



Oxfordshire Drug and Alcohol Services 2012 **Providers Appointed**

Following wide consultation earlier this year and the involvement in the national Drug Recovery Payment by Results pilot the drug and alcohol treatment system in Oxfordshire has been re modelled. Following a competitive tendering process Oxfordshire DAAT/PCT have appointed three substance misuse service providers to deliver this new model.

LASARS (Local Area Single Assessment and Referral Service)

AQUARIUS will be the new provider for this service, their contract is due to commence prior to April 2012. Details of when they will start accepting new referrals will be communicated in the New Year.

LASARS will provide an independent assessment and referral service for anyone wanting to access drug and alcohol services in Oxfordshire. They will act as a single point of contact for treatment across Oxfordshire, including those from the criminal justice system. LASARS will undertake assessments and work with service users to decide which of the new treatment services will best meet their needs.

Aquarius is an agency that started working in the alcohol field in the 1970's. Since then they have expanded into other areas including gambling and drugs, based on research and evidence into what works well. They currently provide a range of locally based services across community, primary care and criminal justice settings. For more information please see their website:- www.aquarius.org.uk

1. Harm Minimisation Service

OXFORD HEALTH NHS FOUNDATION TRUST will be providing the new Harm Minimisation Service from 2 April 2012. The Harm Minimisation Service will provide harm minimisation interventions including the following:-

- *Harm minimisation advice and information including health awareness campaigns;*
- *A city based open-access specialist needle syringe programme;*
- *Brief interventions for drug and alcohol users;*
- *Targeted interventions including proactive outreach;*
- *Provide county wide open access provision where no appointment is necessary;*
- *Work with individuals in order to prepare them for accessing recovery services;*
- *Provision of Opiate Substitution Therapy (OST) prescribing services to those with a GP who does not provide drug services;*
- *Support to GPs Practices providing OST within the Drug Misuse Local Enhanced Service;*
- *Provision of blood borne virus testing and vaccinations.*

Oxford Health will be working in partnership with a charity called The OASIS Partnership (formally known as ACT) to provide this contract.

Oxford Health has been providing substance misuse medical services across Oxfordshire for many years. For more organisational information please visit their website: - www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk. The OASIS Partnership offer a range of psychosocial support services to anyone whose life is affected by their own, or someone else's drug or alcohol use and have bases in High Wycombe and Aylesbury. Their website can be found here:- www.oasispartnership.org

2. Recovery Service

Lifeline will be the new provider of the Oxfordshire Recovery Service, which is due to start on 2 April 2011. This service is the final part of the new Oxfordshire model for drug and alcohol services. Recovery Services will provide community based, holistic, recovery centred treatment services to drug and alcohol users across Oxfordshire who are ready to work towards recovery.

Lifeline is one of the oldest non-statutory, non-residential drugs agencies in the UK. In 1971 the Lifeline Project opened its day centre for drug users in Manchester. Since its foundation Lifeline has grown and developed, responding to the ever increasing problems associated with drug use faced by individuals, families and communities.

Despite many changes over the years, a number of features have remained consistent. Firstly, Lifeline prides itself on taking a holistic view, rather than a purely medical or criminal justice approach towards drug problems. Secondly, and in consequence, we frequently develop innovative, distinctive and/or unique responses in terms of initiatives, projects and service development. Thirdly, Lifeline's mission statement "Telling the Truth About Drugs" reflects our commitment to those people who access our services, and our desire to make a positive contribution to the challenges and debates that arise within the drugs and alcohol field.

The Recovery Service will provide a range of psychosocial interventions as well as safe and appropriate community detoxification for opiate and alcohol dependence. In addition recovery provision will include a range of services including:-

- Counselling, psychotherapy and family therapy;
- Single gender therapies;
- Therapeutic groups;
- Links to mutual aid;
- Peer support;
- Blood borne virus support, testing and vaccination;
- Education, Training and Employment support:-
- Sports & art based therapy programmes;
- Complementary therapy treatments such as auricular acupuncture;
- Relapse prevention;
- Housing support;
- Debt management;
- Life and social skills.

For more information please see their website:- www.lifeline.org.uk

Service User Information and Support

Telephone Number: 0800 169 7970