



WAVES Project Update

As a result of the Complex Dependency Project and support from MEAM, which is a person centre model that allows a greater freedom and flexibility for the worker (<http://meam.org.uk/the-meam-approach/>), the Waves Project was funded and launched on 24/05/17. Partners from a number of organisations attended an event to gain an insight into the aims of the Project and to contribute to a consultation session about the long term development of the Project.

The WAVES Project aims to improve outcomes for the most chaotic and excluded vulnerable adults in the borough for the benefit of themselves, the local community as a whole and for local stakeholders. The project also seeks to reduce the use and cost of the revolving door, i.e. inappropriate representations at services for repeat interventions e.g. A&E, police custody, housing needs, substance misuse services and mental health support.

The eligibility criteria to access support from the Project is:

- ✚ Aged 18 – 65
- ✚ No dependent children
- ✚ Experiencing **multiple** issues with housing, crime/anti-social behaviour, mental health, drugs and alcohol
- ✚ Experiencing problems engaging effectively with services and there is no professional acting as a lead

We have received a number of referrals from organisations including the Police and CGL, which have resulted in a variety of outcomes, from advice and guidance to progression to a 360 Profile and allocation to an Adult Coordinator.

Partnership working has been crucial and has provided valuable background information. As well as working with Cheshire Police, WAVES have been working closely with Health Care providers, including Health professionals based in iCart, mental health outreach and mental health assessment teams along with SCIP (Social Care in Practice) workers. We have also been working with Adult Social Care and the Adult Safeguarding Team to ensure that referrals can be appropriately sign posted. We have met with and started to build strong working relationship with other agencies across the borough such as CGL and Housing Solutions. Police support has been important, with information about their first referral tweeted by Nigel Wenham, Detective Chief Superintendent. GCL and Plus Dane SHAP have also been keen to extend their support and have offered use of their premises both as a co-location venue to promote partnership working and as a place to meet with clients.

These links are helping to build a holistic picture of the complex individuals that have been referred to the project. This has allowed us to be better prepared, manage risk and plan more effectively, as well as enabling us to ensure that the right people remain involved and/or appropriate referrals are made.

To date we have worked closely with all of these agencies and others on specific cases in order to address issues that have been identified by both the client and the referring agency. This has included practical support in setting up and attending appointments, liaising with relevant agencies in relation to housing, legal issues and access to mental health support, and being a point of contact for the client as and when other issues arise. One of the people currently receiving support from the project commented, 'I think it's good. It's helped me to keep my appointments. It's also helped me start to think about the future and get some perspective.'