News Release  
Tuesday June 29, 2010

Drugs and alcohol – what do you think?

LEICESTER residents are being asked for their views on the support they think should be in place to deal with drug and alcohol problems across the city.

The Safer Leicester Partnership and NHS Leicester City are seeking views on proposals for new drug and alcohol treatment services as part of a citywide consultation.

The proposals include a number of improvements to services currently available in the city such as the range of services available, local access to services and access to treatment in the criminal justice system.

They also look at making services for young people more flexible to their needs by offering some services late in the afternoon or on an evening.

The new services will apply to both adults and young people. The proposals follow an extensive period of research and feedback from an earlier consultation in 2009.

Cllr Wayne Naylor, Leicester City Council cabinet member for community safety and health, said: “We are committed to reducing the harm caused by drugs and alcohol within our communities. A key part of this is ensuring that
the services available to those who need them are readily available, and suitable for their needs.

“This consultation is an opportunity for the public to express their views on the newly designed services. We want this process to be as inclusive as possible and strongly encourage all to take part in the consultation.”

Anita Parmar, NHS Leicester City’s alcohol lead, said: “We know more than 48,000 people in the city drink above safe drinking levels so ensuring we have the right services in place is essential. We want to be able to do more to help prevent people’s drinking from becoming harmful and to support those whose drinking has a negative impact on their health.”

The consultation on drug and alcohol support services is open from June 28 until 19 September 2010. All city residents can take part by visiting www.saferleicester.org/drugsandalcohol and completing an online questionnaire.

Alternatively, printed copies of the survey, along with background information, will be available at various city locations including housing offices, the city council’s Customer Service Centres, community centres, doctors’ surgeries, health centres, Connexions, SureStart centres and pharmacies.

ENDS

For interviews or more information please contact press officer Liz Mattock on 0116 295 4123 or liz.mattock@leicestercity.nhs.uk