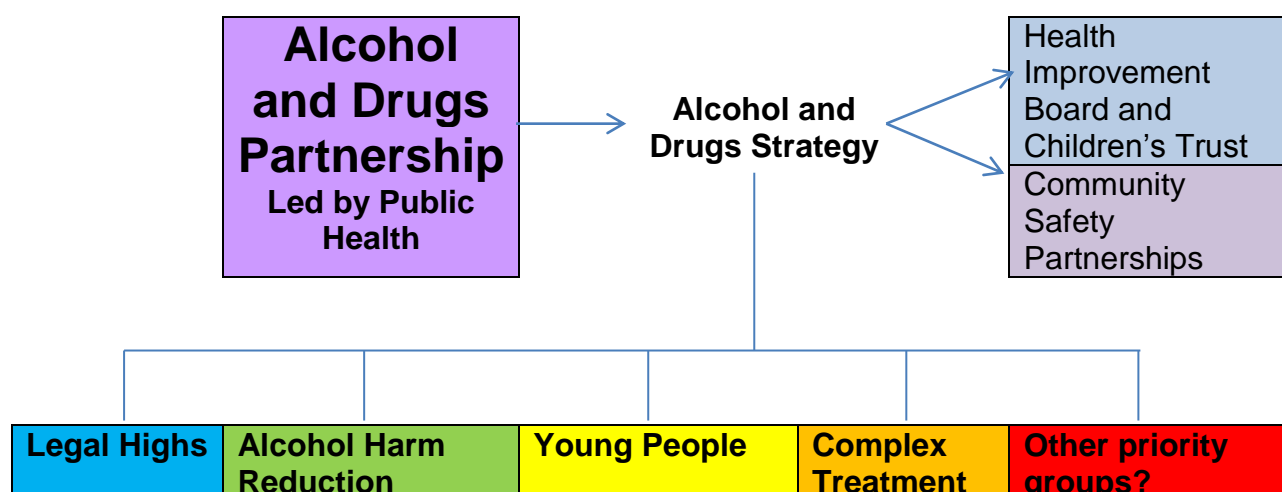


## Alcohol and Drugs Partnership Annual Report 2015-16 Executive Summary

The Alcohol and Drugs Partnership in Oxfordshire was set up during 2014 to enable partnership working on prevention, early intervention and treatment of substance misuse issues across the county. It is clear that much more can be achieved across this spectrum of work when organisations work together. This is in addition to the work that each organisation already delivers as “business as usual”, such as the commissioning function of the Public Health team and law enforcement by the police.

The governance set up for the delivery of the strategy is illustrated in this diagram:



The Annual Report gives an update on the work that has been going on to address these priorities. It is set out by theme and each section has been written by the leads of the working groups. A review and update on the latest trends for alcohol and drugs related harm is also included in the report.

The conclusions reached show that although progress has been made on each of the priority areas, there is still more to be done. Working groups have outlined their ambition for the year ahead within their reports and it is hoped that this work will continue to develop and make a difference. Local perspectives are needed to enable this. Highlights from each of the work areas are laid out below.

### **Priority 1: Reduce/ stop the demand and supply of New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) or “Legal highs” in Oxfordshire**

There has been progress in the following areas:

- a. The local supply of NPS has been disrupted through the work of Trading Standards and Thames Valley Police. Head shops in the City have closed and a prosecution is being brought. Internet sales of NPS still continue.
- b. The use of NPS in Oxfordshire is being explored. Recording of use of NPS from the Emergency Department, homeless hostels, mental health services and other sources has been initiated. Indications are that the use of “Spice” is causing the most profound health and behaviour problems.

- c. Training was delivered jointly and was attended by those working with young people and also those working with homeless people. Emphasis was on dealing with behaviours caused by NPS use.
- d. Campaigns included outreach at festivals including Cowley Road Carnival, Henley Regatta, Rock in the Park. Feedback was given to the Safety Advisory Group for Cowley Rd Carnival.
- e. The Working Group has shared good practice, kept up to date with national developments and set an action plan for 2016-17.

## **Priority 2: Work together on alcohol harm reduction projects**

Successful work in 2015-16 included

- a. Commissioning and delivering a series of training sessions for Identification and Brief Advice on alcohol – enabling a range of practitioners to raise the issue with clients and advise on how to reduce alcohol intake.
- b. A major conference on Alcohol was held in December 2015 with over 140 delegates attending.
- c. Officers in Fire and Rescue have been trained to give brief advice on smoking and alcohol use where appropriate – as a fire prevention initiative and for health improvement.
- d. The Dry January campaign targeted women to help them think about how much they are drinking. A competition was run by Heart FM and the winner was rewarded with a Pamper Day.
- e. Work in Community Safety with Thames Valley Police aims to reduce selling to people already intoxicated, and scoping a Club Angels project.

## **Priority 3: Reduce the number of young people engaging in risky behaviours and continue to improve the approach to early intervention**

Recent work on this theme has included

- a. Initiatives to reduce alcohol related attendance at A&E by young people, including referral of those young people to support services (and MASH when appropriate) and information on services for young people to self-refer.
- b. More work with young people whose parents misuse substances, including a play worker based in Early Intervention Services.
- c. Training on the impact of New Psychoactive Substances for School Health Nurses, teachers and others who work with young people.
- d. Improving links between services, such as The Training Effect who deliver programmes in secondary schools linking with CAN (the young people substance misuse service) and School Health Nurses.

## **Priority 4: Improve the way we commission services to provide better pathways for people with complex needs, with a focus on recovery from addiction**

This work has concentrated on closer working between substance misuse services and mental health services. This has resulted in

- a. Joint working protocol between Oxford Health and Turning Point for Dual Diagnosis.
- b. Identification of 4 key areas for working with complex needs: consistency of key worker, early identification of a dual diagnosis, communication, involvement in social and physical activity.

Jackie Wilderspin, April 2016