

North Northamptonshire Health and Wellbeing Board

20th June 2023

Report Title	Northamptonshire Combating Drug Partnership	
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List of Appendices

Appendix A – Northamptonshire CPD Strategic Action Plan 2023/24

Appendix B – Northamptonshire CPD Terms of Reference

Appendix C – National Combating Drug Outcome Framework

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. This report provides an update on the newly formed Northamptonshire Combating Drugs Partnership, detailing the governance and the priorities of the Partnership set out in the Strategic Action Plan for 2023/24.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 The government's new 10-year drug and alcohol strategy 'From Harm to Hope' sets out an ambition to address substance misuse by breaking drug supply chains, delivering a world-class treatment and recovery system and achieving a generational shift in demand for drugs.
- 2.2 The strategy recognises the importance of a system wide approach and strong partnerships in tackling substance misuse at national and local levels. Local government and delivery partners are viewed as the foundations of this strategy, supported by clear national strategic objectives and additional investment.
- 2.3 The Northamptonshire Combating Drug Partnership (CDP) was established in 2022 to manage and oversee local delivery of the National Drug Strategy. The multi-agency partnership is chaired by the Northamptonshire Directors of Public Health (DPH) alternating each year. Members of the Northamptonshire

CDP provide links to other local Boards and Partnerships, informing and co-ordinating work programmes as required.

- 2.4 The Northamptonshire CDP priorities are set out in the Strategic Action Plan 2023/24 (Appendix A). The plan was informed by a comprehensive needs assessment which included recommendations for future commissioning of services.

3. Recommendations

3.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board is requested to:

- a) Note the progress of the Northamptonshire CDP and support attendance from all identified partners.
- b) Note the governance structure.
- c) Note the Strategic Action Plan.

3.2 Reason for Recommendations: -

- Published guidance outlines the structures and processes for local delivery partners to work together to reduce drug related crime.
- Successful delivery of the National Drugs Strategy and local Strategic Action Plan 2023/24 relies on actions across a range of local partners including enforcement, treatment and prevention.
- The benefits of combating illicit drugs can be significant and wide ranging, improving people's safety, productivity, health and wellbeing.

4. Report Background

- 4.1 In December 2021, a new national strategy for drugs ‘From Harm to Hope: A 10-year drugs plan to cut crime and save lives’ was launched, addressing the issues identified in Dame Carol Black’s independent review of drugs. The strategy has three priorities:
- Breaking drug supply chains,
 - Delivering a world-class treatment and recovery system
 - Achieving a shift in the demand for drugs
- 4.2 The strategy provides direction towards a long-term approach to drive a successful outcome; the 10-year plan is an evidence-based approach to address the demand for, and supply of, drugs. In addition to drugs, the strategy specifically includes alcohol misuse, treatment, and recovery. It aims to ‘turn the tide’ on drug crime, reduce the harm drugs and alcohol cause to individuals and society, and save lives for this, and future generations.
- 4.3 The successful delivery of the national strategy relies on co-ordinated action across a range of local partners involved in enforcement, treatment, recovery and prevention.

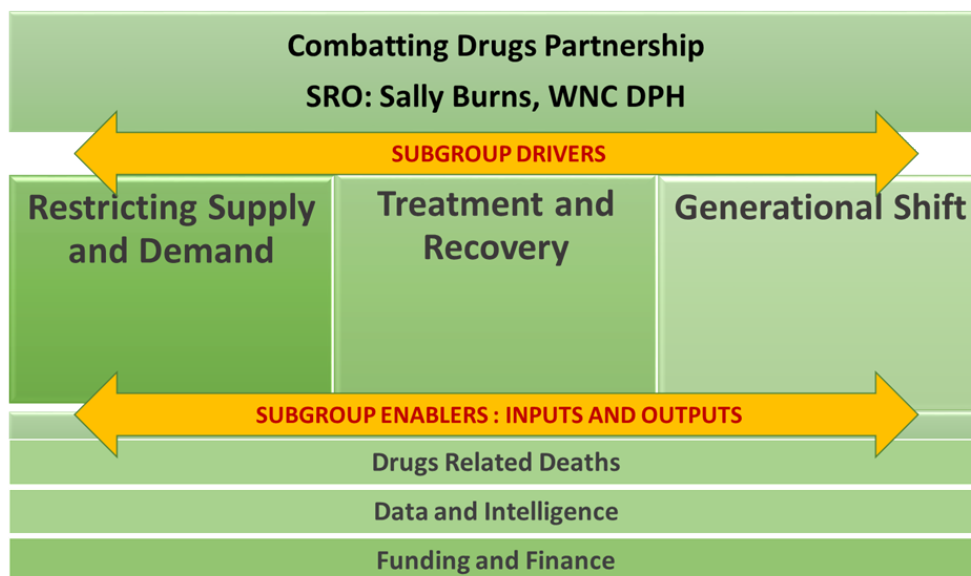
Establishing the Northamptonshire CDP

- 4.4 In June 2022, the Government issued national guidance on the development of local CDPs. The guidance set out the nature of the partnership, options for the geographical scope and leadership. Following consultation in Northamptonshire with the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, Police, Regional Probation Service, Integrated Care Board, and North and West Northamptonshire Councils the proposal was to establish one CDP for Northamptonshire, mirroring the footprint of most stakeholders. A formal submission for the Northamptonshire CDP was sent to central government by the deadline of the 1st August 2022, detailing the geography of the partnership, core membership and the Senior Responsible Owner (SRO).
- 4.5 The Northamptonshire CPD comprises of members from the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, Community Safety Partnerships, Probation Service, Integrated Care Board, Police, Office of Health Improvement and Disparities, Job Centre Plus, Local Authority officials (public health, education, housing, children and safeguarding), elected members, representatives from substance misuse treatment and recovery services and people with lived experience.
- 4.6 The Northamptonshire CDP first met in October 2022 and held a workshop on 13th December 2022 to review findings from the needs assessment and to identify priorities. The Northamptonshire CDP has met twice since. The initial priorities have been to establish the terms of reference, roles and responsibilities, governance, review the needs assessment, agree the strategic action plan and performance framework.

Governance

- 4.7 The Northamptonshire CDP Senior Responsible Officer (SRO) reports to central government and holds delivery partners to account. Northamptonshire CPD members agreed that the Directors of Public Health (DPHs) were best placed to fulfil the role of Senior Responsible Officer for the Partnership, with the role shared between the DPHs for North and West Northamptonshire Councils. The SRO is responsible for ensuring the right local partners come together, building strong collective engagement, and designing a shared local plan to deliver against the National Combating Drugs Outcomes Framework.
- 4.8 Central government monitors local delivery against the metrics outlined in the National Combating Drug Outcome Framework (Appendix C). The metrics are based on data sources that are already collected, these will be monitored at both a national and local (Northamptonshire CDP) level. This provides a single mechanism for monitoring local progress against the delivery of commitments and ambitions contained within the Strategic Action Plan 2023/24. The six overarching strategic outcomes that demonstrate successful delivery of the national and local strategic priorities are:
- To reduce drug-use
 - To reduce drug-related crime
 - To reduce drug-related deaths (DRD) and harm
 - To reduce drug-supply
 - To increase engagement in treatment
 - To improve drug-recovery outcomes
- 4.9 Six thematic subgroups have been established to ensure delivery and alignment of national and local priorities. The thematic subgroups have specific terms of reference and act as expert reference groups and forums to resolve problems, support planning and provide challenge across the whole system (Figure 1). Three subgroups are core, driving the delivery of the strategic action plan. These subgroups are:
- Restricting supply and demand
 - Treatment and recovery
 - Generational shift.
- 4.10 Three additional subgroups provide cross cutting support to these subgroups. These have been created to provide timely information in relation to intelligence, finance and preventing drug related deaths.

Figure 1: Organisational Structure of Northamptonshire CDP



4.11 The members of the Northamptonshire CDP provide the link to other local Boards and Partnerships, informing and co-ordinating work programmes as required. These include:

- North and West Northamptonshire Health and Wellbeing Boards
- Northamptonshire Integrated Care Partnership
- North and West Northamptonshire Community Safety Partnerships
- Northamptonshire Safeguarding Adults Board
- Northamptonshire Children’s Safeguarding Board
- Northamptonshire Reducing Reoffending Board
- Northamptonshire Community Sentencing Treatment Requirement Board

Strategic Action Plan

4.12 The Northamptonshire CDP has developed a Strategic Action Plan 2023/24 based on national and local priorities including recommendations from the comprehensive needs assessment. The structure of the action plan follows that of the national strategy, with an additional chapter addressing cross-cutting or enabling functions. The strategic themes are:

- Break drug supply chains
- Deliver a world class treatment and recovery system
- Achieve a generational shift in demand in drugs
- Cross-cutting recommendations

Under each strategic theme is a set of actions with a series of interventions / outcomes to support delivery of national and local strategic priorities.

5. Issues and Choices

- 5.1 The structure of the Northamptonshire CDP has been developed in consultation key stakeholders. All organisations involved in the CDP have contributed to development of the Strategic Action Plan.

6. Implications (including financial implications)

6.1 Resources and Financial

- 6.1.1 There are no resources or financial implications. Additional government funding has been provided to different agencies involved in the Northamptonshire CDP to support delivery of the national strategy.

6.2 Legal

- 6.2.1 There are no legal implications arising from the proposals.

6.3 Risk

- 6.3.1 The Strategic Action Plan 2023/24 sets out how the Partnership will deliver both national and local priorities. Success is dependent on collaborative working and understanding of illicit drugs, harm, system challenges and the changes required to address them.

6.4 Consultation

- 6.4.1 Key stakeholders were consulted on the geographical footprint, Senior Responsible Officer (SRO) and Chair. The membership comprises representatives from a range of departments and organisations including Northamptonshire Police, the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner's Office, Integrated Care System, Regional Probation Service, North Northamptonshire Council and West Northamptonshire Council, providers of drug and alcohol treatment and recovery services.

6.5 Consideration by Scrutiny

- 6.5.1 Any requests from the Scrutiny Commission will be responded to, and formal engagement or presentations required will take place.

6.6 Climate Impact

- 6.6.1 There is currently no identified climate or environmental implications.

6.7 Community Impact

- 6.7.1 Drugs and alcohol have a significant impact on society, including direct harm on individuals' mental and physical health and wellbeing, and indirect harm caused through wider impacts on society such as crime. The Northamptonshire CDP will address shared challenges related to drug-related harm, based on the local context and need. This will have a positive impact

on communities, families and individuals to improve people's safety, productivity, health and wellbeing.

7. Background Papers

Appendix A - Northamptonshire CPD Strategic Action Plan 2023/24

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