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**REPORT TO: CLINICAL AND CARE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ON 27 OCTOBER 2022**

**SUBJECT: DRUG RELATED DEATHS IN MORAY**

**BY: INTERIM INTEGRATED SERVICE MANAGER**

**1. REASON FOR REPORT**

- 1.1. To update the Committee about Drug Related Deaths in Moray 2020, 2021 and into 2022.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1. It is recommended that the Clinical and Care Governance Committee consider and note:**

- i) the Drug Related Death figures for Moray;**
- ii) the continued work of the service in relation to the Multi-Agency Risk System (MARS) process; and**
- iii) the work being undertaken to support the delivery of the Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Standards implemented by the Scottish Government in May 2021.**

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Moray has had a variable trend of Drug Related Deaths. For 2020 these figures have been nationally verified as 10 drug related deaths. Formal verification for 2021 data has yet to take place but numbers of people known to the service were 11. To date in 2022 there have been 5.
- 3.2 The MARS meetings continue to take place on a regular basis for people known to be high-risk.
- 3.3 MAT standards are evidence based standards to enable the consistent delivery of safe, accessible, high-quality drug treatment across Scotland. These are relevant to people and families accessing or in need of services, and health and social care staff responsible for delivery of recovery oriented systems of care.

#### **4. KEY MATTERS RELEVANT TO RECOMMENDATION**

- 4.1 Drug Related Deaths meetings are chaired and meeting notes held confidentially. The frequency of meetings will be demand led.
- 4.2 Moray Integrated Substance Misuse Service follow a review process of all the cases open in service for shared learning and debrief.
- 4.3 Clinical governance will be assured to Moray Clinical and Care Governance Group by completing and submitting the Moray Quality Assurance Reporting Template on a quarterly basis. This includes: reporting of risks; adverse events; learning outcomes from adverse events reviews (drug related deaths); good practice; external reviews of service; peoples' experience of the service – complaints / care experience.
- 4.4 A local implementation group has been set up to support delivery of MAT standards in Moray. A workshop has recently been held alongside Public Health Scotland colleagues and work is ongoing to ensure implementation of standards within timescales set out for delivery.

#### **5. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

**(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP)) and Moray Integration Joint Board Strategic Plan “Moray Partners in Care 2019 – 2029”**

Moray Drug and Alcohol Partnership Delivery Plan 2021 - 2024  
(reviewed and revised November 2021)

**(b) Policy and Legal**

Improved governance – review and reporting of all drug and alcohol related deaths.

Delivery in line with Rights, Respect and Recovery 2018 – Scotland's strategy to improve health by preventing and reducing alcohol and drug use, harm and related deaths.

**(c) Financial implications**

There are no financial implications. The Adverse Event Review Process and Multi-Agency Risk System approach are undertaken by existing staff and multi-agency partners.

**(d) Risk Implications and Mitigation**

As detailed above at Section 4.

**(e) Staffing Implications**

Additional staff have already been appointed to support delivery of MAT standards, as well as meet increased demand on services. Potential for there to be further implications as further demand is placed on services.

**(f) Property**

Current accommodation is not fit for purpose, and does not allow service to comply with MAT standards. In addition, colocation with Criminal

Justice Service can be seen as a barrier to people accessing treatment. Work is ongoing to secure alternative premises for the service.

**(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact**

Review of all drug and alcohol related deaths including those people who have died while receiving a service (but may not be a drug or alcohol related death); Participating in Multi-Agency Risk System with partners. Greater surveillance of risks and how to mitigate these. Learning for all partners.

**(h) Climate Change and Biodiversity Impacts**

None as a direct result of this report.

**(i) Directions**

None as a direct result of this report.

**(j) Consultations**

Emma Johnston, Public Protection Lead, Lynsey Murray, Team Manager, Moray Integration Drug and Alcohol Service and Tracey Sutherland, Committee Services Officer, Moray Council. Comments have been incorporated in this report.

**6. CONCLUSION**

**6.1 The approach to reviewing drug and alcohol related deaths and participating in Multi-Agency Risk System will enable Moray to be better placed to learn from drug related deaths; reduce harm to individuals and manage risks for individuals receiving a service. These approaches should reduce Drug Related Deaths in the future.**

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