

SUBJECT: ESTABLISHING TWO TEMPORARY POSTS TO FACILITATE NEW DUTIES UNDER THE SOCIAL SERVICES & WELL-BEING (WALES) ACT 2014, PART 11 – TO ASSESS AND MEET THE NEEDS OF ADULTS IN THE SECURE ESTATE.

MEETING: SINGLE MEMBER DECISION

DATE: 15th June 2016

DIVISION/AWARDS AFFECTED: All Wards

1. PURPOSE

To seek single member approval for the temporary recruitment of additional staff, to the North Monmouthshire Integrated Services, to pilot the provision of services to adults in HMP Usk and HMP Prescoed, during 2016-18.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1 x Social Worker and 1 x Occupational Therapist to be recruited under a temporary contract for the duration of a 'pilot' period.
- Additional capacity to be based at Monnow Vale Health & Social Care Facility, but not part of the Gwent Frailty Programme.
- Dedicated budget for this work to be managed as part of the Monmouth cost centre.
- Welsh Government Performance Indicators for this work to also be compiled by Monmouth Integrated Services.

3. KEY ISSUES:

Local authorities **must** meet the care and support duties under the 2014 Act for those adults in the secure estate in Wales, regardless of their place of ordinary residence in Wales or elsewhere before their detention, where the prison or other secure estate premises are within their boundary.

- 3.1. Local authorities **must** support an adult with care and support needs in the secure estate in Wales just as they would for someone in the community.
- 3.2. The local authority **must** design its care and support procedures to be able to meet the care and support needs of those within the secure estate and adjust operating arrangements to meet the needs of the population and the regime of the secure estate.

- 3.3. When an adult in the secure estate moves across a local authority boundary (either within Wales or across the English/Welsh border), as a result of an inter-prison transfer whilst in custody or on resettlement after release, it is important to maintain continuity of care and support.
- Following notification of such a transfer or impending release, the local authority responsible for the care and support of the individual while they were detained (the 'sending authority') will be responsible for contacting the local authority to which the individual will relocate (the 'receiving authority') as soon as possible. Both authorities will need to work together, and share appropriate information, to ensure continuity of care and support is maintained, until the receiving authority undertakes a re-assessment of the individual's needs for care and support.
- 3.4. The existing capacity of the Monmouth Integrated Services is unlikely to encompass these significant additional duties in a timely manner, without the provision of additional social work and occupational therapy professionals.

4. REASONS

- 4.1. This confers an additional population of nearly 500 people on the existing Adult Services.
- 4.2. There is a lack of experience among social workers and therapists around working in the secure estate and in the context of work with offenders. These skills will need time to evolve.
- 4.3. Placing these posts within the Monmouth Integrated Services will enable the multi-disciplinary team to foster a collective skillset, which can deliver the required individual outcomes.
- 4.4. Moreover, centralising the Monmouthshire response within the local team will promote the development of strong core partnership arrangements with the National Offender Management Service (NOMS), Prison Health Department, National Probation Service (NPS), and Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRCs) locally.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. Welsh Government has provided transitional funding for the financial years 2016-17 and 2017-18 (£120K and £109K respectively). This has been ring-fenced under Cost Centre S414.
- 5.2. The cost of a full-time social worker and an occupational therapist is £82K - £93K (dependent upon experience).

6. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS:

- This response to the requirements of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act, Part 11 is fundamentally about ensuring that residents of the 'secure estate' in Monmouthshire have equality of access to assessment and appropriate care and support services.
- The actual impacts from this report's recommendations will be reviewed every 12 months and criteria for monitoring and review will include:
 - Number of referrals for assessment.
 - Care & Support plans provided in secure estate.
 - Number of inter-prison transfers / prisoner release plans involving Monmouth Integrated Services.

7. CONSULTEES:

- **Finance Manager,**
- **Integrated Service Managers**
- **Commissioning Manager**
- **Safeguarding Manager**
- **Integrated Team Manager.**

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