

Devon and Cornwall Police Authority Resources Committee

27 July 2005

Open for the purposes of FOI

Joint Report of Superintendent Partnerships and the Chief Constable

Devon Drug and Alcohol Action Team

Recommendation(s):

- (i) Members note the content of the report and verbal update.**

Introduction

1. This paper provides an update on the work of the Devon Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT).

Background

2. The Devon DAAT is a partnership of four commissioning agencies; the Primary Care Trusts, Devon County Council, Devon and Cornwall Constabulary and the Devon and Cornwall Probation Service. The structure in Devon ensures the DAAT can act as a commissioning body across the County as well as implementing the drug strategy within District Council areas in conjunction with Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships.
3. Supt. Steve Swani (partnership Supt. New Devon) sits on the Devon DAAT board, Criminal Justice Sub Group and the Joint Commissioning Executive. The Partnership Sergeant (Drugs and Alcohol) attends the Criminal Justice Sub Group, the three Joint Commissioning Groups and the five District Implementation Groups which are all within the Devon DAAT area.

National Treatment Agency (NTA) Half Year Treatment Plan Review

4. The Devon DAAT is formally inspected by the National Treatment Agency (NTA) in respect of delivery against its Treatment Plan. The most recent inspection visit to Devon on 8th November 2004, the DAAT (using the RAG traffic light system) was initially assessed and graded as 'Red (improving)' but after representations from the DAAT was amended to 'amber'.
5. Poor performance was noted in the following areas;
- Shared care arrangements (engagement of GPs in treatment) and waiting times for GP prescribing.
 - Residential Rehabilitation waiting times
 - Failure to achieve the nationally set DTTO target (not enough people being placed on DTTOs and too many failing to complete.
 - Too many clients leaving treatment without a careplan
6. Good progress was noted in the following areas;
- Young peoples treatment and services
 - User involvement and the work of the service user group
 - Development of clinical governance arrangements
 - Overall management of the services by the DAAT and general progress against the 2004/05 DAAT plan

Current Position

7. This information has been taken from the Devon DAAT end of year report (produced May 2005).
8. The main treatment target of 1134 cases in treatment during 2004-05 has been exceeded. The key performance Indicator targets for retention in treatment have been met and for most of the year waiting times have been within or very close to the 2-3 weeks target.
9. Devon as a whole is doing well in terms of GP practices involved in Shared Care and is just above the NTA target of 30% of practices involved in the scheme. There are still concerns about the numbers in North Devon.
10. Referrals to young people's substance misuse services have increased by 6% on the previous year. 90% of the young people assessed this year commenced a care plan (this is a 10% increase).
11. An alcohol framework has been produced and a delivery plan is expected in the near future.
12. Ongoing work by the DAAT includes implementing and monitoring the national drug intervention programme (DIP) and modernisation work to improve services to meet needs.
13. The DAAT's pooled treatment and young persons budgets for the year showed an under spend of 0.2% of the budget.
14. Priorities for the coming year include, improving the number of cases successfully completing treatment and the purchase of the HALO system.

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