


<p style="text-align: center;">Non-Executive Report of the: Health and Wellbeing Board</p>	
<p>Report of: Somen Banerjee, Director of Public Health</p>	<p>Classification: Unrestricted</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Establishment of the Tower Hamlets Combating Drugs Partnership (CPD)</p>	

<p>Originating Officer(s)</p>	<p>Somen Banerjee, Director of Public Health</p>
<p>Wards affected</p>	<p>All wards</p>

Executive Summary

In 2021 the Government introduced a 10 Year strategy to cut crime and save lives by reducing the supply and demand for drugs and delivering a high-quality treatment and recovery system – ‘From Harm to Hope’. The strategy takes a whole Government approach to tackle drug related harm which is then reflected at a local level.

As part of the strategy each locality is required to develop a multi-agency ‘Combating Drugs Partnership’ (CDP) that will focus on delivering the three strategic priorities as set out in ‘From Harm to Hope’:

1. Break drug supply chains
2. Deliver a world-class treatment and recovery system
3. Achieve a shift in the demand for drugs

The Combating Drugs Partnership (CDP) will provide strategic oversight of delivering the national drugs strategy at a local level, and oversee the development of: a Local Joins Needs Assessment, Strategic Delivery Plan and a Local Performance Framework. It will also be responsible for providing an annual progress report to the responsible national body – the Joint Combatting Drugs Unit (JCDU)

It is proposed that the Tower Hamlets CDP is set up as a sub-group of both the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and Health & Wellbeing Board (HWBB), with a dual reporting arrangement to ensure leadership and oversight of the cross-cutting themes of enforcement and recovery set out in ‘From Harm to Hope’.

Recommendations:

The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:

1. Formally constitute the Combatting Drugs Partnership (CDP) as a sub-group of the Board;
2. Adopt the draft Terms of Reference (ToR) and membership of the CDP, recognising these are living documents that are subject to revision when required (e.g. members of staff leaving their posts and being replaced)

Health and Wellbeing Strategy:

The Health and Wellbeing Strategy is grounded upon 6 principles that matter most to residents of Tower Hamlets.

1. Resources to support health and wellbeing should go to those who most need it
2. Feeling connected and included is a foundation of wellbeing and the importance of this should be built into services and programme
3. Being treated equally, respectfully and without discrimination should be the norm when using services
4. Health and wellbeing information and advice should be clear, simple, and produced with those who will benefit from them
5. People should feel that they have equal power in shaping and designing services and programme that impact on their health and wellbeing
6. We should all be working together to make the best use of the assets we already have that support people's health and wellbeing.

Detail how this report relates to one or more of these principles:

The CDP priorities to deliver a world class drug treatment system and achieve a shift in the demand for drugs aligns with principle 1. The recommended governance arrangements for the CDP will ensure partners are working together to make the best use of the assets aligning with principle 6.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 The creation of a local CDP is a Government requirement to enable the delivery of the national drugs strategy 'From Harm to Hope'
- 1.2 The creation of the CDP as a sub-group of the CDP of the CSP and HWBB will ensure effective strategic oversight, leadership and governance across its areas of responsibility

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 The Health & Wellbeing Board could not to constitute the CDP as a sub-group, or it could recommend that the CDP only becomes a sub-group of the Community Safety Partnership
- 2.2 Neither of these options is recommended as doing so would remove the specialist oversight provided by the CSP and HWBB with regards to their respective areas of responsibility – enforcement and treatment

3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

- 3.1 The Government introduced a 10-year strategy to cut drug crime and save lives – 'From harm to Hope'. The strategy was introduced in response to the two-part review completed by Dame Carol Black in 2021, delivering the key recommendations from the review
- 3.2 'From Harm to Hope' focuses on developing and improving local collaboration to tackle drug related harm through coordinated action, combining targeted and tougher policing with enhanced treatment and recovery services. It aims to deliver three strategic priorities:
 - 1. Break drug supply chains
 - 2. Deliver a world-class treatment and recovery system
 - 3. Achieve a shift in the demand for drugs
- 3.3 As part of the strategy each locality is required to develop a multi-agency Combating Drugs Partnership (CDP) that is accountable for delivering a set of six national outcomes:
 - 1. Reduce drug use
 - 2. Reduce drug related crime
 - 3. Reduce drug related deaths and harm
 - 4. Reduce drug supply
 - 5. Increasing engagement in drug treatment
 - 6. Improving drug recovery outcomes
- 3.4 The CDP will provide a single setting for understanding and addressing shared challenges related to drug-related harm, based on the local context and need. The partnership will have a named Senior Responsible Owner

(SRO) who will report to central government and hold delivery partners to account.

- 3.5 In addition to delivering the three strategic priorities set out above the CDP is also required to jointly develop and agree a joint local needs assessment, local drugs strategy delivery plan and a local performance framework that will need submitting to the national Joint Combatting Drugs Unit (JCDU). The CDP will also be responsible for producing an annual progress update on implementation.
- 3.6 As set out in the draft Terms of Reference for the Tower Hamlets CDP, it is proposed that CDP is constituted as a sub-group of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB), with dual reporting into both partnership forms.
- 3.7 The CSP and HWBB will provide leadership across the cross-cutting themes of the 'From Harm to Hope' priorities and ensure effective strategic oversight and governance to the CDP, providing strategic steer to board
- 3.8 The SRO of the CDP will attend the CSP and HWBB meetings to provide an annual progress report, as well as attending meetings for strategic discussion on key CDP deliverables as and when is required
- 3.9 The proposal is for the CDP to meet quarterly with the first meeting convening in January 2023. When the CDP group is established it will take on the role of overseeing the development of Local Joint Needs Assessment, Local Strategy Delivery Plan and local performance framework.
- 3.10 Government guidance provides a timeline for the implementation of the CDP and development of key deliverables with a timeframe for completing each. The government timeframe for the CDP is very ambitious and challenging with key deliverables running parallel to each other. However, the JCDU has indicated some flexibility with the timeframes and will not ask for formal documents to be signed-off and delivered by those dates. Rather, CDPs will need to show progress and understanding of current position on both the needs assessment and planning.

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

4.1

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- CDP Background document and next steps

Appendices

- CDP draft Terms of Reference

- CDP draft membership
- CDP implementation plan

Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)

List of “Background Papers” used in the preparation of this report

List any background documents not already in the public domain including officer contact information.

- These must be sent to Democratic Services with the report
- State NONE if none.

Officer contact details for documents:

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