since August 2016, a service model has been developed, incorporating tiers of support; Practical & Emotional Support; Support for Parents (challenging systemic behaviours); and Counselling and Therapeutic Interventions. These three service areas are designed to provide a spectrum of support for Survivors, in line with presenting need and personal outcomes. The model was informed through previous work undertaken with a multi-agency working group including representatives from Falkirk Council, NHS Forth Valley and Third Sector agencies. It is important that services are delivered in line with the wider local strategic context, connecting with existing partnerships and forums, as illustrated within figure 1, below.



Figure 1

- 4.2 The service model seeks to provide inclusive and progressive services for a diverse range of Service Users. The model acknowledges that within the spectrum of available support, there should be recognition of both social and medical approaches to delivery. Service Users may only require a relatively low level of support whilst others may require a significant level of formal psychological support, which must be well regulated in line with relevant national and local clinical and care governance guidelines. The model also anticipates multiple entry points for service users.

- 4.3 Services for Survivors will be commissioned on a phased basis. Phase one will consist of two areas of service; Practical & Emotional Support (£37,644) and Support for Parents (challenging systemic behaviours) (£30,000). Tenders will be issued by the end of August 2017, via the Quick Quote process. The initial period of the contract will be one year, commencing November 2017. The initial period will enable providers to effectively plan and implement services, with scope for on-going development based on evaluation, as required. Monitoring requirements will be built into the requirements of contract award set out within the specification.
- 4.4 Phase two, will relate to more formal counselling services, which will have a value of £30,000. This provision will be incorporated into an overarching review and strategic commissioning of mental health services, which was approved by the IJB in March 2017. The IJB agreed to a review of all services commissioned within the Third Sector by Falkirk Council and NHS Forth Valley, with the intention of moving to a more integrated approach to strategic commissioning.
- 4.5 As mental health and wellbeing is cited within Falkirk Community Planning Partnership's SOLD Plan as a priority and with high level of local service demand, it was agreed that this would form a priority thematic area within the review and commissioning process. This work will also link with relevant review work being undertaken by Falkirk Council. This includes the proposed review of services provided by Committed to Ending Abuse (CEA). The timescale for completion of this work is April 2018.
- 4.6 The rationale for incorporating counselling provision within broader mental health service provision, acknowledges specialist nature of trauma related counselling and the necessity that this must be set within a context of appropriate regulation and supervision. In addition, there is a significant cross-over between general counselling service and support for survivors, with a high proportion (around 40%) of people who receive counselling disclosing trauma during the course of counselling provision, but who have not presented with trauma at the point of referral. Providers must be able to respond effectively to trauma with appropriate and evidence based interventions.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 Consultation is not required at this point of the commissioning process, however the service model has been developed based on the output of engagement with NHS Forth Valley, Falkirk Council and Third Sector partners.

6. Implications

Financial

- 6.1 As noted within 3.1, the IJB approved a budget of £97,644 for services for survivors of trauma, for 2017/2018.

Resources

- 6.2 The commissioning process is being progressed by Officers within Adult Social Work Services in conjunction with NHS Community Mental Health and Psychological Services.

Legal

- 6.3 Services will be commissioned in line with Contract Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.

Risk

- 6.4 The main area for risk is no or low response to advertised tenders. This risk is deemed as low.

Equalities

- 6.5 A full EPIA was undertaken at the point of initial service change in 2015. Further EPIA will be undertaken in relation to the implementation of the amended service.

Sustainability/Environmental Impact

- 6.6 State if a sustainability assessment has been completed as part of compiling the report and the main findings.

7. Conclusions

- 7.1 It is critical that services commissioned for survivors of trauma adhere to best practice set out within clinical guidance. It is also important that commissioned services are integrated within a whole system model of provision, providing positive outcomes for service users. The limited resource available for these services, should be directed to achieve the significant benefit to services users via the provision of safe and well regulated support.

Head of Social Work Adult Services

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Appendices

None

List of Background Papers:

The following papers were relied on in the preparation of this report in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973:

- Executive Committee, August 2016
Commissioning Process: Services for Survivors of Trauma