

Equalities Comprehensive Impact Assessment - Head of service review

Reference: ECIA446301036

Submitted: 23 August 2022 09:43 AM

Executive summary

Title of policy / decision: Integrated Health and Justice Service Contract Extension

Policy / decision type: Cabinet Decision

Overview of policy / decision: This is to extend the current Integrated Health and Justice Service for a further two years, as per the contract terms. The service seeks to ensure individuals with a range of vulnerabilities are diverted and supported out of crime by addressing a wide range of health and social care needs.

What outcome(s) are you hoping to achieve?: This service is a key part of ensuring vulnerable offenders are diverted into health and social care support, which in turn will reduce their chances of re-offending. Key "vulnerable" groups for the service include people with mental or physical health problems, people with LD or Autism, young people and people with substance misuse issues. The service also targets women detainees and aims to reduce the number of women given short-term prison sentences. This benefits not just the women concerned (who tend to have worse outcomes in prison) but also the families, by preventing family break-up. Thus the key aims are:

Reduction in Re-offending by vulnerable people

Reduction in the number of women receiving custodial sentences

Increase in the number of community treatment orders made

Executive Director responsible for policy / decision: Tom Walker (Economy, Investment and Public Health)

Cabinet Member responsible for policy / decision: John Spence (Health and Adult Social Care)

Is this a new policy / decision or a change to an existing one?: Change to an existing policy / decision

How will the impact of the policy / decision be monitored and evaluated?: The service is monitored through quarterly contract monitoring meetings. Additionally, the service has to submit performance data nationally to NHS England. Systems were put in place at the start of the contract to gather such data, and these will continue to be used.

Will this policy / decision impact on:

Service users: Yes

Employees: Yes

Wider community or groups of people: Yes

What strategic priorities will this policy / decision support?: Health, Independence and Wellbeing for All Ages, A good place for Children and Families to Grow

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Health: Healthy lifestyles, Promoting independence, Levelling up health

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Families: Family resilience and stability, Safety, Levelling up outcomes for families

What geographical areas of Essex will the policy / decision affect?: All Essex

Digital accessibility

Is the new or revised policy linked to a digital service (website, system or application)?: No

Equalities - Groups with protected characteristics

Age

Nature of impact: None

Disability - learning disability

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: High

Disability - mental health issues

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: High

Disability - physical impairment

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: High

Disability - sensory impairment

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: High

Sex

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: High

Gender reassignment

Nature of impact: None

Marriage / civil partnership

Nature of impact: None

Pregnancy / maternity

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: High

Race

Nature of impact: None

Religion / belief

Nature of impact: None

Sexual orientation

Nature of impact: None

Rationale for assessment, including data used to assess the impact: The service submits detailed performance data to NHS England and local commissioners (the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner, ICPs and regional NHS England commissioners). Regular service user feedback is collected and presented quarterly. Performance data is positive and compares well to regionally and nationally. Service user feedback consistently achieves positive scores. Wider data from the health and justice pathway indicates that if an individual engages with the full support on offer, less than 4% re-present within 12 months.

What actions have already been taken to mitigate any negative impacts: The service will work with any vulnerable offender detained by Essex Police, on trial in Essex courts or pre-arrest for those whose behaviour is causing concern to the public.

Levelling up - Priority areas & cohorts

Children and adults with SEND, learning disabilities or mental health conditions (taking an all-age approach)

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: High

Children on Free School Meals

Nature of impact: None

Working families

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: High

Young adults (16-25 who have not been in education, training or employment for around 6-12 months)

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: High

Harlow

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: High

Jaywick and Clacton

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: High

Harwich

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: High

Basildon (Town) housing estates

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: High

Canvey Island

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: High

Colchester (Town) - Housing Estates

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: High

Rural North of the Braintree District

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: High

Rationale for assessment, including data used to assess the impact: The service covers all police custody suites covering Essex and all courts, including Crown Courts. Therefore, vulnerable offenders across the county can be supported. Additionally, by attempting to reduce re-offending, the service has a positive impact on community safety and cohesion across the county. Contract monitoring looks at service coverage across the area and how flexibility can be increased in the service to target areas of need (e.g. increased activity in a particular area)

What actions have already been taken to mitigate any negative impacts: Not applicable

Equalities - Inclusion health groups and other priority groups

Refugees / asylum seekers

Nature of impact: None

Homeless / rough sleepers

Nature of impact: None

Offenders / ex-offenders

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: High

Carers

Nature of impact: None

Looked after children

Nature of impact: None

Veterans

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: High

People who are unemployed / economically inactive

Nature of impact: None

People on low income

Nature of impact: None

Working families

Nature of impact: None

Rationale for assessment, including data used to assess the impact: The service specifically targets detainees in police custody or at court. An specific veterans pathway is built into the service

What actions have already been taken to mitigate any negative impacts: Not applicable

Equalities - Geographical Groups

People living in areas of high deprivation

Nature of impact: None

People living in rural or isolated areas

Nature of impact: None

People living in coastal areas

Nature of impact: None

People living in urban or over-populated areas

Nature of impact: None

Rationale for assessment, including data used to assess the impact: The service will work with any detainee in police custody or at court irrespective of where they live. Coverage at every police custody in suite in Essex serves all of the above areas.

What actions have already been taken to mitigate any negative impacts: Not applicable

Families

Family formation (e.g. to become or live as a couple, the ability to live with or apart from children)

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: High

Families going through key transitions e.g. becoming parents, getting married, fostering or adopting, bereavement, redundancy, new caring responsibilities, onset of a long-term health condition

Nature of impact: None

Family members' ability to play a full role in family life, including with respect to parenting and other caring responsibilities

Nature of impact: None

Families before, during and after couple separation

Nature of impact: None

Families most at risk of deterioration of relationship quality and breakdown

Nature of impact: None

Rationale for assessment, including data used to assess the impact: By specifically targeting females, the service seeks to ensure more women receive non-custodial sentences. Not only does this benefit the women but also their families, by reducing the family break-up that may be caused by women going into prison.

What actions have already been taken to mitigate any negative impacts: No applicable

Climate

Does your decision / policy involve elements connected to the built environment / energy?: No

Does your decision / policy involve designing service provision and procurement to minimise freight and staff travel and enable use of active and public transport options?: No

Does your decision / policy involve elements connected to waste?: No

Action plan to address and monitor adverse impacts

Does your ECIA indicate that the policy or decision would have a medium or high adverse impact on one or more of the groups / areas identified?: No

Details of person completing the form

I confirm that this has been completed based on the best information available and in following ECC guidance: I confirm that this has been completed based on the best information available and in following ECC guidance

Date ECIA completed: 23/08/2022

Name of person completing the ECIA: Neale Thomas

Email address of person completing the ECIA: Neale.Thomas@essex.gov.uk

Your function: Economy, Investment and Public Health

Your service area: Public Health and Communities

Your team: Public Health

Are you submitting this ECIA on behalf of another function, service area or team?: No

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