

<b>SCRUTINY COMMISSION FOR HEALTH ISSUES</b>	<b>Agenda Item No. 6</b>
<b>8 September 2009</b>	<b>Public Report</b>

## **Report of the Executive Director of Operations**

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### **SAFE SHARPS DISPOSAL PILOT PROJECT**

#### **1. PURPOSE**

This report updates on the progress of the Safe Sharps Disposal Pilot.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Panel are asked to

1. offer ideas for improvement and to develop appropriate feedback of the impact of the scheme and
2. accept the update and the actions described which will be taken to complete the project.

#### **3. LINKS TO CORPORATE PLAN, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY AND LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT**

The Sustainable Community Strategy and the Local Area Agreement aim to deliver a bigger and better Peterborough, through improving the quality of life for all. Drug-related litter and the unsafe disposal of sharp implements impacts on the safety of our communities through the increased risk of injury and transmission of blood borne viruses, and therefore by addressing it we contribute directly to the outcome of 'Making Peterborough Safer'.

#### **4. BACKGROUND**

The Safe Sharps Disposal Pilot will place special bins for injecting equipment and other sharp implements in public places to reduce the risk of injury and potential transmission of blood borne viruses to members of the public.

At its meeting in November 2008, members of this Scrutiny Panel were advised that the project had been brought to the attention of Karen Kibblewhite, Community Safety & Substance Misuse Manager, as it had not been completed following the original decision in February 2007.

The Panel were also advised that a review of the pilot had been undertaken and that a number of actions were underway, including: updated data collection to identify potential sites; discussions with manufacturers regarding efficacy of the bins; and funding identified for the bins. In addition, work had been started with Peterborough Drugs Service to ensure a more proactive stance from the needle exchanges and drugs services regarding drug-related litter.

#### **5. KEY ISSUES**

The project has not then progressed as swiftly as officers would have hoped due to a number of issues including changes to neighbourhood management, through which consultation for the sites of the bins was due to be undertaken.

The following progress has been made:

- the bins have been purchased, manufactured to order and delivered ready for installation;
- an agreement is in place with City Services for the installation, maintenance and emptying of the bins;
- revised hotspots based on up-to-date data of drug-related litter have been identified;
- appropriate locations for the actual installation of the bins within the hotspots have been identified and landowners contacted.

In order to ensure that the project is complete, it will now be led by the relevant new Neighbourhood Manager. The Neighbourhood Manager will ensure that all appropriate stakeholders are consulted prior to installation of the bins and the bins installed as quickly as possible following consultation. The Community Safety & Substance Misuse Manager will ensure that drug services and needle exchanges make drug users aware of the location of the bins and are encouraged to use them. The SaferPeterborough Performance & Information Officer will work with City Services to monitor the use of the bins and their impact on levels of drug-related litter. Feedback on installation and then the impact of the bins will be reported to this Scrutiny Panel.

## **6. IMPLICATIONS**

Funding for the bins was identified and the bins purchased. There are no further financial implications.

The implications of the pilot project are city-wide.

## **7. CONSULTATION**

Extensive consultation took place to develop and agree the Adult Drug Treatment Plan for 2009/10, in which the project is described.

Initial consultation with key stakeholders was undertaken at the project's inception. Further consultation with stakeholders in respect of the specific bin locations will be undertaken by the Neighbourhood Manager.

## **8. EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

The Panel are asked to accept the revised proposal for completion of the project and it is anticipated that Members will offer ideas for improvement and to develop appropriate feedback of the impact of the scheme.

## **9. NEXT STEPS**

Following discussions at the Scrutiny Panel, any comments and recommendations will be taken back to the Neighbourhood Manager leading on the project and to the Joint Commissioning Group for Drugs, which will monitor progress.

It is anticipated that updates of the uptake and impact of the project will be reported back to the Scrutiny Panel as requested.

## **10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

None.

## **11. APPENDICES**