

**File classification: SWYDDOGOL-DIM ANGEN MARC OFFICIAL - NO MARKING**

<b>Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent Decision</b>	
<b>PCCG-2019-032</b>	<b>Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent Decision Session</b>
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Gwent Drug and Alcohol Service – IRIS 2020/21</b>
<b>Summary</b>	<b>To record the decision of the Police and Crime Commissioner to support extension of the Gwent Drug and Alcohol Service (GDAS) contract by 1 year, taking the service to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021</b>

**DECISION**

- The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (the Act) provides under sections 9 and 10 that the Police and Crime Commissioner for a police area makes crime and disorder grants and acts in co-operation with responsible authorities and makes arrangements with criminal justice agencies for the exercise of functions so as to provide an efficient and effective criminal justice system for the area. This provision was further supplemented by virtue of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act (2014) which provided specific arrangements for the provision of commissioning services for victims.
- In 2013, the Gwent Area Planning Board (APB), of which my office is a member, agreed to commission the Gwent-wide provision for substance misuse services for drugs and alcohol (at this stage, excluding the criminal justice element). After a period of discussion, in March 2014, the APB agreed to include a criminal justice element in their jointly commissioned service provision.

A subgroup of the APB was therefore established and instructed to commission a Gwent-wide Adult Drug and Alcohol Service advertised in three lots:

  - An alcohol service;
  - A drug service; and
  - A criminal justice service.

Newport City Council (NCC) was selected as the procurement and financial lead for the award and management of the contract.

In December 2014, the contract was awarded to Gwent Drug and Alcohol Service (GDAS), a consortium of three providers (Kaleidoscope, Drug-aid and G4S) for a period of 3 years (with a possible extension of a further 2 years); with a go live date of 1<sup>st</sup> May 2015. The criminal justice element of this contract is known as IRIS (Integrated Recovery Interventions Service).

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IRIS engages with, supports and manages individuals with substance misuse issues who are involved in the criminal justice system. The service is aimed at drug or alcohol users aged 18 years and over and works with substance users and their families, friends and carers in both community and criminal justice settings.

In the 2017/18 financial year a contribution was provided for a mental health nurse post employed by the consortium, in addition to the original contract value.

The contract is managed by the APB Team (with support from NCC) who report into to the APB Board.

3. In February 2019, the APB Team sought partner approval to recommend to the APB Board an extension of the GDAS contract for a further 12 months beyond the original contract term (including extensions), until March 2021. The rationale is set out below: -

- NCC have advised that due to the value of the contract, a one-year contract extension is possible, subject to final approval by the APB and Newport City Council Legal Team (now received);
- An extension would allow the APB Team and partners an additional 12 months to evaluate and to improve current treatment systems in preparation for the new specification, including evaluating and improving prescribing pathways inclusive of shared care, further criminal justice integration and co-occurring recommendations to improve care pathways and strengthen joint working;
- It will provide an additional 12 months to seek clarity from Welsh Government on capital funding and improve the Gwent capital specification position, including furthering discussions with Aneurin Bevan University Health Board Estate Team; and
- Cardiff & Vale APB have confirmed that they are likely to re-commission and implement a new service in 2021; APB Regional Leads for Cardiff & Vale and Gwent have met to discuss if there is any potential joint commissioning or support opportunities available.

At the APB Board meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2019, the recommendation to extend the contract was approved by the members. I am satisfied with both the management and performance of the contract and as such provide approval for the recommendation.

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4. The total funding allocated annually to GDAS IRIS by my Office is £807,192 and the total funding allocated annually to contribute towards the post of the mental health nurse is £13,087. The total agreed contribution to the GDAS contract in the financial year 2020/21 is therefore £820,279.
5. The arrangements for the extension and continued management of the contract for the duration the extension period are overseen by the APB Team and the APB Board. NCC will continue to operate the financial affairs of the contract.

**Mr Jeff Cuthbert, Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent**

My decision is as I have recorded in this paper

Signed



Date

8/7/19

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<b>Background papers</b>	

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