

**WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL****CABINET**  
**18<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2008****Worcestershire Substance Misuse Strategy 2008-11**

<b>OPEN</b>	
<b>SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY THEME:</b>	Communities that are Safe and Feel Safe
<b>CORPORATE PLAN AIM:</b>	A Better Quality of Life
<b>KEY PRIORITY:</b>	Not applicable
<b>CABINET MEMBER:</b>	Cllr. Nathan Desmond
<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:</b>	Linda Collis
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<b>APPENDICES</b>	A copy of the 'Worcestershire Substance Misuse Strategy 2008-11' has been placed in the Members' Lounge. It is also available on the internet at <a href="http://worcestershire.whub.org.uk/home/wcc-smat-strategy">http://worcestershire.whub.org.uk/home/wcc-smat-strategy</a>

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To consider the Worcestershire Substance Misuse Strategy 2008-11 for adoption.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

The Cabinet is asked to **RECOMMEND** to Council that:

- 2.1 The Worcestershire Substance Misuse Strategy 2008-11 be adopted.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The strategy has been produced by the Worcestershire Substance Misuse Action Team (SMAT) on behalf of the Worcestershire SMAT Partnership Board. It has also been agreed by the Worcestershire Safer Communities Board.
- 3.2 Substance misuse, which includes both drugs and alcohol, causes considerable harm to society.
- 3.3 The most harmful drugs, including heroin and crack cocaine, bring untold misery to individuals, their families and communities. The most damaging effects for communities are those caused by drug dealing, drug-related crime and anti-social behaviour, which can undermine stable families and cohesive communities.
- 3.4 90% of the adult population drink alcohol and the majority drink sensibly. However, excessive alcohol consumption by a proportion of the population is causing considerable concern to the Government and society.

- 3.5 The purpose of the strategy is to set out the agreed direction that agencies will work towards and the outcomes and objectives to be achieved. This will guide planning and commissioning of services to ensure that collectively we are reducing the harm that drugs and alcohol cause to individuals, families and communities within Worcestershire.
- 3.6 The strategy has been developed because it is an opportunity to ensure that all Worcestershire Substance Misuse Action Team partner organisations, service providers and Community Safety Partnerships in Worcestershire are working to a common strategy with a shared understanding.

#### **4. KEY ISSUES**

- 4.1 The strategy provides an overarching framework of objectives and actions.
- 4.2 Also included within the strategy is:
- A rationale for the need for a local substance misuse strategy;
  - A description of the partnership structures in place to tackle substance misuse;
  - A breakdown of the agencies with responsibility for addressing substance misuse related harm in Worcestershire and their roles;
  - An overview regarding how the strategy at a local level will support the delivery of national strategies to address drug and alcohol related harm. This local strategy must mirror the national strategies wherever possible;
  - A profile of Worcestershire regarding drug and alcohol misuse for adults and young people;
  - A review of the current responses to local substance misuse related harm;
  - A table outlining the key targets that the agencies will work towards over the next three years;
  - A list of the local priorities to tackle drug and alcohol related harm;
  - A description of how the strategy will be implemented; and
  - A list of contacts for substance misuse related agencies and services in Worcestershire.

#### **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report as the strategy will be delivered by the substance misuse agencies in Worcestershire.
- 5.2 The Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership, using its existing resources and external funding, where appropriate, will work closely with SMAT and the other Community Safety Partnerships in the county to support the delivery of the strategy.

**6. LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The Worcestershire Substance Misuse Strategy contributes to the delivery of Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (CDA98). Through its adoption the Council is demonstrating a consideration for crime and disorder implications.
- 6.2 Adoption of the strategy supports the Council in its role as a responsible authority (as defined by Section 5(1) of the CDA98) of the Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership.

**7. RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 7.1 There are no risk management issues associated with this report.

**8. CONCLUSION**

- 8.1 The Worcestershire Substance Misuse Strategy sets out the priorities for the next three years to achieve the mission: 'Reducing the harm that drugs and alcohol cause to individuals, families and communities within Worcestershire'.

**9. CONSULTEES**

- Cabinet Member for Community and Corporate Services
- Corporate Management Team
- Head of Community and Partnership Services

**10. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership Plan 2008-11
- Crime and Disorder Act 1998