

****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

DHI recommissioned to deliver Adult Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services in South Gloucestershire. (November 2023)

Social inclusion charity, Developing Health and Independence (DHI) have been commissioned to deliver a comprehensive range of drug and alcohol treatment services in South Gloucestershire. They will deliver the new service in partnership with Hanham Health and Southern Brooks. The partnership and its services will respond to local needs and be accessible to all.

Commissioned and working with South Gloucestershire council, DHI and its partners will provide a wide range of person-centred services that connect those in need of support with a drug or alcohol problem to a local recovery hub, GP surgery or to on-line support. This partnership represents a response to changing service user needs.

Developing Health & Independence, who are also the current provider of treatment services in South Gloucestershire, will continue as lead provider. However, they are excited to be joined by Hanham Health and Southern Brooks. Hanham Health, will deliver clinical services and will also serve as an educator/advisor to GPs, enhancing shared care and broader primary care services for substance users. Southern Brooks, a community anchor charity, will use its expertise in community development and social prescribing to train Peer supporters for wellbeing groups, using their lived experience of drugs and alcohol use to improve the community around them. They will also help ensure close links with local communities and the VCSE, fostering connections for individuals and communities to thrive.

While harm reduction interventions will be delivered throughout, the service will focus on supporting service users to build long term sustainable recovery, promoting good mental health and improving the employment prospects of those who are long term unemployed.

Rosie Phillips, CEO of DHI, said:

“It’s not just a bid won; it’s an exciting opportunity to work together in a new partnership to deliver a really dynamic and accessible treatment service that improves lives.”

“We are thrilled that the council has chosen DHI, Hanham Health and Southern Brooks to deliver treatment services in South Gloucestershire. With the stability of a long term contract alongside our partners, we know we can develop and evolve the service to meet the unique needs of the people of South Gloucestershire now and into the future.”

Councillor Alison Evans, Cabinet Member responsible for Public Health at South Gloucestershire Council, said: “DHI secured the South Gloucestershire Adult Drug and Alcohol contract after a robust and competitive procurement process. The new contract will help to drive forward the treatment element of our drug and alcohol strategies and South Gloucestershire Drug and Alcohol Partnership delivery plan and improve outcomes for some of the most vulnerable people in our communities.

“We are also delighted that new service will not only support people with any drug or alcohol issue in South Gloucestershire but will also focus on improving the mental health outcomes for people in the service.”

ENDS

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Note to editors:

1. Developing Healthcare & Independence (DHI) are a social inclusion charity that supports disadvantaged people and those living on the margins of society turn their lives around. They support people with drug and alcohol issues. They also provide a social prescribing service, families and carers service and housing provision.
2. Hanham Health (HH) is a team of GP Partners based in and around the South Gloucestershire area, providing both in and out-patient support.
3. Southern Brooks is a community anchor charity building connections and providing support to help individuals and communities thrive in South Gloucestershire. They deliver high-quality community development and health and wellbeing services that support individuals and communities.

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