

Croydon DAAT Newsletter



July/August 2007. Issue 8

www.croydondaat.org.uk

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Left to Right: heroin, cocaine, ecstasy, skunk, cannabis resin

WELCOME

Welcome to Croydon Drug & Alcohol Action Team's newsletter. The purpose of this is to let people know what is happening in the drugs and alcohol world in Croydon and beyond. We hope you find the articles interesting and informative and would love to hear reports and stories from individuals and agencies about the latest news on substance misuse in Croydon. Please send articles to Karen.handy@croydon.gov.uk or fax to: 020 8633 9613 or by post to DAAT Unit, 6th floor, Carolyn House, 22-26 Dingwall Road, Croydon CR0 9XF.

CROYDON DAAT CO-ORDINATION UNIT

Andy Opie Co-ordinator	Janet Austin Joint Commissioning	Jackie Cave YP Co-ordinator	Karen Handy Acting SUI Co-ordinator
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DAAT UPDATE

DAAT Subgroup Changes

There have been a couple of changes to the DAAT Subgroups recently that will help improve the partnership working in Croydon around substance misuse. A new group has been formed to look at tackling the availability of drugs locally and will comprise people from the Police, Community Protection team, the DAAT Unit, Housing and other stakeholders as appropriate. This group will also act as a sub group of the Priority Crime Partnership Action Group. The first meeting is expected to be in September. There has also been an amendment to the format of the Drug & Alcohol Reference Group (DARG). In order to help generate greater attendance and more ownership and discussion the meeting will be split into two parts. The first part will deal with core business such as policy updates, presentations and other news items and the second part will move to a workshop that will look at a specific theme. These themes will be chosen based on their relevance at the time of the meeting and will be used as a way of consulting on certain issues that can be fed up to the DAAT. Ideas for subsequent themes include, housing, service user involvement, drug market supply mapping and children of drug using parents. The first themed workshop will take place on 5 October.

Tackling Drugs Day - 23 May 2007

The DAAT Unit in partnership with local providers and service users helped provide activities to support Tackling Drugs Day on 23 May. This annual national event marks the anniversary of the launch of FRANK, the national drugs helpline. In Croydon we marked the event through having a stall in the Whitgift Centre and a stall in Mayday Hospital and through publicising drug services across the Borough.

Models of Care/Single Assessment Process

The single assessment process for drug and alcohol services in Croydon went live on 4 June 2007. This is the culmination of work over the last 14 months involving managers from the local adult treatment providers. Training on the new tools was delivered during May with all of the drug workers that will be using the tool. So far there have been no reports of any problems so the rollout seems to have gone smoothly. This is a real landmark in the development of the local treatment system and will greatly improve the quality and consistency of responses that service users receive. The information sharing and referral policies will also enhance partnership working. Until the end of August the tools will be used on a pilot basis and a formal review will take place in September 2007.

Service User Involvement

The activities of the Service User Representatives Group continue to be delivered and have included the appointment of new representatives recently. The activities undertaken include some mystery shopping of drug services, helping out with tackling drugs day, participation in the housing review and exploring the provision of aftercare services. In addition to this, we are in the process of recruiting a Service User Involvement Co-ordinator into the DAAT Unit. It is unlikely that this post will be filled for several months so in order to help drive the work forward, Karen Handy has been given the opportunity to act up into the position.

National Drug Strategy

The current drug strategy comes to an end in March 2008 so work is now underway to develop a new one. This is likely to build on the successes over the last ten years. This includes increased numbers into treatment, reduced drug related crime and improved education and interventions for young people. The strategy will also address the changes in patterns of drug use and the profile of drug users since 1998.

The Home Office is calling on communities, families, experts and current and ex drug users to tell them what they think can be done. This is the first time that there has been a national consultation on drugs and is an opportunity for all to give their views. The consultation document is available at: www.drugs.gov.uk/publication-search/drug-strategy/drug-strategy-consultation.pdf

Young People's Update and the Role of the NTA

The NTA is going to take a much greater role in the performance management of young people's substance misuse treatment in the future in order to improve young people's access to treatment and the effectiveness of young people's treatment. From now until March 2008 there will be a suite of guidance for DAATs in the form of commissioning guidance (recently sent to DAATs for consultation), needs assessment tools, treatment planning templates and performance management tools.

As part of this new role, a Memorandum of Understanding has been agreed between the NTA and the new Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF, previously the DfES) which outlines the role of each agency in managing the young people's substance misuse agenda. This document refers to the Targeted Youth Support Agenda when considering substance misuse services, which is important to note. For more information on targeted youth support please see: <http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/IG00206>.

The NTA also conducted research or 'deep digs' earlier this year into Tier 4 models for young people in 2 areas (Northern Region and South West England), which may provide useful learning for

local areas looking to develop services at this tier for young people. The NTA will be doing more work around young people's Tier 4 services over the coming months and we'll keep you updated regarding developments. Please contact Jackie Cave (jacqueline.cave@croydon.gov.uk) if you'd like copies of the deep dig Tier 4 reports or the Memorandum of Understanding.

ALCOHOL STRATEGY

Safe, Sensible Social - the next steps in the National Alcohol Strategy

In 2004, the Government published the Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy for England. This was the first cross-government statement on the harm caused by alcohol, which included a shared analysis of the problem and the programme of action to respond. Key activities have included:

- better education and communication through the 'Know Your Limits' binge-drinking campaign, the 'THINK!' drink-driving campaign and the enforcement of Ofcom's new code on television advertising;
- improving health and treatment services through the first national assessment of the need for and availability of alcohol treatment. Launching trailblazer projects to identify and advise people whose drinking habits are likely to lead to ill health in the future;
- combating alcohol-related crime and disorder through the use of new enforcement powers in the Licensing Act 2003 and the Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006; and
- working with the alcohol industry to include health information on alcohol bottles, to set up local partnership schemes such as Best Bar None, which promote responsible management of licensed premises and forming a new independent charity, the Drinkaware Trust, to promote sensible drinking.

The new strategy, **Safe. Sensible. Social. The next steps in the National Alcohol Strategy**, builds on the foundations laid and the lessons learnt since 2004. The aim of the strategy is:

'To minimise the health harms, violence and antisocial behaviour associated with alcohol, while ensuring that people are able to enjoy alcohol safely and responsibly.'

In short, it will deliver three things.

- 1) Ensuring that the laws and licensing powers introduced to tackle alcohol-fuelled crime and disorder, protect young people and bear down on irresponsibly managed premises are being used widely and effectively.
- 2) A sharpened focus on the minority of drinkers who cause or experience the most harm to themselves, their communities and their families. These are:
 - young people under 18 who drink alcohol, many of whom we now know are drinking more than their counterparts did a decade ago; and
 - 18-24-year-old binge drinkers, a minority of whom are responsible for the majority of alcohol-related crime and disorder in the night-time economy;
 - harmful drinkers, many of whom don't realise that their drinking patterns damage their physical and



mental health and may be causing substantial harm to others.

- 3) An environment that actively promotes sensible drinking, through investment in better information and communications, and by drawing on the skills and commitment of all those already working together to reduce the harm alcohol can cause, including the police, local authorities, prison and probation staff, the NHS, voluntary organisations, the alcohol industry, the wider business community, the media and, of course, local communities themselves.

Croydon response

There is a great deal of work that already takes place in Croydon in relation to Alcohol. This work is summarised within the DAAT Unit Team Plan for 07/08. Alcohol related crime and disorder is also a key feature of the Safer Croydon Strategy, particularly in relation to interventions with the licensed trade and to tackle late night disorder in the Town centre. There is still more work to be done though and the strategy provides a useful framework for the DAAT to assess the breadth of interventions that are being delivered locally. There is much in the strategy which will be driven centrally but there are examples of good practice from across the country and an outcomes framework by which we can measure ourselves. The DAAT Unit are proposing that over the next few months the key local responsibilities highlighted within the strategy are taken to relevant partnership groups so that we can test where we are. The findings from this work would then be fed back to the DAAT meeting in October for a discussion on how we could better be meeting the objectives of the strategy. We should also discuss whether we would like to include a target relating to alcohol within the Local Area Agreement for 08/09 as at present there is nothing included within it.

LOCAL NEWS



BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING LOO

Jun 15 2007

By Neil Millard And Amanda Thomas

It sounds like something out of Big Brother - the Advertiser can reveal that CCTV cameras are filming punters in two pubs' toilets.

The Skylark, in South Croydon, and the Ship of Fools, in West Croydon, have both recently installed cameras in the loos to clamp down on antisocial behaviour. Unapologetic pub chiefs say the cameras have already had a dramatic effect on cutting vandalism and drug abuse and that these benefits outweigh any concerns about loss of privacy.

Kim McKay, a manager at the Skylark, in South End, said the number of people turfed out by staff

had plummeted as a result. The 27-year-old, who has worked at the pub since October, said: "Unfortunately, there is a lot of drug use among youngsters today. "It's a good idea. I know people think it invades their privacy, but the cameras are situated so we only see what we need to see. "We have had a lot of comments from regulars. They don't like it, which is understandable, but they do understand why it's there."

The pub has even lowered the height of cubicle doors so that people's faces can be seen as they come out.

Staff can follow any customers acting suspiciously as there is only a few seconds delay before footage hits a monitor in the pub's office.

At the moment the cameras are only in the male toilets, but soon they will be in the female loos too.

This is with good reason as Kim has had to kick out three women drug users since October. One was snorting cocaine off a toilet roll holder and two were snorting it off toilet seats.

The Ship of Fools put in CCTV first and deputy manager Peter Walsh said they have already proved a sound investment since being installed in both the male and female loos. Peter, 39, said: "They have done exactly what they're supposed to. There was minor drug use and violence which the cameras have completely stopped. We did have doormen, which we now don't need." Peter doesn't think there is anything sinister about the cameras.

He said: "The cameras don't actually intrude into private areas. I had a gentleman standing at the bar saying it infringed on his civil liberties, but it doesn't. "It isn't anywhere near the urinals and the cubicle doors are closed."

There was mixed opinion from pub regulars at the Skylark this week.

Clive Pereira, 49, a plumber from Thornton Heath who has drunk at the Skylark for four years, believes the cameras are a good thing.

"I don't think it's an invasion of privacy," he said. "They're a precautionary measure. If you're not up to any mischief then you have got nothing to worry about."

"It's safe and secure and it stops people doing drugs and vandalism."

"There isn't one bolted to every loo door, it's just a general panoramic view."

But another regular countered: "It's an intrusion on personal privacy. I can understand it will stop drug abuse, but it's a matter of principle."

Source: http://icsouthlondon.icnetwork.co.uk/0100news/0225croydon/tm_headline=big-brother-is-watching-loo&method=full&objectid=19297608&siteid=53340-name_page.html

TOWN'S FIRST NO SMOKING PUB SEES PROFITS UP

Exclusive By [Gemma Wheatley](#)

Croydon's first no-smoking pub has seen its profits rocket. The Ship of Fools in West Croydon banned smoking three months ahead of the blanket ban which comes into force across England on July 1.

Staff said they were surprised at the positive reaction from customers who have embraced the ban. The London Road pub was refurbished at the beginning of April and management felt the timing was right to introduce the legislation.

Manager Peter Walsh, 39, said: "We felt as we were going to be going non-smoking in a few months we may as well be one of the first. It has made a real difference."

Mr Walsh said food sales at the pub increased after smoking was banned. He admits to being apprehensive about the smoking ban, believing profits would drop. But he has been surprised by the reaction of customers and has taken on more staff to cope with the increased demand in the kitchen.

He added: "Our clientele has completely changed and a few regulars have decided to go elsewhere, but generally we have been really happy with the changes. I have two small kids and I used to avoid meeting with my family in the pub as much as I could, but now they come in after school and have something to eat and I think it is a real boost for families."

Despite his own success, Mr Walsh is concerned that smaller, independent businesses in Croydon - especially pubs - may struggle to cope with the smoking ban.

"We have been really lucky here," he said, "We are part of a really forward thinking company who have been aware that this was inevitable."

Source: Croydon Guardian

http://www.croydonguardian.co.uk/mostpopular.var.1433054.mostviewed.towns_first_no_smoking_pub_sees_profits_up.php



Smoke free: Pub Deputy Manager Peter Walsh (right) and Kitchen Manager Ray Hill of the Ship of Fools, Croydon's first non-smoking pub
Deadlinepix CR14144

A DAY IN THE LIFE....

John Barlow - Manager of SLYMCA Keystone House

At the end of August on reaching the age of sixty five I shall retire as manager of SLYMCA Keystone House. I have been employed at Keystone for twelve years, after working in the Y's winter shelters since 1993. I worked as a bricklayer from 1969, following nine years in the Merchant Navy, after leaving school in 1958.

I have an MSc in the Clinical and Public Health Aspects of Addiction from Kings College, London which was awarded in 2005. This was gained by part time study at the National Addiction Centre,

Institute of Psychiatry at The Maudsley. I was awarded a B.A. (Hons) in Social Science in 1989 and a Cert. Ed (FE) in 1991.

I started drinking when I left school and was a stereotypical "drunken sailor". I saw the world through the bottom of an empty glass. The building industry also had a very heavy drinking culture in the 1970's, as did the Labour and Trade Union movement which I became very involved in. I also discovered home brewing which allowed consumption to become very economically viable. By 1989, I had reached my "personal rock bottom" and have not drunk alcohol since.



The Keystone House Project offers a six month residential abstinence based programme, mainly for homeless people coming from detox. After six months residents who remain abstinent are encouraged to move on to second stage accommodation, where, if abstinence is maintained, they will live until suitable independent accommodation becomes available. The project houses eight people in the first stage with a further thirteen in the second. Since 1995 forty seven per cent of residents have completed the six month programme and moved on to second stage. Very few people relapse in second stage.

There are three others working full time at Keystone. I share the group facilitation with a Support Worker with a background in CBT, who also does most of the key work now that I am retiring. There is a Re-settlement Worker who manages the second stage houses and an Administrator. There is also a facilitator with qualifications in Transactional Analysis who comes in to do one group a week. The Project is staffed between the hours of eight and five and a twenty four hour out of hours on call system operates. So we are on call one week in three. As this is an abstinence based project, staff on call cannot touch alcohol. That is OK if you are in recovery like me, but not much fun especially at Christmas and New Year for staff that do drink.

On a typical day I will start work at eight o'clock. I will check the log if I am not on call and prepare for the group which meets at nine. All residents and staff eat lunch together at twelve thirty, the best part of the day. In the afternoon we do key work or assessments. On days I am not doing the Group I will do key work at eight thirty or "management stuff". Health and Safety checks, testing the fire alarm, paper work etc. Then there are staff meetings and supervision, meetings and supervision with my line manager, DAAT meetings and groups. Oh how I will miss it all.

If you would like to volunteer to submit 'a day in the life...' article then please email the DAAT

TREATMENT OUTCOME PROFILES - A NEW MONITORING TOOL

The Treatment Outcomes Profile (TOP) is a new drug treatment outcome monitoring tool that has been developed by the NTA in partnership with drug treatment providers in over 70 sites across England. The instrument (the Treatment Outcomes Profile or TOP) is to be used at the start of treatment journey to record a baseline of behaviour in the month leading up to starting a new treatment journey. Scores are awarded depicting a poor or good grade. Follow up scores will be recorded every three months during treatment (usually at the same time as a care plan review) to capture changes in behaviour. TOP will also be completed at discharge and may be used by some services to measure post-discharge outcomes.

Reporting will be through the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS). It is applicable for use in all of the structured treatment modalities as defined by Models of Care for Treatment of Adult Drug Misusers: Update 2006.

What this means is that for the first time service users, clinicians, service managers and commissioners will be able to obtain objective and comparable data about real improvements in service users' lives that will be able to inform and improve practice on both an individual and strategic level.

Up to now the NTA has used process and proxy outcome measures - such as waiting times and retention - to indicate the effectiveness of drug treatment. The Agency, treatment providers and commissioners have shared a long-term goal to establish real outcomes monitoring systems and committed to their development for 2007/08.

Drug treatment outcomes in the UK are grouped into four key domains:

- Drug and alcohol use
- Physical and psychological health
- Social functioning
- Offending and criminal involvement.

These domains should already be used in care planning and in care plan reviews. Some validated tools to measure outcomes in drug treatment already exist. However, these are relatively long and complex and there is no widespread agreement on which is most suitable in what context. The challenge has been to develop a simple but effective, validated tool that can be incorporated into both NDTMS and regular care plan reviews by key workers.

In its simplicity TOP can be defined as a simple set of questions that will improve clinical practice by enhancing assessment and care plan reviews for clients. The data it provides will improve performance monitoring. Data will be reported into the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS) from October 2007 and results fed back to providers and commissioners from March 2008.

There will also be monthly exception reports from NDTMS on non-returns and multiple submissions.

ELISAD (The European Association of Libraries and Information Services on Alcohol and other Drugs) have recently launched a new updated version of their Internet Gateway to European websites on addictions at <http://www.addictionsinfo.eu/>

<http://www.addictionsinfo.eu/>

Don't waste time looking elsewhere for European internet resources on drugs and addictions!

This addictions gateway is a free online service providing access to the best web resources in Europe on drugs, alcohol, smoking, gambling, and related topics. The gateway is searchable in 17 European languages. All the resources have been selected and evaluated by a network of subject specialists and information professionals from 27 institutions across Europe.

You can search it to:

- access information on education & prevention, treatment, policy, research and much more...
- identify resources in your own country,
- identify institutions in other countries,
- broaden your knowledge about European activities through a single source.

This tool has been built by **Elisad**, the European Association of Libraries and Information Services on Alcohol and other Drugs, with funding from the European Commission.

Supported by the European Commission

LONDON WEEK OF PEACE 2007

London Week of Peace is an annual week long series of various events, initiatives and action organised by partnerships, communities and individuals through out London. The Vision is to involve all Londoners in a celebration of diversity with the goal of promoting justice, equality and respect and contributing to a more cohesive society.

The aims of Peace week are to:

- raise awareness on community safety
- increase community cohesion and understanding in London
- help reduce crime and fear in the capital

Key objectives for this year are:

- a) empowering communities to interact with each other and develop positive, sustainable links in partnerships with organisations and public agencies
- b) providing education and encouragement for young people to participate fully in the creation and maintenance of peaceful, non-violent relationships
- c) recognising the importance of inter-faith and intercultural dialogue between communities in tackling ignorance, prejudice and conflict
- d) Using the London Week of Peace initiative as an opportunity to address and/or raise awareness of local or regional priorities, needs and concerns

This year the London Week of Peace is planned for the 9th-16th September and the theme is Reconciliation, Collaboration, and Celebration.



There are a number of events planned for the Week of Peace in Croydon including a Community Breakfast. If your organisation/community group intends to hold an activity then please let us know.

MOVERS AND SHAKERS

New Appointments:

Lola Kolapo - DAAT Joint Commissioning Officer

Adenike Afolabi - DAAT Data Analyst

WDP - DIP service provider

Kerry Starrett (new SRE training officer) kerry.starrett@croydonpct.nhs.uk.

Leavers:

Petrina Parnell - DAAT Admin Assistant

Interim DIP Core Team

All images from www.google.com ,

If you wish to subscribe or unsubscribe from this newsletter please email Karen.handy@croydon.gov.uk