

	<p align="center">Barnet Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee</p> <p align="center">5 December 2016</p>
Title	Legal Highs
Report of	Barnet Clinical Commissioning Group/Commissioning Director, Children and Young People
Wards	All
Status	Public
Key	No
Urgent	No
Enclosures	Appendix A – New Psychoactive Substances (Public Health Report) Appendix B – Information from the London Ambulance Service
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Summary

This report provides an overview of the use of and health implications of legal highs in the London Borough of Barnet. Appendix A (written by Barnet & Harrow Joint Public Health Service) to this cover report provides a national overview of the use of psychoactive substances, and some information in relation to the borough. In addition to this, the appended report provides information about the work that is done with schools to raise awareness about the use and effects of legal highs.

Appendix B provides data from the last 3-4 years relating to the impact legal highs can have on the London Ambulance staff injured by patients under the influence of legal highs over the last 3-4 years. This report is listed in the committee's work programme for this meeting.

Recommendations

1. That the Committee note the report.

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1 As stated in the committee's forward work programme, the committee is receiving a paper on the use and effects of legal highs in Barnet.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The report provides the Committee with the opportunity to be briefed on this matter and provide the CCG and Commissioning Director, Children and Young People, with any comments.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

- 3.1 Not applicable.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 The views of the Committee in relation to this matter will be considered by the CCG and Commissioning Director, Children and Young People.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 5.11 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee must ensure that the work of Scrutiny is reflective of the Council's principles and strategic objectives set out in the Corporate Plan 2015 – 2020.

The strategic objectives set out in the 2015 – 2020 Corporate Plan are: –

The Council, working with local, regional and national partners, will strive to ensure that Barnet is the place:

- Of opportunity, where people can further their quality of life
- Where people are helped to help themselves
- Where responsibility is shared, fairly
- Where services are delivered efficiently to get value for money for the taxpayer

5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 5.2.1 There are no financial implications for the Council.

5.3 Social Value

- 5.3.1 Not applicable.

5.4 Legal and Constitutional References

- 5.4.1 Section 244 of the National Health Service Act 2006 and Local Authority

(Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013/218; Part 4 Health Scrutiny by Local Authorities provides for the establishment of Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees by local authorities.

- 5.4.2 The Council's Constitution (Responsibility for Functions) sets out the terms of reference of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee as having the following responsibilities:

"To perform the overview and scrutiny role in relation to health issues which impact upon the residents of the London Borough of Barnet and the functions services and activities of the National Health Service (NHS) and NHS bodies located within the London Borough of Barnet and in other areas."

5.5 Risk Management

- 5.5.1 There are no risks.

5.6 Equalities and Diversity

- 5.6.1 Equality and Diversity issues are a mandatory consideration in decision making in the Council pursuant to the Equality Act 2010. This means the Council and all other organisations acting on its behalf must fulfil its equality duty when exercising a public function. The broad purpose of this duty is to integrate considerations of equality and good relations into day to day business, requiring equality considerations to be reflected into the design of policies and the delivery of services and for these to be kept under review.

- 5.6.2 The specific duty set out in s149 of the Equality Act is to have due regard to need to:

Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act; Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

- 5.6.3 The relevant protected characteristics are – age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation. Health partners as relevant public bodies must similarly discharge their duties under the Equality Act 2010 and consideration of equalities issues should therefore form part of their reports.

5.7 Consultation and Engagement

- 5.7.1 This paper provides an opportunity for the Committee to be updated in the future plans for the continuation of services at Cricklewood GP Health Centre.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 None.