

Report to:	Health and Wellbeing Board
Relevant Officer:	Arif Rajpura, Director of Public Health
Relevant Cabinet Member	Councillor Jo Farrell, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health
Date of Meeting	31 March 2021

DRUG HARM REDUCTION STRATEGY 2020-22

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To seek approval for the updated Blackpool Drug Harm Reduction Strategy and its associated Action Plan. The overall aim of the strategy's approach is to reduce the prevalence of and risks associated with socially harmful drug abuse in Blackpool and build resilience by creating a supportive environment for affected individuals, families and communities to rebuild their lives.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To approve the revised Blackpool Drug Harm Reduction Strategy as attached at Appendix 5a for the period until 31 December 2022.
- 2.2 To approve the associated Drug Harm Reduction Action Plan as attached at Appendix 5b for the period until 31 December 2022.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 To finalise the direction of transformation for services.
- 3.2 Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No
- 3.3 Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

4.0 Other alternative options to be considered:

- 4.1 None.

5.0 Council Priority:

5.1 The relevant Council priority is: "Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience".

6.0 Background Information

6.1 Consultation on the Strategy started in 2017/18 but due to changes in personnel, the cancellation of the Health and Wellbeing Board in December 2019 and then subsequently due to COVID, the strategy was not formally signed off. The opportunity has been taken to update the Strategy and develop a Delivery Plan at the request of the relevant Cabinet Member- Councillor Jo Farrell.

6.2 The strategy is based on the needs assessment conducted in 2018, followed by partner consultation on priorities during 2019. The Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Committee considered the final version of the Drug Harm Reduction Strategy at an informal meeting in January 2021 after previously inputting into its development. The Committee had no further comments to make on the Strategy.

6.3 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

7.0 List of Appendices:

Appendix 5a: Blackpool Drug Harm Reduction Strategy 2020-22
Appendix 5b: Blackpool Drug Harm Reduction Strategy 2020-22
Delivery plan

8.0 Financial considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Legal considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 The strategy aims to reduce risk of Drug Related Deaths.

11.0 Equalities considerations:

11.1 Aims to reduce health inequalities in line with the Council's ethical policy.

12.0 Sustainability, climate change and environmental considerations:

12.1 None.

13.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

13.1 Community Safety Partnership and Harm Reduction Forum.

14.0 Background papers:

14.1 None.