

Family Early Intervention Substance Misuse Support Pathway (FEISMSP)



This leaflet provides information about the pathway to people wishing to access support.

What is FEISMSP?

This is a Lewisham-wide collaborative approach to help families who are affected by substance abuse to get help early.

FEISMSP is a universal referral method that can be used by anyone to refer residents of Lewisham for specialist information and a targeted introduction to substance misuse services.

What services are on offer through the pathway?

(A brief description of services can be found on the rear of the referral form).

- **A parental cannabis group**
- **A support group offering alternative therapies to women who use drugs and/or alcohol**
- **Support for young people aged 11 and over who are affected by a parent or carer's substance misuse**
- **Support for young people aged 11 and over who are using drugs and/or alcohol or at risk of substance misuse**
- **Support for family members and carers affected by another person's alcohol abuse or substance misuse, including counselling and alternative therapies**
- **Support for parents who want to control their use of drugs and/or alcohol**
- **A peer support network and befriending service for parents who do not want to access treatment for alcohol abuse or substance misuse**
- **Support for parents who have a child using drugs or alcohol**

What will happen when I am referred to a service offered through the pathway?

Your details will be passed to the most appropriate service, after which someone will call you to give you information regarding the service they can offer you. If you feel the service will be of benefit to you, they will either complete a brief assessment over the phone or invite you to come in for an assessment. Once this is complete you will be allocated your own worker who will formulate a plan of support, and support you throughout.

What am I consenting to, by agreeing to being referred?

You are consenting to your contact information as recorded on the referral form being passed to the most appropriate service within the pathway, so they can contact you by phone and provide you with information about their service and offer you the opportunity for an assessment if you want one.

What happens if I change my mind?

You are free to change your mind at any time, you just need to advise the service when they make contact with you. They may ask you if it is ok to send you information in the post or contact you in a month or so. If you do not want them to contact you again you can inform them, and they will not contact you again.

What happens if they cannot reach me by phone?

The services will attempt to contact you by telephone three times, if they cannot get hold of you they will send information via post to the address given on the referral form asking you to make contact with the service.

Why is Lewisham Council offering this service?

We want to help our residents battle substance abuse as early as possible. Substance misuse does not discriminate; it affects people and families from all walks of life. We want everyone to feel as comfortable as possible accessing our services and ensure that we provide the most appropriate advice in supportive settings which enable people to recover as early as possible.

Can I contact the pathway directly?

As the pathway is a consortium of services, you cannot contact anyone directly, until a service has been identified for you. When contact is made with you, you can direct any questions you may have to your allocated service.

What happens if I have a complaint about the pathway?

You should initially address your complaint to the service that makes contact with you. You can ask to speak to the safeguarding lead within that service. If you are still not satisfied you can contact the Hidden Harm Co-ordinator by e-mailing your complaint to the pathway.

Once I am open to a service, what other services could I access?

All of the services offered through the pathway offer onward referral to other forms of support, such as family support, floating support, universal mental health support, and children's centre services.

Who else do the services work with to support myself and my children?

The services can work with whichever professionals are working with you. This can include education professionals, health visitors, midwifery care, children's centres and family members. Families feel better supported when services work together to support them holistically.