



Your Moray - Your Health and Well-being

REPORT TO: HEALTHIER STRATEGIC GROUP – 02 OCTOBER, 2008

SUBJECT: MORAY DRUG & ALCOHOL ACTION TEAM (MDAAT)

BY: MORAY COUNCIL, CORPORATE POLICY UNIT MANAGER

1. REASON FOR REPORT

1.1 The Healthier Strategic Group is asked to support and oversee the work of the Moray Drug and Alcohol Action Team (MDAAT) under the revised Community Planning structures.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The Healthier Strategic Group is asked to note that the lead for drug and alcohol misuse is with the Healthier theme.
- 2.2 The Strategic Group is asked to oversee the work of the MDAAT and support its continuing efforts to address issues of substance misuse within Moray.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The MDAAT is a statutory body, which is responsible for implementing key national strategies in relation to substance misuse within Moray. It assesses, monitors and makes service provision in line with locally identified needs. The MDAAT also promotes and facilitates the use of inter-agency resources in the development of prevention treatment and rehabilitation services.
- 3.2 The MDAAT receives its funding through NHS Grampian's Joint DAAT (including representation from Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire).
- 3.3 Under the previous Community Planning structure, the MDAAT had close links with, and shared similar aims to, the Community Safety Partnership. One of the key priorities of the Partnership was to address issues of substance misuse.
- 3.4 However, during the review of the Community Planning structures, it was agreed that the Healthier Strategic Group would address issues in relation to drug and alcohol misuse, as referenced under the Single Outcome Agreement national outcome 6 - "We live longer, healthier lives". One of the local outcomes under

this outcome is to “reduce the burden of disease, harm, distress and premature death due to excessive alcohol consumption and drug misuse”.

- 3.5 Also during the development of the strategic assessment and the setting of strategic priorities for the Community Safety Partnership, it was agreed that all issues in relation to drug and alcohol misuse should be led by the Healthier Strategic Group rather than the Safer and Stronger Strategic Group. This decision was based on the role of the Safer and Stronger theme, which focussed on enforcement issues in relation to drug and alcohol misuse rather than health improvement.
- 3.6 The Safer & Stronger Strategic Group will continue to be involved with issues arising from drug and alcohol misuse and will work through the new community planning structures to ensure cross-cutting issues are addressed. The strategic priorities within this theme include road safety, fire and home safety and antisocial behaviour. Many of these priorities are affected by drug and alcohol misuse, but this group recognised that they could not influence the change of behaviour required to prevent such misuse.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Community Plan / Theme Plans / Partner Plans

It is recognised that there are significant cross cutting issues affecting the Healthier, Safer and Stronger and Wealthier and Fairer themes in relation to drug and alcohol misuse. However within the revised community planning structures it was agreed that each of the Strategic Groups would take the lead on specific issues. The Community Planning Officer would ensure that any cross-cutting issues were referred onto the other groups within the structure.

The Community Planning Board agreed that Outcome 6 within the Single Outcome Agreement would be addressed by the Healthier Strategic Group. Substance Misuse is a main priority within this outcome.

(b) Policy and Legal

The MDAAT is a statutory body, established by the Scottish Executive and inherited by the Scottish Government. There are three Alcohol and Drug Action Teams (ADATs) in Grampian and each ADAT reports directly to the Scottish Government. All three ADATs meet quarterly to address issues common to all three organisations, these meetings take the form of 3ADAT Chair & PH meetings. The funding stream for the pan Grampian ADATs comes in via NHS Grampian and is distributed to each ADAT annually.

(c) Resources (Financial, Staffing and Risks)

There are no resource implications arising directly out of this report.

(d) Consultations

Sandy Riddell, Chair of MDAAT, Grant McCutcheon, Partnership Development Officer and Bridget Mustard, Corporate Policy Unit Manager have been consulted and are in agreement with the report.

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The MDAAT plays a crucial role in addressing issues around drug and alcohol misuse within Moray. It has an important contribution to make in achieving relevant local outcomes within the Single Outcome Agreement under the Healthier theme.

Author of Report:

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Background Papers:

Ref: