

Review of Current and Recent Substance Misuse Work

This paper highlights work which is currently being, or has recently been, undertaken within the field of substance misuse in Wales. This includes reviews, research projects, consultation exercises, strategies and audits generated by a variety of key stakeholders.

The purpose of the paper is to assist Members' to identify areas which might be scrutinised for the purposes of the policy review whilst ensuring that work already undertaken in this area is incorporated into the review rather than duplicated.

The work highlighted below has been identified in the responses to the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee's recent substance misuse policy review consultation exercise and is not exhaustive. The information on Welsh Assembly Government actions and priorities is based on the Community Safety Unit Plan 2004-05. Given the volume of work undertaken in other policy areas which over-laps with substance misuse policy (e.g. housing, education, criminal justice) this paper focuses on specific substance misuse focused work only. Individual projects undertaken as part of the work of the Community Safety Partnership Local Substance Misuse Action Planning process is not identified.

Further details of the publications and projects mentioned here can be requested from the Members' Research Service.

Welsh Assembly Government

Reviews and evaluations

A review of substance misuse service provided through community pharmacies in Wales (2003) National Public Health Service for Wales; Royal Pharmaceutical Society; Community Pharmacy Wales

Evaluation Of Drug Abuse And Resistance Education (DARE) Programme In Rhondda Fawr (2004) ESTYN

Evidence of Drug and Alcohol problems amongst probation cases in Wales (2004) Community Safety Unit

Audit Commission involvement in evaluating NHS expenditure on substance misuse services (referred to by the Minister in reports to the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee)

An Assessment of the Contribution of Selected Voluntary Sector Providers to the Treatment of Substance

Guidance / Strategies

Tackling substance misuse in Wales: a partnership approach (2000)

All Wales Youth Offending Strategy (2004)

Substance Misuse: Children and young People – National Assembly for Wales Circular 17/02 (2002). This circular provides guidance to schools, colleges and all youth settings on substance misuse preventative education.

Local Substance Misuse Action Plans in Wales: guidance notes for completion 2005–2008 (Draft) and a *Planning Template*. A consultation exercise has been undertaken.

Re-structuring

After a public consultation period, the arrangements for the strategic delivery of the Welsh substance misuse strategy are re-structured (2003):

- DAATs and LATs abolished and functions transferred to Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs)
- CSPs now have a statutory responsibility to produce strategies to tackle substance misuse
- Assembly Government based Substance Misuse Advisory Regional Teams (SMARTs) and CSP Substance Misuse Action Teams (SMATs) are established.

Policy Development

Substance Misuse Treatment Framework in Wales - The framework should enable responsible authorities and their partners in Community Safety Partnerships to compare the performance of services commissioned in their area against agreed national standards. It should assist in identifying gaps in substance misuse services and the subsequent need for service development and will support the development of Local Substance Misuse Action Plans (LSMAP). The framework will include Performance Management Standards for each of the modules. Consultation on 5 modules has already been undertaken.

Performance Management Framework - development of a comprehensive management information system' to meet the planning needs at both the national and local levels.

Other actions taken in 2003-04 and priorities for 2004-05 (as identified in the Community Safety Unit

Plan 2004-05)

- The establishment of a prison support worker project
- The development of a police-led schools liaison programme (initiated by Gwent Police)
- The launch in Wales of National (UK) Drug and Alcohol National Occupational Standards

- Further development of statutory guidance on the production of local substance misuse strategies. A consultation exercise has been undertaken.

- Action to tackle drug related death
- Work on the 'Hidden Harm' agenda (needs of children of problem substance users)
- Development of a 'Throughcare and Aftercare Scheme'
- Focus on joint training in substance misuse and child protection work
- All Wales Training Needs Analysis
- Plan on the delivery of public information and educational resources.
- Actions relating to the implications of the English Alcohol Strategy
- Support for Operation Tarian

Other Government and Statutory Sector

Wales

Community Safety Partnerships - *Local Substance Misuse Action Plans*. A statutory responsibility under the Police Reform Act 2002. During 2004, responsible authorities and their partners are required to develop detailed 3-year plans commencing 1 April 2005. This 3-year plan is in line with the development of local Community Safety and Health, Social Care and Well-being strategies.

Bro Morgannwg NHS Trust: Clinical Governance Review Report (2004) Commission for Health Improvement (refers to models of care in the inpatient services for patients with mental health, substance misuse and dual diagnosis problems)

Changing Habits: The Commissioning and Management of Community Drug Treatment Services for Adults (2002) Audit Commission (Welsh site amongst 11 studied)

New General Medical Services (GMS) Contract. Specialist treatment for drug and alcohol misuse are recognised as 'National Enhanced Services'

On-going development of a new NHS pharmacy contract which is likely to effect the way services, such as supervised consumption and needle and syringe exchange, are delivered

UK / England

Hidden Harm: Responding to the Needs of Children and Problem Drug Users (2003) Report of an Inquiry by the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs (ACMD)

Models of Care for Treatment of Adult Drug Misusers: Framework for Developing Local Systems of Effective Drug Misuse Treatment in England (2002 and on-going) National Treatment Agency

The Government's Drug Policy: Is it Working? Third Report (2002) House of Commons Home Affairs Committee

Children and Young People Substance Misuse Services: The Substance of Young Need Health Advisory Service (1996, updated review 2001)

Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy for England (2004) Prime Minister's Strategy Unit

Updated Drug Strategy (2002) Drugs Strategy Directorate

Reducing Drug Related Deaths (2000) Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs

Voluntary / Charitable Sector

Communities That Care (CTC) (CTC is an independent charity which promotes a long-term, evidence-based community programme throughout the UK)

Access to Drug Services for Homeless People (2004) Rough Sleepers Cymru (Brief survey)

Professional Bodies

A review of substance misuse service provided through community pharmacies in Wales (2003) National Public Health Service for Wales; Royal Pharmaceutical Society; Community Pharmacy Wales

The Police Foundation (2000) *Drugs and the Law: Report of the Independent Inquiry into the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971*

The Drugs Debate: Time for Change? (2002) Chief Constable Richard Brunstrom, North Wales Police Authority

Other

A Cultural and Spatial Analysis of Adolescent Substance Misuse in Rural Wales: Final Report (2002) Trish Buchan, Institute of Rural Health

