



Agenda Item No	11	Meeting	Trust Board in Public	Meeting Date	4 October 2018
Title	Island Recovery Integrated Service (IRIS)				
Sponsoring Executive Director	Dr Lesley Stevens Director of Mental Health and Learning Disabilities				
Author(s)	Dr Lesley Stevens Director of Mental Health and Learning Disabilities				
Report previously considered by inc date	N/A				
Purpose of the report					
Information only		Assurance			X
Review and discuss		Agreement			
Trust Board Approval is required					
Reason for submission to Trust Board in Private only (please indicate below)					
Commercial Confidentiality		Staff Confidentiality			
Patient Confidentiality		Other Exceptional Circumstance			
Link to Trust Strategic Objectives					
Provide safe, effective, caring and responsive services – ‘Good’ by 2020					X
Ensure efficient use of resources					X
Achieve NHS constitutional patient access standards					
Achieve excellence in employment, education and development					
Lead strategic change on the Isle of Wight					
Link to CQC Domains					
Effective	X	Responsive			X
Caring	X	Well-led			X
Safe	x				
Executive Summary					
The IRIS drug and alcohol service has now been closed to referrals to the alcohol service for 6 months. In September 2018 the Trust Board meeting in private agreed that the escalating clinical risks, and lack of resilience associated with the service were such that the Trust will not seek to deliver this service beyond the limits of the current contract (31 st March 2019), and that the trust should negotiate an early withdrawal from the current contract, and support a safe transition to an alternative provider. This paper sets out the background and current position.					
Key Recommendation					
This paper provides assurance to the Trust Board that the Mental Health and LD Division is seeking a safe, timely and effective transition to a new provider of drug and alcohol services.					

1. Background.

IRIS is drug and alcohol service. It is commissioned by the public health department of the IOW local authority. The contract expires on 31st March 2018.

A decision was made to stop accepting referrals to the alcohol service on 16th March 2018. The initial trigger for this was the loss of experienced staff from the alcohol service. The plan was to implement business continuity plans for 3 months, and in that time to recruit additional staff. Commissioners and CQC were informed, advice provided to referrers, and regular calls with commissioners put in place to track progress with the plans to re-instate the service.

Initially recruitment was successful, but further vacancies and sickness in the team resulted in an escalation of clinical risk in the wider team, with gaps in clinical supervision of staff and prescribing. To some extent we have been able to mitigate these risks with the recruitment to a new service manager role in July 2018, and extending the medical input to the team by 4 sessions (2 days/week) in order to provide clinical supervision and prescribing. However, despite the continued hard work and commitment of IRIS staff at this very challenging time, it has not been possible to re-open the service to receive referrals for people who misuse alcohol due to the level of vacancies, and lack of senior clinical support for new and inexperienced staff.

2. Current Position

Reaching the 6 month point for suspension of referrals to the alcohol service triggered a formal review by commissioners, on 14th August 2018, attended by the Director of Nursing and Director of Governance. It was agreed that commissioners would approach other providers to seek their support to deliver the alcohol service and provide clinical leadership and training to the team. Two potential providers of the alcohol service were identified, but in discussion with them it was clear that they were not able to provide the specific support required to re-establish delivery of the full service.

In September 2018 the Trust Board meeting in private agreed that the clinical risks, and lack of resilience associated with the service were such that the Trust will not seek to deliver this service beyond the limits of the current contract (31st March 2019), and that the trust should negotiate an early withdrawal from the current contract, and support a safe transition to an alternative provider.

The Trust formally notified commissioners of the Trust Board decision on the 17th September 2018. We have stated our commitment to working in collaboration with commissioners and a new provider organisation to ensure a transition across as soon as is safe and practicable. We are awaiting confirmation of next steps from commissioners.

IRIS staff were informed of this position on 17th September 2018, and regular meetings have been established to inform staff about progress with this process.

3. Recommendation

This paper provides assurance to the Trust Board that the Mental Health and LD Division is seeking a safe, timely and effective transition to a new provider of drug and alcohol services.