

Appendix 1: Consultation results report

Drug and alcohol recovery services

About this consultation

This consultation is about the proposal to stop funding drug and alcohol recovery services. It started on 3 October and closed on 28 November 2024.

Taking part in the consultation

The consultation survey was available to complete online and people could download a printable version. Emails and letters were also accepted.

All of the consultations were promoted in our newsletters for residents, providers and staff. We also shared news stories with partners in the statutory and voluntary sectors to include in their newsletters for residents, organisations and staff.

General posters were shared with library teams and each affected service had a dedicated poster to put up in their service or building.

The consultations were widely promoted in the local media and consultation leads talked about the proposals at relevant stakeholder meetings.

Who took part in the consultation

We received 317 responses to this consultation. The table below shows the different ways in which people took part. We also had 1 late survey response received after the consultation closed.

Respondent method	Total
Survey	301
Emails	16

There were also 10 responses submitted by email or letter that addressed all of the consultations more generally. A general petition opposing the funding gap proposals was submitted by Lewes Liberal Democrats. It was signed by 100 people.

People were given the option of answering ‘about you’ equality questions in the survey, with 78% of respondents choosing to do so.

- We had responses from people living in all parts of the county, although Hastings and Rother were the top areas, with 21% and 12% respectively.
- Nearly half of the respondents use or have used the services, or are family members or carers of those who have used them (48%).

- More women took part than men, with women making up 52% of the known genders of respondents, compared to 25% for men.
- The majority who took part were White British (69% compared to 9% for other ethnicities).
- A third of respondents said they have a physical or mental health condition or long-term illness and 22% care for a family member or friend.
- We had respondents from across all age groups, with 45 to 54 years old being the most common (17%).

Key messages

These key messages reflect the feedback received from organisations, groups and individuals across surveys, meetings and other feedback such as emails and letters.

- The majority of people and organisations who took part in the consultation disagree with the proposal to stop funding recovery services, although one in 10 respondents to the survey did agree with it.
- People said it is a vital service that provides a lifeline to people who would otherwise struggle to cope, particularly as there is already stigma around drug and alcohol misuse.
- The services are highly valued as providing equally essential support for both those who struggle with substance misuse and the families of those misusing.
- The services are seen as a safe space, with the peer support element being particularly important to people. Some respondents said they would not be alive if it wasn't for the services.
- Respondents feel that there are few other alternative services offering recovery support in the way this service does, and that offering treatment without recovery makes no sense.
- Grant funding for treatment services coming to an end at the same time will compound the risks involved in stopping the funding of recovery services.
- Without these services it is likely that people will experience poorer recovery, which will affect their physical and mental health. They will be at increased risk of relapse as they are pushed into crisis.
- People who've been supported by the service spoke about how they would not be employed, or functioning in and contributing to society, without the support of the service to remain recovered.
- The family and carers of those who can no longer access recovery services will also be negatively impacted in similar ways, while the removal of specialist carer services for recovery is not replaceable with universal carers services.

- Respondents feel the decision will take away any hope people have for recovery, and that to close the service is a matter of life and death, resulting in a rise in mortality, whether by suicide or deaths caused by substance misuse.
- The fact that there aren't alternative services people can turn to will mean that there will be increased pressure and cost passed on within the Council, as well as to other organisations such as charities, hospitals and the police.
- Drug and alcohol misuse is often a cause of anti-social behaviour and crime, and can lead to homelessness. Stopping recovery services will therefore risk increases in all these areas, which will be made worse by other proposed cuts to the floating support service and supported accommodation.
- An increase in crime and homelessness will have a knock-on effect for the local economy and community. This will be particularly felt in Hastings and Eastbourne, which have higher rates of substance misuse.
- Respondents say that the proposal shouldn't go ahead and that the services should continue to be funded in future. In some cases, people felt that recovery should be prioritised over treatment services, as they help people to begin functioning within society again.
- The role of prevention was also highlighted as something that should be focused on.

Sample quotes

These comments are a small selection of the responses we received in the consultation. They reflect the key themes or offer a specific suggestion.

Organisation comments:

- **Adfam:** "Our contention is that the closure of the service will have a direct and negative impact on families for whom there is no suitable alternative to deliver the specialist support that Adfam provides. This impact will be felt on individual family members; where children are involved, in being able to mitigate against intergenerational impacts and possible tendencies towards substance misuse;...it can hamper the sustainable recovery or support to access treatment of people using substances problematically."
- **Care for the Carers:** "The [Adfam] service supports a large number of carers, by providing a high standard of specialist support. This could not be absorbed into general carers services, as appears to be implied in the consultation information... These [Seaview] projects provide an invaluable support to general carers services, in particular enabling us to refer carers with the most complex caring roles on for specialist support."
- **Eastbourne Borough Council:** "The complex needs of many people experiencing housing difficulties means that they may well also need to

make use of drug or alcohol support if they are to make an effective and long-term change to their housing circumstances. Without this element, improvements to an individuals' housing circumstances may be at best temporary.”

- **East Sussex Recovery Alliance:** “If there is no cohesive service involving both crisis intervention and then sustained support for people in recovery, there is a strong likelihood of an increased relapse rate. This is corrosive for people seeking to change their lives and the lives of those around them.”
- **Hastings Borough Council:** “Drug and alcohol misuse are a cause of homelessness and a significant contributor to crime and disorder ,if not treated together with other services which are being proposed to cut... Limiting or withdrawing these services would lead to an increase in people facing street homelessness and poverty, which in turn will increase the demands on community safety partners such as Sussex Police and indeed on ESCC’s other support services.”
- **Heads of Housing at the district and borough authorities:** “Recovery and treatment services are essential to supporting people to sustain accommodation and becoming at risk of homelessness. The proposed reductions coincide with the end of several other grant-funded services supporting people with substance dependency needs ...”
- **Kent Surrey and Sussex Probation Service:** “The fact that drug use is a key criminogenic factor would mean that reducing access to recovery treatment could lead to increased offending rates, as individuals are unable to access support to address their substance use need and maintain recovery...Substance use [is] also a consideration when looking at adult and child safeguarding, so a reduction in recovery services could impact on some of the more vulnerable within our society.”
- **Lewes Town Council:** “Cutting Recovery Services for drug and alcohol misuse is a false economy. It will inevitably push service users onto already overstretched services such as GPs, A&E departments, Police services and local councils, including District, Town, and Parish Councils. In extreme cases, this includes individuals who may die unnecessarily due to lack of access to mental health and addiction services.”
- **NHS Sussex:** “The proposal to remove all funding from recovery services should be considered in context, against a backdrop of a significant reduction in Drug & Alcohol funding coming into East Sussex, as a result of the end of Project Adder grant funding. This means other services may be unlikely to be able to reduce the impact of the closure of recovery services, if they are anticipated to be part of planned mitigations.”
- **Seaview:** “We believe there is a serious risk to both individuals, their families and the local community if these services cease. The services support people with multiple compound needs, including current and ex-offenders, those being released from prison, [and those] experiencing homelessness, various forms of abuse and mental ill health, to name but a few.”

- **Wealden Citizens Advice:** “There can’t be treatment and then no recovery plan or support. Clients are constantly at risk of reusing and without the support network this increases the likelihood.”

Individual comments:

- “The support and help I received was vital and enabled me to make the transition from a ‘zombie’ who was not contributing in any meaningful way to society, to someone who has a professional level job in the charity sector, and fully contributing to society”.
- “Funding must not be stopped. These services are vitally important. The work the staff do is invaluable to people’s mental and physical health. They literally save people’s lives and their families.”
- “I think these recovery services are vital. At a time when illegal drugs are easier to access than ever before, this service is so important. I am the parent of a child who was deeply addicted, and I used Adfam to help me support my child as he recovered from addiction.”
- “Alcohol recovery services through Change Grow Live and East Sussex Recovery Alliance have helped me regain some control over my life, stay sober, and stay alive. Without them I would be dead by now. Drug and alcohol recovery services are a matter of life and death.”
- “I was supported by Adfam last year due to a family member’s alcohol and substance use. Without them, I feel my mental and physical health would have declined dramatically, causing me to seek medical help, therefore burdening the NHS/MH services - but because of their support this was not necessary. They were able to guide me through this stressful time and support me by educating me and teaching me how to cope.”
- “It would impact the most vulnerable in our society who need help the most. Hospital admissions and crime would both increase. The hold on communities of organised crime drugs gangs would increase. Stopping or reducing these services will increase costs for the council and government in the long term.”
- “I have benefitted enormously from the peer support session and specifically the family support worker session for me on a 1-2-1.”
- “Adfam has been the only service available to me, as a partner of an addict. They have listened, offered peer support, guided me through dark times and supported my mental health. There is no other service like it.”
- “Although there are many ‘models’ of addiction, one thing that all practitioners in the field can agree on is that stopping or giving up a substance is the easy part. Staying off that substance is where recovery comes in. By stopping funding to recovery services one might as well stop funding to treatment services as well.”
- “By slashing the Recovery Services you are slashing any hope for both the people in treatment and recovery. It also sends a signal to those active users

that there is no point engaging with treatment as there is no escape, so you may as well stay where you are and continue a life of drugs and crime.”

- “You just have to walk around Hastings Centre to understand the social challenges faced by the community. It is evident in the level of homelessness, street drinking, and unemployment seen. The impact of not having a path to offer affected members of the community to get in to recovery will result in those social issues going unaddressed and escalating.”

Results summary across all methods

Views on the proposal

Survey: 89% of respondents disagree with the proposal to stop funding recovery services. The overwhelming majority chose strongly disagree over disagree (86% compared to 3%). A small percentage of people agreed with the proposal to stop funding these services (10%).

The top 10 themes for why people agree or disagree with the proposal are:

- 1) Service: Service is vital/needed (114 comments)
- 2) Impact: increased pressure on other services (63)
- 3) Service: Service is a lifeline to people (54)
- 4) Impact: Couldn't cope without it (44)
- 5) Impact: Increase in crime (41)
- 6) Impact: Loss to community/society (40)
- 7) Impact: People could/will die (39)
- 8) Views: Adds more cost in the long term for other services and/or East Sussex County Council (35)
- 9) Service: Praise of service and its benefit (33)
- 10) Service: Prevents death from substance misuse (32)

Emails etc: Over half of respondents recognised the Council's need to make savings (9 comments), although a similar number said that the cuts target the most vulnerable residents (8 comments) and some specifically stated their disagreement (5 comments).

Other common themes included:

- Views: Service is key to preventing knock-on effects from alcohol and/or drug use (8 comments)
- Views: Addiction is a common comorbidity for those in crisis (7)
- Views: Other services are already struggling (7)
- Service: Service is vital (6)
- Views: Service is vital for safeguarding people using it and/or people around them (6)

Impact of the proposal

Survey: 271 people answered this question and the top 10 themes are:

- 1) Impact: Detrimental to the family and/or carer of the people affected (51 comments)
- 2) Impact: People could/will die (45)
- 3) Impact: Negative (unspecified) (39)
- 4) Impact: Couldn't cope with service (36)
- 5) Impact: Poorer mental health (36)
- 6) Impact: Poor/no access to support (33)
- 7) Views: Worry about where people will get support instead (33)
- 8) Impact: Relapse (30)
- 9) Impact: Increased pressure on other services (27)
- 10) Impact: Increase in crime (25)

Emails etc: The top impacts identified were the increased pressure on other organisations and services (10 comments) and the increased burden on families and carers of those who use the services (9 comments).

Other common themes included:

- Impact: Increased cost for other organisations (7 comments)
- Impact: People who use the services being at increased risk (6)
- Impact: Poorer mental health (6)
- Impact: Poorer physical health (6)
- Impact: Community at increased risk (5)
- Impact: Poorer access to support (5)

Suggestions

General suggestions are covered in the background report on the funding gap consultations, while service-specific ones are included here.

Survey:

- Suggestion: Don't cut the service (44 comments)
- Suggestion: Prioritise recovery support over treatment (9)
- Suggestion: More joint working (8)
- Suggestion: Use volunteers (6)
- Suggestion: Utilise existing and effective volunteer/charity support services (5)
- Suggestion: Focus on prevention (4)
- Suggestion: Raise awareness of service (3)
- Suggestion: Better education on drug and alcohol addiction (2)

- Suggestion: Co-production of service model (2)
- Suggestion: Encourage alternative support - e.g., religious groups or wellbeing services (2)
- Suggestion: Signpost to alternative services (2)
- Suggestion: Take opportunity to re-design service model (2)
- Suggestion: Apply for additional funding/grants (1)
- Suggestion: Ban alcohol advertisement (1)
- Suggestion: Calculate the cost for other services this proposal will cause (1)
- Suggestion: Carry out risk assessment for other services impacted (1)
- Suggestion: Contribute to cost of private support (1)
- Suggestion: Do not use policing as an alternative (1)
- Suggestion: Focus on using evidence-based treatment (1)
- Suggestion: Fund recovery support workers to work with other organisations/services (1)
- Suggestion: Fund service from Carers Support Fund (1)
- Suggestion: Funding from Police and Crime Commissioner (1)
- Suggestion: Give the funding to other drug/alcohol support charities (1)
- Suggestion: Host meetings to identify ways to keep service running (1)
- Suggestion: Learn from other counties (1)
- Suggestion: Learn from other counties and re-design service model (1)
- Suggestion: Prioritise support for families/carers of addicts (1)
- Suggestion: Provide community drop-in centres (1)
- Suggestion: Provide separate support for alcohol use and drug use (1)

Emails etc: The top themes were for there to be more joint working (5 comments) and a focus on prevention (4 comments). The other suggestions are:

- Suggestion: Utilise existing and effective volunteer/charity support services (2 comments)
- Suggestion: Careful planning/assessments needed before any change happens (1)
- Suggestion: Explore alternative solutions with partners/other providers (1)
- Suggestion: Mitigate impact on other peer support services (1)
- Suggestion: Re-model service by co-design (1)
- Suggestion: Reduce service in gradual stages (1)
- Suggestion: Reduce use of expensive residential care for adults (1)
- Suggestion: Run service in partnership with other organisations (1)

Other topics

Survey: The survey included a question that gave people the chance to make any additional comments or suggestions. The top themes for the comments were:

- Impact: Increased pressure on other services (24)
- Service: Service is vital/needed (21)
- Views: Adds more cost in the long term for other services and/or East Sussex County Council (17)
- Impact: People could/will die (14)
- Views: Service key to preventing knock-on effects from alcohol and/or drug use (14)

Emails etc: The top themes are comments on the consultation process or information (3 comments), the Council must provide more information about alternatives and capacity (3 comments) and it is unrealistic to expect other services to mitigate impacts sufficiently (2 comments).

Charts and tables

Survey responses including about you information

1) Are you completing the survey as:

There were 297 responses to this part of the question.

Option	Total	Percent
Someone who uses or has used the recovery services	80	26.58%
The family or carer of someone who uses or has used the recovery services	64	21.26%
Someone who works for a drug and alcohol service	18	5.98%
Someone who lives in East Sussex	65	21.59%
Someone who works in health or social care in East Sussex	28	9.30%
Someone who works in housing in East Sussex	2	0.66%
Someone who works in the voluntary or community sector	24	7.97%
Other (please provide details below)	16	5.32%
Not Answered	4	1.33%

If you ticked 'other' please provide details here:

There were 23 responses to this part of the question.

- Comment on personal circumstances (9 comments)
- Drug and alcohol support worker (3)
- Previously worked for service (2)
- Worked for drug and/or alcohol charity (1)
- Family/friend of someone using recover service (1)
- Councillor (1)
- Retail worker (1)
- Refuge worker (1)
- Mental health worker (1)
- Work for service (1)
- Healthcare (1)

2) How much do you agree or disagree with the proposal to stop funding drug and alcohol recovery services?

There were 301 responses to this part of the question.

Option	Total	Percent
Strongly agree	25	8.31%
Agree	6	1.99%
Neither agree nor disagree	1	0.33%
Disagree	9	2.99%
Strongly disagree	260	86.38%
Not sure	0	0.00%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

Please use the box below to tell us why you agree or disagree:

There were 281 responses to this part of the question.

Comment theme	Total
Service: Service is vital/needed	114
Impact: Increased pressure on other services	63
Service: Lifeline to people	54
Impact: Couldn't cope without service	44
Impact: Increase in crime	41

Impact: Loss to the community/society	40
Impact: People could/will die	39
Views: Adds more cost in the long term for other services and/or East Sussex County Council	35
Service: Praise of service and its benefit	33
Service: Prevents death from substance misuse	32
Service: Supports the families/friends of people accessing the services	32
Impact: Negative impact (unspecified)	31
Views: Worry about where people will get support instead	30
Impact: Detrimental to the family and/or carer of the people affected	29
Service: Rebuilds lives	28
Impact: People at increased risk without service	27
Impact: People won't get the support they need	27
Impact: Community at increased risk	26
Views: Cuts target vulnerable people	26
Views: Service key to preventing knock-on effects from alcohol and/or drug use	26
Service: Allows people to recover, function in and contribute to society	23
Views: Already a high level of addiction in East Sussex	23
Impact: Poorer mental health	22
Impact: Relapse	21
Views: Service vital for safeguarding people accessing the service and/or people around them	20
Impact: Poor/no access to support	19
Views: Unhappy/disagree with proposal	19
Service: Immensely valued	17
Views: Equivalent services not available	17
Views: Need for this service is increasing	17
Impact: Poorer physical health	16
Views: Cutting service is a mistake	16
Views: Short sighted	16
Views: Detrimental to people with mental illness in particular	15
Views: Proposal is morally wrong	14
Views: Services already limited	14

Impact: More people in crisis	12
Impact: Homelessness	11
Impact: Increased support needs	11
Impact: Lack of hope for those needing support	10
Impact: Poorer access to other services as a knock-on effect	10
Impact: Increase in anti-social behaviour	9
Impact: Poorer recovery	9
Impact: Use of alcohol and/or drugs	9
View: Addiction is a common comorbidity for those in crisis	9
Views: Service already underfunded	9
Impact: More hospital admissions	8
Service: Criticism of service effectiveness	8
View: Everyone deserves access to support	8
Comment about personal circumstances	7
Service: Gives people someone to reach out to	7
Suggestion: Don't cut service	7
Suggestion: Focus on prevention	7
Service: Access to peer support is important	6
Impact: Undo what staff have worked hard to build	6
Service: Praise of staff	6
Views: Alcohol/drug addiction is self-inflicted and support shouldn't be funded	6
Views: East Sussex County Council is responsible for looking after vulnerable people	6
Views: Service is not a priority	6
Views: Service should not be funded by East Sussex County Council	6
Views: Substance misuse is misunderstood	6
Views: Priorities are wrong	5
Views: Same support can be received elsewhere	5
Views: Service funding should go to other services	5
Views: Service is not cost effective	5
Impact: Cost to businesses from shoplifting	4
Impact: Isolation	4
Impact: Unemployment	4
Service: Services rely on referring people to them for support	4

Service: Would not be alive without service	4
Suggestion: Increase rather than cut service funding	4
Views: Recognise need to make savings	4
Impact: Cannot rely on care from family	3
Impact: Fear for the future	3
Impact: Risk of abuse/domestic abuse	3
Impact: Loss of a safe space to discuss my/loved one's addiction	3
Impact: Missed tax revenue	3
Impact: People discouraged from seeking help	3
Other: Comment on consultation process or information	3
Service: Reduces stigma	3
Suggestion: Better education on drug and alcohol addiction	3
Suggestion: Continue to support the most vulnerable	3
Views: Already can't cope with the current support offer	3
Views: Charities rely on the Community Development Officer	3
Views: Other services already struggling	3
Views: Service already under pressure with capacity	3
Impact: Increased burden on frontline workers supporting people	2
Service: Not accessible to whole county	2
Service: Provides signposting/access to other services	2
Service: Very accessible	2
Suggestion: Cut elsewhere	2
Suggestion: Prioritise recovery support over treatment	2
Unspecific/unclear comment	2
View: Comfort to know there is a service to turn to	2
View: Decision makers lack any experience of needing this support	2
Views: Addiction treatment pointless without recovery support	2
Views: Cuts unfair/unequal	2
Views: Detrimental to neurodivergent people in particular	2
Views: Disagree with proposal based on anticipated impact given in consultation overview	2
Views: Private support too expensive	2
Views: Shameful proposal	2
Impact: Ability to care for person using service	1

Impact: Ability to maintain work and/or carer responsibilities	1
Impact: Cause hardship and poverty	1
Impact: Closure of other services	1
Impact: Proposal will disrupt development work being done with other support organisations	1
Impact: Financial hardship	1
Impact: Would lose my current support	1
Other: Comment on alcohol use	1
Other: Comment on other council spending	1
Other: Comment re government budget	1
Other: Comment re named service	1
Other: Those affected are poor at advocating for themselves	1
Service: 1-to-1 support is important	1
Service: Service built trust with people supported by it	1
Suggestion: Continue support for carers of someone with an addiction	1
Suggestion: Contribute to cost of private support	1
Suggestion: Cut non-health-related spending	1
Suggestion: Don't cut as much as proposed	1
Suggestion: Ensure equivalent alternative support is available	1
Suggestion: Focus on medical intervention for drug/alcohol misuse	1
Suggestion: Fund recovery support workers to work with other organisations/services	1
Suggestion: More funding to support recovered people in the long term	1
Suggestion: Restrict support to one attempt per person	1
Suggestion: Support charities affected by the proposal	1
Views: People using service already affected by cuts to mental health services	1
Views: Detrimental to young people in particular	1
Views: People will lose their job	1
Views: Service access is too selective	1
Views: Service is cost effective	1

3) How would the proposal to stop funding drug and alcohol recovery services affect you or someone you care for?

There were 271 responses to this part of the question.

Comment theme	Total
Impact: Detrimental to the family and/or carer of the people affected	51
Impact: People could/will die	45
Impact: Negative impact (unspecified)	39
Impact: Couldn't cope without service	36
Impact: Poorer mental health	36
Impact: Poor/no access to support	33
Views: Worry about where people will get support instead	33
Impact: Relapse	30
Impact: Increased pressure on other services	27
Impact: Increase in crime	25
Impact: Loss to the community/society	23
Service: Lifeline to people	23
Comment about personal circumstances	22
Doesn't affect me	22
Impact: People won't get the support they need	21
Service: Praise of service and its benefit	19
Impact: Poorer physical health	18
Impact: People at increased risk without service	17
Impact: Isolation	17
Service: Supports families and friends of people accessing the service	17
Impact: Lack of hope for those needing support	16
Impact: Lose my current support	16
Views: Equivalent services not available	15
Views: Cuts target vulnerable people	12
Views: Adds more cost in the long term for other services and/or East Sussex County Council	12
Impact: More people in crisis	11
Service: Access to peer support is important	11
Impact: Community at increased risk	10
Service: Allows people to recover, function in and contribute to society	10
Views: Service key to preventing knock-on effects from alcohol and/or drug use	10
Impact: Use of alcohol and/or drugs	9

Service: Rebuilds lives	9
Impact: Loss of a safe space to discuss my/loved one's addiction	8
Views: Detrimental to people with mental illness in particular	8
Impact: Ability to maintain work and/or carer responsibilities	7
Impact: Homelessness	7
Service: Service is vital/needed	7
Views: Service vital for safeguarding people accessing the service and/or people around them	7
Impact: Poorer access to other services as a knock-on effect	6
Impact: Job loss	6
Impact: Cannot rely on support from family	5
Impact: Increase in anti-social behaviour	5
Impact: More hospital admissions	5
Service: Gives people someone to reach out to	5
Service: Services rely on referring people to them for support	5
Views: Comfort knowing the support is available	5
Views: Proposal is morally wrong	5
Views: Service funding should go to other services	5
Views: Short sighted	5
Impact: Ability to care for person using service	4
Impact: Poorer recovery	4
Service: Prevents death from substance misuse	4
Impact: Cost to businesses from shoplifting	3
Impact: Risk of abuse/domestic abuse	3
Impact: Increased support needs	3
Impact: People discouraged from seeking help	3
Suggestion: Focus on prevention	3
Views: Already a high level of addiction in East Sussex	3
Views: Service is not a priority	3
Views: Services already limited	3
Impact: Fear for the future	2
Service: Immensely valued	2
Service: Provides person-centred support	2
Service: Reduce stigma	2
Service: Very accessible	2

Suggestion: Don't cut service	2
Unspecific/unclear comment	2
Views: Cuts unfair/unequal	2
Views: Other services already struggling	2
Views: Priorities are wrong	2
Views: Service already underfunded	2
Impact: Closure of other services	1
Impact: Financial hardship	1
Impact: Increased burden on frontline workers supporting people	1
Impact: Losing a job I value	1
Impact: Loss of skilled staff	1
Impact: Lower quality of life	1
Impact: Missed tax revenue	1
Impact: Other organisations/charities will close	1
Impact: Time and effort to find alternative support	1
Impact: Undo what staff have worked hard to build	1
Impact: Unemployment	1
Other: Community doesn't feel safe due to drug/alcohol addiction	1
Other: Praise of Alcoholics Anonymous as alternative support	1
Service: 1-to-1 support is important	1
Service: Builds people independence/confidence	1
Service: Criticism of service effectiveness	1
Service: Support to navigate the 'system' (unspecified)	1
Service: Would not be alive without service	1
Suggestion: Focus on improving access to support	1
Suggestion: Focus on medical intervention for drug/alcohol misuse	1
Suggestion: Focus on mental health support for people supported by service	1
Suggestion: Improve mental health service provision	1
Suggestion: Increase rather than cut service funding	1
Suggestion: Prioritise welfare of people impacted who currently use service	1
View: Addiction is a common comorbidity for those in crisis	1
View: Cuts create inequality	1
View: Decision makers lack any experience of needing this support	1
View: My role is vital to support other services	1

Views: All services deserve funding	1
Views: Alternative services not appropriate for complex needs	1
Views: People abuse the service	1
Views: Currently a drug epidemic in the country	1
Views: Detrimental to disabled people in particular	1
Views: Detrimental to neurodivergent people in particular	1
Views: Service reduction would push those motivated to recover	1
Views: Service vital for young people and their prosperity	1

4) Do you have any other suggestions or comments you would like to make about the proposal to stop funding drug and alcohol recovery services?

There were 178 responses to this part of the question.

Comment theme	Total
Suggestion: Don't cut service	44
Impact: Increased pressure on other services	24
Service: Service is vital/needed	21
Views: Adds more cost in the long term for other services and/or East Sussex County Council	17
Impact: People could/will die	15
Views: Service key to preventing knock-on effects from alcohol and/or drug use	14
Views: Proposal is morally wrong	13
Impact: Detrimental to the family and/or carer of the people affected	12
Service: Praise of service and its benefit	12
Impact: Loss to the community/society	11
Impact: More people in crisis	11
Views: Cuts target vulnerable people	11
Impact: Increase in crime	10
Views: Equivalent services not available	10
Impact: Couldn't cope without service	9
Impact: Poorer mental health	9
Suggestion: Prioritise recovery support over treatment	9
Views: Worry about where people will get support instead	9
Views: Short sighted	9

Service: Lifeline to people	8
Suggestion: East Sussex County Council should manage resources better	8
Suggestion: Greater scrutiny needed of East Sussex County Council spending/service performance	8
Suggestion: More joint working	8
Suggestion: Increase rather than cut service funding	8
Service: Rebuilds lives	7
Other: Comment on consultation process or information	6
Suggestion: Cut elsewhere	6
Suggestion: Use volunteers	6
Views: Already a high level of addiction in East Sussex	6
Impact: Community at increased risk	5
Impact: Homelessness	5
Impact: Negative impact (unspecified)	5
Impact: People won't get the support they need	5
Impact: Relapse	5
Service: Supports families and friends of people accessing the service	5
Suggestion: Utilise existing and effective volunteer/charity support services	5
Views: Cutting service is a mistake	5
Views: Unhappy/disagree with proposal	5
Impact: Lack of hope for those needing support	4
Other: Comment on council spending	4
Service: Prevents death from substance misuse	4
Suggestion: Focus on prevention	4
Suggestion: Remove and condense office buildings	4
Suggestion: Review number of East Sussex County Council service managers	4
Views: Everyone deserves access to support	4
Views: Services already limited	4
Impact: Increase in anti-social behaviour	3
Impact: More hospital admissions	3
Impact: Unemployment	3
Service: Criticism of service effectiveness	3
Service: Praise of staff	3

Suggestion: Cut non-health-related spending	3
Suggestion: Merge or reorganise services	3
Suggestion: Raise awareness of service	3
View: Decision makers lack any experience of needing this support	3
Views: Alcohol/drug addiction is self-inflicted and support shouldn't be funded	3
Views: Need for this service is increasing	3
Views: Service already underfunded	3
Views: Service vital for safeguarding people accessing the service and/or people around them	3
Views: Substance misuse is misunderstood	3
Impact: Poor/no access to support	2
Impact: Risk of abuse/domestic abuse	2
Other: Questioning motivations behind proposals	2
Service: Access to peer support is important	2
Service: Reduces stigma	2
Suggestion: Better education on drug and alcohol addiction	2
Suggestion: Co-production of service model	2
Suggestion: Continue to support the most vulnerable	2
Suggestion: Encourage alternative support - e.g., religious groups or wellbeing services	2
Suggestion: Improve mental health service provision	2
Suggestion: Increase council tax	2
Suggestion: Joint fund services with other public service organisations	2
Suggestion: Signpost to alternative services	2
Suggestion: Take opportunity to re-design service model	2
Views: Cuts unfair/unequal	2
Views: Detrimental to people with mental illness in particular	2
Views: East Sussex County Council is avoiding its responsibility	2
Views: Service funding should go to other services	2
Comment about personal circumstances	1
Impact: Ability to care for person using service	1
Impact: Ability to maintain work and/or carer responsibilities	1
Impact: Cause hardship and poverty	1
Impact: Cost to businesses from shoplifting	1

Impact: Demoralise frontline staff affected by cut	1
Impact: Disrupt development work being done with other support organisations	1
Impact: Increased support needs	1
Impact: Lower quality of life	1
Impact: Missed tax revenue	1
Impact: Poorer recovery	1
Impact: Undo what staff have worked hard to build	1
Impact: Use of alcohol and/or drugs	1
Other: Comment re impact of government actions	1
Service: Criticism of staff competency	1
Service: Current service works well	1
Service: Provides person-centred support	1
Suggestion: Apply for additional funding/grants	1
Suggestion: Ban alcohol advertisement	1
Suggestion: Better staff retention	1
Suggestion: Calculate the cost for other services this proposal will cause	1
Suggestion: Carry out risk assessment for other services impacted	1
Suggestion: Contribute to cost of private support	1
Suggestion: Cut East Sussex County Council staff pay	1
Suggestion: Cut funding for weight loss services	1
Suggestion: Cut management salaries	1
Suggestion: Cut underperforming providers	1
Suggestion: Do not use policing as an alternative	1
Suggestion: Focus on using evidence-based treatment	1
Suggestion: Fund recovery support workers to work with other organisations/services	1
Suggestion: Fund service from Carers Support Fund	1
Suggestion: Funding from Police and Crime Commissioner	1
Suggestion: Give the funding to other drug/alcohol support charities	1
Suggestion: Hire more caring service staff	1
Suggestion: Host meetings to identify ways to keep service running	1
Suggestion: Learn from other counties	1
Suggestion: Learn from other counties and re-design service model	1

Suggestion: Lobby government for more funding	1
Suggestion: Make decisions after May elections	1
Suggestion: Prioritise residents' needs	1
Suggestion: Prioritise support for families/carers of addicts	1
Suggestion: Provide community drop-in centres	1
Suggestion: Provide separate support for alcohol use and drug use	1
Suggestion: Raise money via local businesses	1
Suggestion: Run East Sussex County Council as a business	1
Suggestion: Seek funding from organisations/businesses	1
View: Charities rely on the Community Development Officer	1
View: East Sussex County Council is required to provide this report under the Public Health Grant conditions	1
Views: Currently a drug epidemic in the country	1
Views: Cuts create inequality	1
Views: Private support too expensive	1
Views: Service already under pressure with capacity	1
Views: Service is cost effective	1
Views: Service vital for young people and their prosperity	1
Views: Shameful proposal	1

About you equality questions

People were given the option of answering these questions, with 234 choosing to take part and 67 choosing not to answer them.

What age are you?

There were 223 responses to this part of the question; 10 people chose 'prefer not to say'.

Age	Total	Respondent percentage
Under 18	1	<1%
18-24	2	1%
25-34	24	8%
35-44	38	13%
45-54	51	17%
55-59	34	11%
60-64	33	11%

65+	40	13%
Not answered	78	26%

What is your gender?

There were 234 responses to this part of the question.

Option	Total	Percent
Female	156	51.83%
Male	74	24.58%
Non-binary	3	1.00%
Prefer to self-describe (please write in below)	1	0.33%
Prefer not to say	0	0.00%
Not Answered	67	22.26%

Self-described gender:

There was 1 response to this part of the question with the respondent writing that they are male.

Is the gender you identify with the same as your sex registered at birth?

There were 233 responses to this part of the question.

Option	Total	Percent
Yes	232	77.08%
No (please write in your gender identity below)	0	0.00%
Prefer not to say	1	0.33%
Not Answered	68	22.59%

Gender identity:

There was 1 response to this part of the question with the respondent writing that they are male.

What is your ethnic group?

There were 233 responses to this part of the question.

Option	Total	Percent
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White English/Welsh/Scottish /Northern Irish/British	209	69.44%
White Irish	4	1.33%
White Gypsy/Irish Traveler	0	0.00%
White Roma	0	0.00%
Any other White background (please write in below)	5	1.66%
Mixed White and Black Caribbean	6	1.99%
Mixed White and Black African	0	0.00%
Mixed White and Asian	1	0.33%
Any other Mixed or Multiple background (please write in below)	1	0.33%
Asian or Asian British Indian	1	0.33%
Asian or Asian British Pakistani	0	0.00%
Asian or Asian British Bangladeshi	0	0.00%
Asian or Asian British Chinese	0	0.00%
Any other Asian background (please write in below)	0	0.00%
Black or Black British Caribbean	3	1.00%
Black or Black British African background (please write in below)	0	0.00%
Any other Black, Black British or Caribbean background (please write in below)	0	0.00%
Arab	0	0.00%
Any other ethnic group (please write in below)	0	0.00%
Prefer not to say	3	1.00%
Not Answered	68	22.59%

Other:

There were 5 responses to this part of the question, covering a mix of ethnicities, (mostly European).

Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?

There were 233 responses to this part of the question.

Option	Total	Percent
'Straight' / Heterosexual	200	66.45%
Gay or Lesbian	9	2.99%
Bisexual	12	3.99%
Prefer to self-describe (please write in below)	1	0.33%
Prefer not to say	11	3.65%
Not Answered	68	22.59%

Self-described sexual orientation:

There was 1 response to this part of the question:

- Queer

What is your religion or belief?

There were 232 responses to this part of the question.

Option	Total	Percent
No religion	117	38.87%
Christian (including Church of England, Catholic, Protestant and all other Christian denominations)	82	27.24%
Buddhist	9	2.99%
Hindu	1	0.33%
Jewish	0	0.00%
Muslim	0	0.00%
Sikh	0	0.00%
Any other religion (please write in below)	7	2.33%
Philosophical belief (please write in below)	5	1.66%
Prefer not to say	11	3.65%
Not Answered	69	22.92%

Other religion:

There were 15 responses to this part of the question, covering Quakerism, Paganism, Buddhism, Spiritualism, and unclear/unspecific beliefs.

Do you have any physical or mental health conditions or illnesses lasting or expected to last 12 months or more?

There were 231 responses to this part of the question.

Option	Total	Percent
Yes (please answer part B below)	99	32.89%
No (go to the next question)	125	41.53%
Prefer not to say (go to the next question)	7	2.33%
Not Answered	70	23.26%

Do any of your conditions or illnesses reduce your ability to carry out day-to-day activities?

There were 172 responses to this part of the question.

Option	Total	Percent
Yes, a lot	36	11.96%
Yes, a little	47	15.61%
Not at all	78	25.91%
Prefer not to say	11	3.65%
Not Answered	129	42.86%

Do you have any physical or mental health conditions or illnesses lasting or expected to last 12 months or more?

There were 102 responses to this part of the question.

Option	Total	Percent
Physical Impairment	30	9.97%
Sensory Impairment	4	1.33%
Learning Disability/Difficulty	4	1.33%
Long-standing illness	24	7.97%
Mental Health condition	57	18.94%
Neurodivergent condition	15	4.98%
Other Developmental Condition	4	1.33%

Other (please write in below)	10	3.32%
Prefer not to say	7	2.33%
Not Answered	199	66.11%

Other:

There were 16 responses to this part of the question, with the majority covering the following:

- Addiction
- Mental health conditions
- Inflammatory conditions
- Autoimmune disorders
- Respiratory conditions
- Cardiovascular disease

Are you currently pregnant or did you give birth in the last twelve months?

There were 233 responses to this part of the question.

Option	Total	Percent
Yes	3	1.00%
No	227	75.42%
Prefer not to say	3	1.00%
Not Answered	68	22.59%

Are there any children under the age of 18 living in your household?

There were 212 responses to this part of the question.

Option	Total	Percent
Yes	51	16.94%
No	156	51.83%
Prefer not to say	5	1.66%
Not Answered	89	29.57%

Do you look after, or give any help or support to, anyone because they have long-term physical or mental health conditions or illnesses, or problems related to old age?

There were 231 responses to this part of the question.

Option	Total	Percent
Yes	66	21.93%
No (go to next question)	159	52.82%
Prefer not to say	6	1.99%
Not Answered	70	23.26%

Hours of care given a week

There were 71 responses to this part of the question.

Option	Total	Percent
9 hours a week or less	22	7.31%
10 to 19 hours a week	12	3.99%
20 to 34 hours a week	10	3.32%
35 to 49 hours a week	10	3.32%
50 hours or more a week	9	2.99%
Prefer not to say	8	2.66%
Not Answered	230	76.41%

Who you care for

There were 68 responses to this part of the question.

Option	Total	Percent
Parent	17	5.65%
Partner/spouse	14	4.65%
Child with special needs	11	3.65%
Other family member	18	5.98%
Friend	6	1.99%
Other (please give details)	7	2.33%
Prefer not to say	4	1.33%
Not Answered	233	77.41%

If you answered 'other', please explain here:

There were 11 responses to this part of the question, covering children/grandchildren, neighbours, or members of public via a volunteering role.

Armed Forces Service: Are you currently serving, or have you previously served in the UK Armed Forces (this includes Reservists or part-time service)?

There were 230 responses to this part of the question.

Option	Total	Percent
Yes	9	2.99%
No	219	72.76%
Prefer not to say	2	0.66%
Not Answered	71	23.59%

Are you in a household or family where someone is currently or was previously serving in the UK Armed Forces?

There were 230 responses to this part of the question.

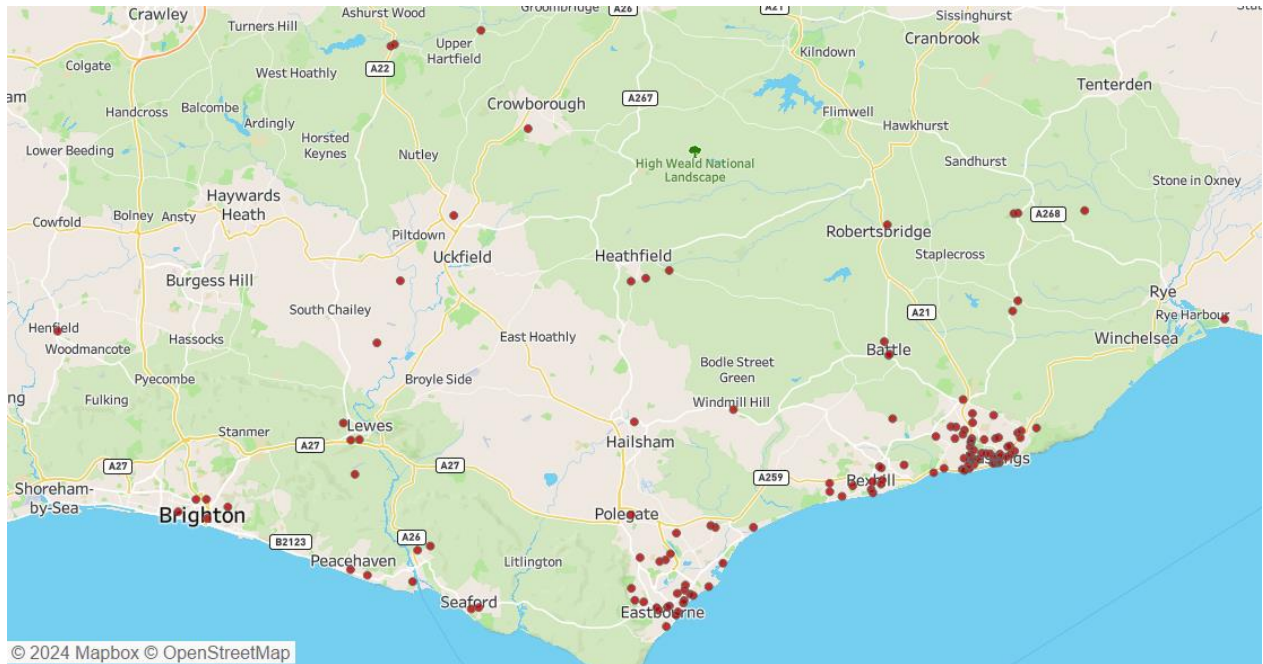
Option	Total	Percent
Yes	16	5.32%
No	213	70.76%
Prefer not to say	1	0.33%
Not Answered	71	23.59%

Please tell us your postcode:

There were 169 responses to this part of the question, with 57 people choosing 'prefer not to say':

Area in East Sussex	Total	Respondent percentage
Lewes	15	5%
Eastbourne	25	8%
Wealden	17	6%
Rother	35	12%
Hastings	64	21%

Thirteen respondents (4%) provided postcodes outside of East Sussex.



Other feedback by email etc

Recovery services consultation responses

There were 16 responses to the recovery services consultation by other feedback methods. All of them were submitted by email. All but one were from organisations, and one came from someone who had used the services.

The organisations who submitted a response are:

- BHT Sussex
- Care for the Carers
- Children's Services at ESCC
- Eastbourne Borough Council
- Hastings Borough Council
- Heads of Housing across District & Boroughs
- Healthwatch East Sussex
- Lewes District Council
- Lewes Town Council
- NHS Sussex
- Rother District Council
- Sussex Community Development Organisation
- Sussex Partnership Foundation Trust

- Wealden Citizens Advice
- Wealden District Council - Head of Housing

The tables below cover the comment themes for all the respondents.

Views

Comment theme	Total
Views: Recognise need to make savings	9
Views: Cuts target the most vulnerable	8
Views: Service key to preventing knock-on effects from alcohol and/or drug use	8
View: Addiction is a common comorbidity for those in crisis	7
Views: Other services already struggling	7
Service: Service is vital	6
Views: Service vital for safeguarding people accessing the service and/or people around them	6
Views: Catastrophic to cut so many services at the same time	5
Views: Disagree	5
Views: Equivalent services not available	5
Views: Proposal adds more cost in the long term	5
Views: Access to peer support is important	4
Views: People may be affected by multiple proposed cuts	4
Views: Cutting service is a mistake	3
Views: Service vital for sustainable recovery	3
Views: Already a high level of alcohol/drug dependency in East Sussex	2
Views: Concerned where else people would get support	2
Views: Costs will increase, not go down	2
Views: Detrimental to people with mental illness in particular	2
Views: Families/carers need support too	2
Views: Proposal is morally wrong	2
Views: Need for this service is increasing	2
Views: Will shift cost onto districts and boroughs	2
Views: Addiction treatment pointless without recovery support	1
Views: Already housing crisis in East Sussex	1
Views: Alternative services not suitable	1

Views: Carers of people accessing the service care for multiple people already	1
Views: Carers vital for health and social care economy	1
Views: Concerned about impact on Hastings residents	1
Views: Concerned where families will get support instead	1
Views: Cuts unfair/unequal	1
Views: Detrimental to disabled people in particular	1
Views: Detrimental to homeless people in particular	1
Views: Detrimental to the elderly in particular	1
Views: Detrimental to those with a drug and/or alcohol dependency	1
Views: Don't close service	1
Views: Money won't be saved	1
Views: People upset by proposal	1
Views: Shameful proposal	1
Views: Short sighted	1

Service

Comment theme	Total
Service: Praise of staff	4
Service: Services rely on referring people to them for support	4
Service: Immensely valued	3
Service: Praise of service	3
Service: Provides person-centred support	3
Service: Rebuilds lives	3
Service: Supports engagement with other wellbeing initiatives	3
Service: Works well alongside other services	3
Service: Improves a wide range of people's outcomes	2
Service: Lifeline to people	2
Service: Only service of its sort	2
Service: Specialist knowledge unique to service	2
Service: Well integrated into local communities	2

Impact: Empowers family members to set boundaries	1
Service: Achieved good outcomes	1
Service: Active outreach to homeless community	1
Service: Advocates for the people it supports	1
Service: Builds families resilience to and understanding of substance misuse	1
Service: Contributes to preventing substance misuse in future generations	1
Service: Facilitates improved outcomes for people they support via family engagement	1
Service: Flexible support	1
Service: Gives people someone to reach out to	1
Service: People wouldn't be recovered and functioning in society without it	1
Service: Prevents death from substance misuse	1
Service: Prevents drug related crime	1
Service: Prevents homelessness	1
Service: Provides training	1
Service: Reduces stigma	1
Service: Staff with lived experience important	1
Service: Supports the families and friends of people accessing the services	1
Service: Supports the most vulnerable	1
Service: Very accessible	1

Impact

Comment theme	Total
Impact: Increased pressure on other services	10
Impact: Increased burden on family/carers	9
Impact: Increased cost for other organisations	7

Impact: Poorer mental health	6
Impact: People accessing the service at increased risk	6
Impact: Poorer physical health	6
Impact: Community at increased risk	5
Impact: Poorer access to support	5
Impact: Detrimental to already deprived communities in East Sussex	4
Impact: Increase in crime	4
Impact: More people in crisis	4
Impact: NHS	4
Impact: People could/will die	4
Impact: People's needs won't be met	4
Impact: Poorer long-term outcomes	4
Impact: Poorer recovery	4
Impact: Relapse	4
Impact: Couldn't cope without service	3
Impact: Homelessness	3
Impact: Negative impact (unspecified)	3
Impact: Negative on carers	3
Impact: Reduce the wellbeing of people supported by the services	3
Impact: Risk of abuse/domestic abuse	3
Impact: Ability to care for child	2
Impact: Ability to maintain work and carer responsibilities	2
Impact: Add more costs in the long term	2
Impact: At risk of suicide	2
Impact: Compromise other organisations' work	2
Impact: Financial hardship	2
Impact: Greater risk of people losing their homes	2

Impact: Increase homelessness if cut	2
Impact: Increase in anti-social behaviour	2
Impact: Increased burden on frontline workers supporting people	2
Impact: Loss of jobs	2
Impact: Loss of signposting/access to other services	2
Impact: Loss of skilled/specialist workforce	2
Impact: People will be left to manage	2
Impact: Reduce carers' wellbeing	2
Impact: Undo what staff have worked hard to build	2
Impact: Already have to battle for services	1
Impact: Carers will have less of a break	1
Impact: Cost to businesses from shoplifting	1
Impact: Cuts create inequality	1
Impact: Destroy the stability/support structure of people supported by the service	1
Impact: Economy will suffer	1
Impact: Encourages negative attitude towards people who need support	1
Impact: Families split up	1
Impact: Isolation	1
Impact: Lower quality of life	1
Impact: Significant increase in people living in temporary accommodation	1
Impact: Threat of unemployment impacts mental wellbeing	1
Impact: Treatment without recovery support makes no sense	1
Impact: Use of alcohol and/or drugs	1
Views: Cause distress for those accessing the service	1

Suggestions

Comment theme	Total
Suggestions: More joint working	5
Suggestion: Focus on prevention	4
Suggestion: Increase rather than cut service funding	2
Suggestion: Utilise existing and effective volunteer/charity support services	2
Suggestion: Careful planning/assessments needed before happens	1
Suggestion: Continue to support the most vulnerable	1
Suggestion: Cut management salaries	1
Suggestion: Don't cut prevention services	1
Suggestion: East Sussex County Council should manage resources better	1
Suggestion: Explore alternative solutions with partners/other providers	1
Suggestion: Find other ways to save money	1
Suggestion: Lobby government in partnership with other services	1
Suggestion: Make decisions after May elections	1
Suggestion: Mitigate impact on other peer support services	1
Suggestion: Re-model service by co-design	1
Suggestion: Reduce service in gradual stages	1
Suggestion: Reduce use of expensive residential care for adults	1
Suggestion: Run service in partnership with other organisations	1

Other comments

Comment theme	Total
Other: Comment on consultation process or information	3
Other: East Sussex County Council must provide more information about alternatives and capacity	3

Other: Unrealistic to expect other services to mitigate impacts sufficiently	2
Other: Appreciation of East Sussex County Council's acknowledgement of impacts and commitment to co-production	1
Other: Can't just cut a service that has been funded	1
Other: Care for the Carers must represent carers in design of alternative support	1
Other: Comment on government guidance on alcohol treatment/recovery	1
Other: Comment re government funding	1
Other: Consider the comprehensive overview of Adfam's service delivery and outcomes submitted	1
Other: Consider the submitted case studies	1
Other: Cost of temporary accommodation is driving financial instability in local authorities	1
Other: Crisis prevention more expensive	1
Other: East Sussex County Council should provide more information on uptake and outcomes of service	1
Other: Housing partners will continue developing multi-disciplinary approach to support people with Multiple Compound needs, and welcome further support	1
Other: How are the proposals being communicated to other organisations?	1
Other: How will East Sussex County Council meet its duty to shape the local adult social care market?	1
Other: Near future changes in government funding possible	1
Other: Reducing treatment services will compound the issue	1
Other: Should have allowed more time to discuss proposals	1
Other: The Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise sector needs services to signpost to	1
Other: Want to see the Equality Impact Assessment and proposed mitigations	1
Other: Work with NHS Sussex to understand and mitigate risks	1

Overall consultation responses

Responses addressing all 11 consultations combined

There were 10 responses addressing all 11 consultations at once by letter and email. These were from both organisations (5), residents (4) and a member of parliament (1).

The organisations who submitted a response are:

- Rother District Council
- Lewes Liberal Democrats
- Care for the Carers
- East Sussex VCSE Alliance
- East Sussex Seniors Associations

The tables below cover the comment themes for all the respondents.

Views

Comment theme	Total
Views: Cuts target the most vulnerable	6
Views: Recognise need to make savings	5
Views: Disagree	3
Views: Already housing crisis in East Sussex	2
Views: Concerned about impact of proposal	2
Views: Don't close service	2
Views: Limited capacity for VCSE sector to provide the support instead	2
Views: Proposal is morally wrong	2
Views: Proposal adds more cost in the long term	2
Views: Will shift cost onto districts and boroughs	2
Views: Angry with proposal	1
Views: Carers of people accessing the service care for multiple people already	1
Views: Carers vital for health and social care economy	1
Views: Concern about impact on level of support services can provide post-cuts	1
Views: Concern re timeframe for cuts	1
Views: Concerned where people would go instead	1
Views: Cuts unfair/unequal	1
Views: Detrimental to the elderly in particular	1

Views: Disagree with using private organisations	1
Views: East Sussex County Council wastes money	1
Views: Homelessness prevention statutory under the Homelessness Reduction Act	1
Views: Impacts will be immediate for people accessing the service and statutory services	1
Views: Insufficient time for other organisations to respond/mitigate risks	1
Views: Knows disabled people who could work but don't	1
Views: Must prioritise the most vulnerable	1
Views: Other services already struggling	1
Views: Private support too expensive	1
Views: Service vital for safeguarding people accessing them, and/or people around them	1
Views: Shameful proposal	1

Service

Comment theme	Total
Service: Prevents homelessness	1

Impact

Comment theme	Total
Impact: Increased pressure on other services	3
Impact: Poorer mental health	3
Impact: Financial hardship	2
Impact: Increased cost for other organisations	2
Impact: Poorer physical health	2
Impact: Increased burden on family/carer	1
Impact: Ability to maintain work and carer responsibilities	1
Impact: Add more costs in the long term	1
Impact: At risk of suicide	1
Impact: Carers will have less of a break	1
Impact: People accessing the service at increased risk	1
Impact: Community at increased risk	1
Impact: Encourages negative attitude towards people who need support	1

Impact: Hardship and poverty	1
Impact: Homelessness	1
Impact: Isolation	1
Impact: Loss of staff results in loss of tax revenue	1
Impact: Loss to the community	1
Impact: Lower quality of life	1
Impact: More people would be in out-of-area accommodation	1
Impact: More hospital admissions	1
Impact: More people in crisis	1
Impact: Negative impact (unspecified)	1
Impact: Negative on carers	1
Impact: NHS	1
Impact: Poorer access to support	1
Impact: Reduce carers' wellbeing	1
Impact: Reduce the wellbeing of people accessing the services	1
Impact: Risk of abuse/domestic abuse	1
Impact: Significant increase in people living in temporary accommodation	1
Impact: Unsuitable housing detrimental to child development	1
Impact: Use of alcohol and/or drugs	1

Suggestions

Comment theme	Total
Suggestion: Focus on prevention	3
Suggestion: Utilise existing and effective volunteer/charity support services	3
Suggestions: More joint working	3
Suggestion: Continue to support the most vulnerable	2
Suggestion: Allow Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise sector partners to reduce rental outgoings	1
Suggestion: Build accommodation under a Community Land Trust	1
Suggestion: Consider impact of loss of winter fuel allowance	1
Suggestion: Cut management salaries	1

Suggestion: Do things differently and innovate	1
Suggestion: Don't cut prevention services	1
Suggestion: Don't cut service	1
Suggestion: East Sussex County Council should manage resources better	1
Suggestion: Prioritise support for young people coming out of care	1
Suggestion: Run accommodation/care homes as a business to generate profit	1
Suggestion: Signpost charities to other sources of funding	1
Suggestion: Transfer assets to voluntary sector	1
Suggestion: Work with partners to develop new model	1

Other

Comment theme	Total
Other: Supporting and working with VCSE sector vital for improved outcomes	2
Other: Appreciation of East Sussex County Council's acknowledgement of impacts and commitment to co-production	1
Other: Care for the Carers must represent carers in design of alternative support	1
Other: Comment on consultation process or information	1
Other: Comment on government policy and country-wide issues not specific to consultations	1
Other: Comment re government funding	1
Other: Cost of temporary accommodation is driving financial instability in local authorities	1
Other: Districts and boroughs are not in a financial position to cope with impacts of cuts	1
Other: East Sussex County Council must provide more information about alternatives and capacity	1
Other: Provide information on proposed alternatives/mitigations	1
Other: Question re raising awareness of consultations with public	1
Other: Want to see the Equality Impact Assessment and proposed mitigations	1

Other: Will this be all the cuts or is more needed?	1
Other: Would NHS & ASCH save by working together?	1