

**Lincolnshire Teaching Primary Care Trust**

Cross O'Cliff

Bracebridge Heath

Lincoln

LN4 2HN

Tel: 01522 515413

Fax: 01522 540706

**NEWS RELEASE: 13 April 2011**

**For Immediate Release**

**LINCOLNSHIRE PILOTS INNOVATIVE DRUG AND ALCOHOL APPROACH**

Lincolnshire has been chosen as one of eight areas in England to test a new way of helping people with drug and alcohol problems.

The scheme focusing on ‘Payment by Results’ (PbR) will mean that organisations providing treatment services in Lincolnshire will be paid based on the outcomes they achieve for people referred to them for help.

Lincolnshire County Council and NHS Lincolnshire are working together with treatment providers to remodel drug and alcohol services so that the providers will be paid when specific results have been achieved. There will be no increase in funding but these changes will bring about better value for money.

The majority of service users, with addiction problems, who have been consulted over the new proposals have indicated that they would like the new service being delivered to support them to lead an independent life free of drugs.

Tony McGinty, Joint Assistant Director of Public Health at NHS Lincolnshire and Lincolnshire County Council, said: “The new national Drugs Strategy focuses on helping people to reclaim their stake in society instead of purely receiving substitute medication. We expect to see people improve their overall health, reduce offending and get back into employment.

Councillor Sue Woolley, Executive Councillor for Health, Housing and Community at Lincolnshire County Council, said: “We put forward a proposal to be part of this pilot for both drug and alcohol treatment in Lincolnshire, recognising that substance misuse causes a range of social problems. This is a new and truly innovative approach with ambitious aims, giving even more support to those who need it.”

The pilot is due to be up and running from October 2011.

ENDS

Media Contact: Communications team 01522 515413

Subscribe to our newsfeed at www.lincolnshire.nhs.uk or follow us on Twitter http://twitter.com/nhslincolnshire

PR 391