

(Via email)

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21 April 2009

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DRUGS SYSTEM CHANGE PILOT

Dear provider,

I am writing to inform you that Drug System Change pilots will be operating in both Hampshire & Essex Progress2work areas from 1 April 2009 and that you are likely to be contacted by the local System Change pilot and we are seeking to encourage you to engage positively at this opportunity if you are contacted.

Background

The Government's drug strategy was published in February 2008. The strategy included a commitment to establish seven Drug System Change pilots to examine:

- Pooling of budgets;
- Individual budgets for treatment and wider support
- End-to-end planning and delivery of individual treatment packages
- A renewed focus on outcomes.

The pilots are due to begin on 1 April and will run for two years. Two of the successful bids, Hampshire and Essex, have expressed an interest in discussing possible options for working together with local progress2work providers in their areas to achieve the planned outcomes. The Government is keen to encourage this, though this doesn't imply any assumed long-term commitment from the progress2work budgets.

Yours sincerely

Peter Thornber
Head of CEP Strategy and Local Procurement Management

