



ANGUS HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE
INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD – 30 OCTOBER 2019
ANGUS ALCOHOL AND DRUG PARTNERSHIP PROGRESS REPORT
REPORT BY VICKY IRONS, CHIEF OFFICER

ABSTRACT

Substance use continues to be a significant issue in Angus, with an impact on whole families and whole communities. Angus Alcohol and Drug Partnership is the local strategic planning group, with a membership comprising third sector, police, fire services, children and justice services and health and social care partnership. Scottish Government have recently launched a number of national strategies with the aim of addressing and reducing substance use in our communities.

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Integrated Joint Board on the new national substance use strategies; Rights, Respect & Recovery, the Alcohol Framework 2018, and to provide an update on the implementation of a Recovery Oriented System of Care (ROSC).

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Integration Joint Board:

- (i) note and endorse the work being undertaken by the Angus Alcohol & Drug Partnership, particularly in relation to the development of the Angus Overdose Prevention Plan
- (ii) note the ongoing work of the Tayside Drug Deaths Group and the Tayside Overdose Prevention Group
- (iii) note the work being undertaken via the Angus Non-Fatal Overdose Pathway

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 PARTNERSHIP DELIVERY FRAMEWORK

2.1.1 In 2009, COSLA and Scottish Government agreed a framework on supporting Alcohol and Drug Partnerships. This was reviewed over the course of 2018-19 and the "Partnership Delivery Framework to reduce the use of and harm from alcohol & drugs" was published in July 2019. This Partnership Delivery Framework sets out a shared ambition across Local Government and Scottish Government to reduce the use of and harms from alcohol and drugs.

2.1.2 The Framework recognises the importance of Alcohol and Drug Partnerships (ADPs) in taking forward the work to address these harms, setting out the partnership arrangements needed to reduce the use of, and harms from alcohol and drugs.

The Partnership Delivery Framework aims to ensure that all bodies involved are clear about the accountability arrangements and their responsibilities when working together. The statutory requirements for strategic planning and reporting are included.

- 2.1.3 The Integrated Joint Board in partnership with the Community Planning Partnership and Chief Officers Group provide governance and oversight regarding the delivery of the Alcohol and Drug Partnerships (ADP) strategic and financial plans. Scottish Government has advised that a robust relationship is required between the IJB and the ADP to ensure that the direction issued by the IJB delivers the (ADP) strategic plan.

2.2 FINANCE

- 2.2.1 In September 2018, Scottish Government, as part of its “programme for government 2018-19: additional investment in services to reduce problem drug and alcohol use” announced an additional investment of £20m to Alcohol & Drugs Partnerships in Scotland.

- 2.2.2 Of this £20m, Angus Alcohol & Drug Partnership was awarded £366,337, returning funding to almost pre-2016 levels. The IJB endorsed the ADPs financial plan for recurring spends and slippage and this was submitted to Scottish Government in October 2018. This £366,337 is in addition to the core budget for alcohol & drugs in Angus, which is managed by the IJB via the ADP.

2.3 NATIONAL STRATEGIES

- 2.3.1 In November 2018 Scottish Government published its new national substance use strategy; Rights Respect & Recovery: Scotland’s strategy to improve health by preventing and reducing alcohol and drug use, harm and related deaths. This is a follow up to the 2008 strategy; Road to Recovery, and continues to promote a Public Health approach to problematic substance use in Scotland.

- 2.3.2 The Strategy has four key priorities; Prevention & Early Intervention (of/to problematic drug use), Developing Recovery Orientated Systems of Care (ROSC), Getting it Right for Children & Families, and a Public Health approach to Justice. Its overall vision is:

“Scotland is a country where “we live long, healthy and active lives regardless of where we come from” and where individuals, families and communities:

- have the right to health and life - free from the harms of alcohol and drugs;
- are treated with dignity and respect;
- are fully supported within communities to find their own type of recovery

- 2.3.3 The Alcohol Framework 2018 was also published in November 2018. Whilst Rights, Respect & Recovery is a treatment and recovery focussed strategy, the Alcohol Framework has a broader lens and is concerned with changing societal attitudes towards alcohol, using means such as minimum unit pricing and responsible marketing in an effort to reduce consumption of alcohol in Scotland.

3. CURRENT POSITION

3.1 PREVALENCE AND ASSOCIATED HARMS

Figures produced by ISD suggest that Angus has a lower prevalence of drug use amongst adults at 1.1% compared to the overall prevalence rate for Scotland of 1.62%. Prevalence data regarding alcohol use is not available.

3.1.2 DRUGS

The Tayside Drug Death Report indicates that 10 Angus residents died from an unintentional drug overdose in 2018, compared to 14 in 2017.

In 2018, there were 107 Angus incidents of non-fatal overdose reported by either Scottish Ambulance Service or Police Scotland to NHS Tayside and/or Angus HSCP.

3.1.3 ALCOHOL

- Angus has an annual average of 21.2 alcohol-related deaths for those aged 20 and over (from 2011-2016). This is equivalent to 18.2 deaths per 100,000 adults, which is 17% lower than the Scottish rate of 21.8 deaths per 100,000 adults.
- Angus is ranked 10th out of 30 local authority areas for alcohol outlet availability in Scotland (8th for on-sales and 22nd for off-sales outlets). That is to say, Angus has an alcohol outlet availability lower than the Scottish average. However, for a more complete picture, it is useful to compare alcohol outlet availability between neighbourhoods within the local authority. Using this approach evidences that 25% of Angus neighbourhoods had total outlet availability higher than the Scottish average. The most deprived neighbourhoods had 5.9 times the number of alcohol outlets than the least deprived neighbourhoods.
- Crime rates in the Angus neighbourhoods with the most alcohol outlets were 3.8 times higher than in neighbourhoods with the least.
- The link between alcohol outlet availability and harm was found even when other possible explanatory factors, such as age, sex, urban/rural status and levels of income deprivation, had been taken into account.
- The total number of alcohol outlets in Angus decreased by four (1.2%) from 343 in 2012 to 339 in 2016.

Information taken from Alcohol Focus Scotland's area profile

3.2 PROPOSALS

3.2.1 RECOVERY ORIENTATED SYSTEMS OF CARE

3.2.2 As noted within Rights, Respect & Recovery, the development of a Recovery Orientated System of Care (ROSC) is a priority for all ADPs in Scotland and for the Scottish Government. Angus Integrated Drug & Alcohol Recovery Service (AIDARS) was established in April 2017 as a first stage response to integration and developing a ROSC. Scottish Drugs Forum has supported Angus ADP in the second stage of ROSC implementation over the course of 2019.

3.2.3 It is of note, that this work was undertaken in the context of significant financial pressures as Scottish Government applied savings directly to ADP budgets in 2016. The additional investment received at the end of 2018 has provided the ADP with an opportunity to invest across the entire ROSC to address gaps identified in service provision e.g. development of a Recovery Community and support for short term prisoners. Monies have also been used to create additional capacity in existing services to reduce delays e.g. additional prescribing staffing for Angus Integrated Drug & Alcohol Recovery Service and Prisoner Healthcare as well as additional counselling capacity in Tayside Council on Alcohol. Of particular note, the ADP is funding the investment in peer support and Participatory Budgeting, with both peer worker posts and peer advocacy posts being funded entirely by the ADP and hosted within third sector services, and a Participatory Budgeting fund being funded by ADP and managed in partnership with the Council's Communities Teams.

3.2.4 In addition to specific posts and in partnership with colleagues from the Sexual Health & Blood Borne Virus Managed Clinical Network, Angus ADP has made investment in the continued development of our harm reduction and injecting equipment provision, as well as in Recovery activities throughout Angus.

In taking this wider, strategic and evidence based approach to investment, Angus ADP has ensured that each of the four priorities noted within the national strategy has received additional resource. Progress regarding investment is reported to the ADP Finance & Commissioning Group quarterly with twice-yearly returns to Scottish Government.

3.3 OVERDOSE PREVENTION/REDUCING DRUG RELATED DEATHS

3.3.1 In response to the recommendations contained within the 2018 Tayside Drug Deaths Report, Angus Alcohol & Drug Partnership has taken the following actions:

3.3.2 An Overdose Prevention Plan, based upon the recommendations of the 2018 Report is currently in development by Angus ADP. The plan details the national and local strategic links to the 2018 recommendations, relating these to local strategic plans such as the Local Outcome Improvement Plan, the Tayside Plan for Children, Young People and Families and the Health & Social Care Strategic Plan. This illustrates the wide lens required when considering substance use and associated harms. Taking this approach will facilitate multi-agency strategic planning and response to non-fatal overdose, which will improve access to support for individuals affected. This should result in more people accessing the support that they need and reduce drug related death. As an active document, quarterly review and update will be undertaken and shared with partners.

3.3.3 A pilot of an Angus non-fatal overdose pathway has been completed (November 2018 to May 2019), the report of which was finalised in summer 2019. The final report of the pilot was presented at the August meeting of the ADP Strategy Group and subsequently shared with partners across Tayside via the Tayside Overdose Prevention Group. Learning from this work and a small-scale test of change in Dundee will inform our response to non-fatal overdose, with the aim being early intervention and facilitating access to support.

Briefly, the pilot is a partnership between Scottish Ambulance Service, NHS Harm Reduction Service and Angus Integrated Drug & Alcohol Recovery Service, the aim of which is:

- Reduction in Drug Related Deaths
- Early identification of increased risk by service users – a chance to review current support and prescribing arrangements to reduce risk
- Early Identification of Hidden Non Service Users - a chance to offer up-stream interventions and reduce harm
- Increased overdose awareness and use of Take Home Naloxone Scheme
- Early Identification of Pre Suicidal Behaviours in people experiencing problematic substance use– an opportunity to reach out to those whom we may miss and offer more support.

3.3.4 The Tayside Drug Death Review Group and the Tayside Overdose Prevention Group each continue to meet on a six weekly basis and report directly into each of the three Alcohol & Drug Partnerships in Tayside.

3.3.5 One of the tasks of the Tayside Overdose Prevention Group is to monitor and report drug trends via an information exchange model. The group also promotes and facilitates the availability of and accessibility to naloxone and associated training to staff and the general public, and supports the development of bespoke non-fatal overdose pathways for each ADP area.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

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