

Working together

Vicki Pattenden- Clinical Nurse Specialist-
South East TILS

Andy Miller- Sergeant- CSU Tunbridge Wells

TILS

***'Veterans Mental Health Transition,
Intervention and Liaison (TIL) Service -
London and South East'.***

Who we are

- From 1st April 2017, NHS England launched the new TILS for armed forces personnel approaching discharge and veterans- South East started July 2017
- We offer support to all former members of the British Armed Forces from all ranks who have received one day's pay or more in the Army, Royal Navy, Royal Marines or Royal Air Force.
- We also support any veteran who has served with the Army Reserves, Royal Navy Reserves, Royal Marine Reserves or Royal Air Force Reserves
- We offer assessment within two weeks, write a report based on what we are told and recommend which treatment we think would be best suited.

Background of client

- Contact received from the police community safety unit (CSU)
- Client suffers from PTSD and drinks to control his emotions.
- Arrested for none violent offences and was sent to prison
- Due for release middle of January 2018
- CSU would like support to get Client into Kenwood Project – ‘The Invicta Project is a new addition to The Kenward Trust based in Yalding Kent. It is an 8 bed residential rehabilitation project specifically for ex-servicemen (including reservists) who are experiencing alcohol and drug dependency’.

Sgt Andy Miller

- CK came to Kent police attention in 2015 due to an incident in London where he was suicidal but lived on Kent Ground. He stated at this time that he was a RM commando and had served as a soldier in Bosnia, Afghanistan and Iraq as was suffering PTSD.
- During the next 18 months, we received sporadic reports of concerns for his drunken state in and around the village of Cranbrook, being aggressive to anyone who approached. In 2016 he was arrested twice for drink driving, once by Sussex and once by Kent. During his second arrest he made off from police after crashing and was extremely aggressive and violent to officers.
- He was later sent to prison but then returned to Tunbridge wells, where we were receiving regular reports for Shoplifting of alcohol. The store mostly would obtain the money from him when he was sober so as to avoid confrontation. They always reported that when sober he was a totally different individual. However to the general public he appeared to be a dangerous individual.
- Our community policing team under my guidance attempted on several occasions to intervene and get him help eventually contacting Vicki to raise our concerns that we felt he was being set up to fail by being released on licence to his home address where he lives alone where the cycle of drink would re-commence. We felt that a placement with support would be more suitable as I feel CK is a real risk to the public and himself because of his need to be drunk to blur the lines of reality and forget the trauma that made him drink in the first instance.

Outcome

- Client has been assessed and accepted onto the Invicta project
- He will be released from prison and collected by the staff from the project to attend
- This will help to prevent relapse in alcohol misuse
- TILS will be offering support when and if required

TILS information

<http://londonveterans.nhs.uk/>

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