FALKIRK COUNCIL CORPORATE AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT 2013/2014

Organisation Name	Forth Valley Alcohol and Drug Partnerships – (Contract to Addictions, Support and Counselling)
Project	Forth Valley Family Support Service
Agreement Dates	30 March 2013 – 30 th September 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
- Establish local family support groups

<u>List of Agreed Outcomes</u>

- 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
- Service accepted 100 referrals during the period from across Forth Valley 55 referrals from Falkirk.
- Family Support Group established in Falkirk meeting fortnightly at ASC premises in Vicar Street, Falkirk. The group were supported by Scottish Families Affected by Alcohol and Drugs and Falkirk and District CVS post 30th September 2014.
- Family Support Group (Falkirk) members attending local and national events with family support and recovery focus.

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 service was in place until end of September 2013 with existing clients (a group of four women) within Falkirk receiving support from Scottish Families Affected by Alcohol and Drugs and Falkirk and District CVS with a view to becoming a self supporting group. FVADP took the decision to issue tender for the provision of the service. The tender document reflected lessons learned from the pilot. The contract was awarded to Scottish Families Affected by Alcohol and Drugs in February 2014 with the service to be operational by April 2014. Persons seeking family support between October 2013 and March 2014 were made aware of Scottish Families Affected by Alcohol and Drugs as well as the local support meetings being held in Falkirk.

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

Initially low numbers due to pilot 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) resulted in tender to provide service being prepared.

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 OVERVIEW

Total Support Provided (Financial & In- Kind Contributions)

£20,000.00 - Falkirk Council (£20,000.00 from Clackmannanshire and Stirling 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.

Annual Accounts will be presented at Addictions, Support and Counselling (ASC) AGM on 23rd October 2014

Future Risks Financial, Operational or Structural) Faced by Organisation

Employees in service were on fixed contract for the duration of the service with no TUPE issues at the end of contract (September 2013) Host service had 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. ASC continued to provide use of its premises for family support group meetings until the end of this reporting period.

Overall Risk Rating (Low/Medium/High)

Medium

D CONCLUSIONS

Summary/ Opinion of Organisations Overall Progress During Year

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.

E COMPLETED BY

Name	Caird Forsyth
<u>Designation</u>	Policy Officer (Substance Misuse)
Date	2 nd October 2014