

Cambridgeshire Drug & Alcohol Action Team Communities Plan

2004/05

Cambridgeshire has a diverse range of communities ranging from rural villages to market towns and urban areas, Therefore the issues are diverse. Cambridgeshire is a relatively wealthy county, however there are areas of relatively deprived areas, which have significant concerns surrounding drug misuse. There are few areas in which street dealing and using are significant issues. Drugs are available throughout the county with a range of effects upon the communities, ranging from concern of parents to those affected by Class A dealing from residential addresses.

The DAAT Community Plan is one of a number of plans to tackle substance misuse in the county and should be read in conjunction with other plans, in order to understand the breadth of work being undertaken in Cambridgeshire by various agencies and organisations. The following plan describes work, which will take place (much of it continuing programmes which are already underway) in our communities to prevent drug misuse, disrupt drug markets and support local communities.

Drug and Alcohol Reference Groups (DARGs) are organised on a locality basis, in Fenland, Huntingdonshire, East Cambs and City & South Cambs. DARG members include representatives of local services, including local authorities, and cover a cross section of prevention, youth work, treatment and criminal justice agencies. DARG chairs are members of the DAAT and in three areas are members of their respective Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships in order to ensure a consistent flow of information from DAAT to locality DARGs to CDRPS. DARG and CDRP members receive a quarterly DAAT update briefing, informing them of changes and work that is being undertaken across the county.

The DAAT seeks to ensure targeted work in the localities or communities most in need, while remaining committed to universal county-wide approaches.

Priority Area	Objective	Funding	Targets	Timescale	Lead Officer
Housing & Homelessness	Research has been commissioned research on accommodation needs and issues – to include hidden homelessness.	Already funded	Publication of Report To be used by housing providers when setting priorities and action plans	August 04	Trevor Baker CCC
	Development of Care Pathways for Homeless Clients		Referral routes and Care Co-ordination clear for homeless drug & alcohol users	March 05	MOCPIG
	Drug awareness training for housing providers throughout the county	BSC & others	An increase in the number of housing staff aware of drug issues and of where to refer tenants for whom substance misuse is an issue.	March 05	DAAT Co-ordinator
	Work with supported housing providers to investigate developing supported accommodation for young people with a high level of need, including substance misuse, to provide support for transition into permanent accommodation.	-	Inclusion of young substance misusers within housing strategies	March 05	Tom Watt - YOS
	Ensure drug and alcohol issues are considered in all housing and homelessness strategies and Supported People planning countywide	-	Inclusion of drug and alcohol users within all Cambridgeshire Housing Strategies	March 05	DAAT Co-ordinator
Drug Related Litter	To be managed through the Phoenix Countywide Needle Exchange Group	Treatment Plan	Employment of Needle Exchange Co-ordinator Training of Pharmacists operating needle exchange within their pharmacy Greater emphasis on returning of used needles, to needle exchange staff and clients. Response to community concern regarding discarded needles. Develop work with Environmental Health Training for street cleaners regarding safe collection of needles. Monitor changes in inappropriate disposal of sharps. All areas to have a consistent approach in dealing with discarded needles.	On going	Jane Davis – Joint Commiss. Manager
Community Consultation	To develop effective communication between the DAAT and Cambridgeshire residents to understand community concerns.	-	Asking relevant questions about concerns surrounding substance misuse when communities are consulted. Getting regular feedback fro community workers.	On-going	Vickie Crompton
	To convey work being done to tackle drug misuse in Cambridgeshire to residents countywide, through various media	DAAT	Communication Strategy to be developed and begin dissemination of information. Media to include newspapers, local newsletters, website.	Sept 04	Vickie Crompton
	Community Support Workers to engage with communities regarding substance misuse. Feedback finding to DAAT Team.	BSC/SR B		On-Going	DAAT/ Economic & Community Development
	Deliver drug awareness in non-school settings.	Young Peoples Plan	See Young Peoples Plan	On-going	Various

	Widespread survey of professionals working in communities to examine their perceptions as to the extent of substance misuse and the effects on those communities.	DAAT	900 surveys sent to professionals countywide. Summary Report Written and findings presented to relevant groups.	Oct 04	Laura Hutson – DAAT Information Officer
Drug Driving	Raise awareness of dangers of drug driving	PARSIN CAP	Awareness Campaign to be developed by working with Cambridgeshire Road Safety Partnership.		PARSINCAP
Workplace Drug Awareness	Employers in the county offered awareness and training events, acting as a co-ordinating agent between EEF and the DAAT.	Self Financing	Number of Employers offered the training. Number of organisations worked with.	On going	EEF
Diversity	Increasing drug awareness in the Travelling Community	Young Peoples Plan Treatment Plan	This work will continue. The model has been identified by the Home Office as a Model of Good Practice. Conference held to disseminate the work Nationally	On-going Conference October	Omiston Trust
	Drug Awareness Work with various "hard to reach" groups.	Young Peoples Plan	Ensure these groups receive culturally appropriate information and are empowered with knowledge regarding substance misuse.	On-going	Various
DARGS	Increase the effectiveness of DARGs countywide	-	Ensuring all members are aware of the purpose of DARGs Build on the membership to ensure all relevant organisations are represented. Ensure close links between DAAT/DARG/CDRPs.		Various
Young People	Provision of young peoples alcohol outreach workers countywide	Young People Plan	Numbers of young people worked with.		Drinksense
	Ensure those under 18 are unable to purchase alcohol	BSC	Numbers of premises visited by trading Standards	March 05	Trading Standards
	"Total Package" in East Cambs supporting vulnerable young people in Burwell	BSC	Numbers of young people worked with	On going	Community Education
	Young Peoples Drug Worker in St Neots	BSC	Numbers of young people worked with	On going	DIALdruglink
	Family Support Worker - Linton	BSC	Number of families worked with Anecdotal evidence from CBM and Youth Workers	On-going	Linton Action for Youth.
"Safer Clubbing"	To continue to raise awareness of drink spiking.	DAAT	Information and literature disseminated to all licensed premises every 6 months. Work with Colleges and Universities. Appropriate coverage in the media.	On going	DAAT Information Officer
	To develop Safer clubbing issues throughout the county such as: Raising the issues of drug related harm with nightclub management.	DAAT	Number of premises worked with. Drug policies developed for premises.	On going	Laura Hutson
	Map forums across the county where licensees meet		Ensure that drug and alcohol safety is on the agenda	On going	Laura Hutson
	Drug awareness training of door supervisors and licensees	BSC	Numbers of door supervisors and licensees attending training	On going	Various
	Exploring methods for mapping levels of drug and alcohol related harm on licensed premises			On-going	Laura Hutson