

Divisions - All

Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board

5th December 2024

Oxfordshire Combatting Drugs Partnership – Annual Report

Report by Director of Public Health and Communities

RECOMMENDATION

The Health and Wellbeing Board is **RECOMMENDED** to note the activities and outcomes of the Oxfordshire Combatting Drugs Partnership, reflected in the Annual Progress Report in Annex 1.

Executive Summary

1. The Combating Drugs Partnership has been formed in response to the national drug strategy “From harm to hope: a 10-year drugs plan to cut crime and save lives 2021”.¹
2. The plan requires that national and local partners work collaboratively, focusing on three strategic priorities
 - **Break drug supply chains**
 - **Deliver a world-class treatment and recovery system**
 - **Achieve a generational shift in demand for drugs**
3. The Oxfordshire CDP brings together multi agency partners from across the Oxfordshire system to ensure clear strategic direction and delivery of the aims and objectives set out in the government’s plan. The partnership is chaired by Director of Public Health in Oxfordshire, Ansaf Azhar.
4. The CDP provides biannual updates to the Safer Oxfordshire Partnership while also reporting directly to the Health & Wellbeing Board.
5. This dual reporting structure allows for a comprehensive understanding of substance use issues within the context of broader health and community safety considerations.
6. The CDP is required to submit an annual progress report to The Joint Combatting Drugs Unit. This public facing report, which will be published on

¹ [From harm to hope: a 10-year drugs plan to cut crime and save lives - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/from-harm-to-hope-a-10-year-drugs-plan-to-cut-crime-and-save-lives)

the Combating Drugs Partnership area of the Oxfordshire County Council website shortly.

7. HWB members are asked to note the activity of the Combating Drugs Partnership.

Corporate Policies and Priorities

8. The activity of the Oxfordshire Combating Drugs Partnership supports the vision, values, objectives and strategic priorities in the County Council's corporate plan by tackling inequalities through ensuring that services are accessible to all and demonstrates our commitment to prioritising the health and wellbeing of our residents.

Financial Implications

9. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Legal Implications

10. There are no legal implications related to this report.

Staff Implications

11. There are no staffing implications linked to this report.

Equality & Inclusion Implications

12. Any Equality and Inclusion implications for activities are assessed when services are commissioned. There are no Equality and Inclusion implications specifically linked to this report.

Sustainability Implications

13. There are no sustainability implications specifically linked to this report.

Risk Management

14. This report covers the emerging threat of Synthetic Opioids. Details of mitigating actions taken under the "Reducing Drug Related Death" workstream are detailed in the report.

Consultations

15. There are no consultations as this is retrospective review of activity in the Combatting Drugs Partnership.

Ansaf Azhar
Director of Public Health and Communities

Annex: Annex 1 Combatting Drugs Partnership Annual Progress Report
 Annex 2 Data for Annual Progress Report (referred to as Appendix 1 in Annual Report)

Contact Officer: Kate Holburn Head of Public Health Programmes

November 2024