



MediaBook

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Title: Cork Local Drug and Alcohol Task Force Strategic Plan launched today

Source: Cork 96FM

Media Type: BROADCAST

Programme: 11:00 News

Presenter: Barry O'Mahony

Date: T, 04-June-2015, 11:02:01

Duration: 2

Cork Local Drug and Alcohol Task Force Strategic Plan launched today

The Cork Local Drug and Alcohol Task Force Strategic Plan for the next two years is being launched today.

Cork Local Drug and Alcohol Task Force

HSE

David Lane, HSE area operations manager

Cork City

Title: Services in Cork City working together to tackle drug misuse

Source: Red FM

Media Type: BROADCAST

Programme: 13:00 News

Presenter: Lana O'Connor

Date: T, 04-June-2015, 13:03:19

Duration: 2

Services in Cork City working together to tackle drug misuse

The Cork Local Drug and Alcohol Task Force say they're working with approximately 300 people who are in treatment for heroin misuse.

Cork Local Drug and Alcohol Task Force

County Hall

David Lane, from the Cork Drugs Task Force

Cork Drugs Task Force

HSE

Title: CORK LOCAL DRUG AND ALCOHOL TASK FORCE POLICY LAUNCHED.

Source: c103.ie

Media Type: INTERNET

Date: T, 04-June-2015

Length: 127

<http://www.c103.ie/news/cork-local-drug-and-alcohol-task-force-policy-launched/5191>

CORK LOCAL DRUG AND ALCOHOL TASK FORCE POLICY LAUNCHED.

The Cork Local Drug and Alcohol Task Force Strategic Plan for the next two years is being launched today . Figures show 300 individuals are currently in treatment for heroin use in Cork with another 100 injecting drug users who are not receiving treatment. 2 ,000 individuals assessed HSE drug and alcohol services last year and many have both a mental health and addiction issue. The main abuse substances include alcohol, cannabis and heroin . The latest strategic plan highlights the inclusion of alcohol to the task force brief as well as outlining how it will respond to drug and alcohol issues over the next two years. HSE Area Operations Manager David Lane says it`s based on hands-on research of the current situation in Cork city .

Title: Cork Local Drug & Alcohol Task Force launch strategic plan for 2015-2017 and campaign on drug litter awareness

Source: hse.ie

Media Type: INTERNET

Date: T, 04-June-2015

Length: 464

<http://www.hse.ie/eng/services/news/media/pressrel/CLDATFplan.html>

Cork Local Drug & Alcohol Task Force launch strategic plan for 2015-2017 and campaign on drug litter awareness

300 individuals currently in treatment for heroin use

- 100 injecting drug users not in treatment
- 2000 individuals accessed HSE drug & alcohol services in 2014
- Individuals with a dual diagnosis prevalent (both a mental health issue & an addiction issue)

Main four substances presenting to services

1. Alcohol
2. Cannabis
3. Benzodiazepines (e.g Valium & Xanax)
4. Heroin

The Lord Mayor of Cork, Cllr. Mary Shields will launch the Cork Local Drug & Alcohol Task Force's (CLDATF) strategic plan for 2015-2017 on Thursday June 4th from 11.00am to 1.00pm in the Cork County Hall. The strategic plan highlights the inclusion of alcohol to the task force brief as well as outlining how the task force will respond to drug and alcohol issues in Cork city over the next two years.

The CLDATF provides support services to communities in Cork city and its environs as well as assessing the extent and nature of substance misuse problems. Action plans are developed and implemented in response to the problems identified.

Joe Kirby, Coordinator of the CLDATF said "Our new strategy is about creating and maintaining an up-to-date overview on the nature and extent of drug and alcohol misuse and the support services available in Cork. The goals of the new strategy include developing an alcohol strategy for Cork City, liaising with schools regarding drug and alcohol policy development, addressing the misuse of benzodiazepines and other prescribed medications as well as addressing issues for people with a dual diagnosis (combined mental health and addiction issues).

"We will focus on strengthening and supporting a community-based response to drug and alcohol misuse and we will be seeking to support the work of all relevant statutory, community and voluntary service providers. The new strategy is geared towards developing partnerships with key stakeholders from relevant sectors who can support service users with substance misuse issues. The CLDATF also strives to ensure appropriate representation

by the statutory, voluntary and community sectors.”

The strategy will also take account of and contribute to other initiatives aimed at improving social inclusion and tackling disadvantage such as the Joint Policing Committee, Garda substance misuse initiatives, children services committees, mental health sharing network and other fora in the city.

The CLDATF will also launch the drug litter information leaflets for Cork city. “Drug litter continues to be an issue in Cork as in many other cities. Through our new campaign we want to raise the awareness of drug litter in communities and we are targeting primary and secondary schools, the business community and the general public to ensure that that these groups are aware of the proper procedures to follow and who to contact in the event of coming across drug litter.” said David Lane, Acting Operations Manager HSE Drug and Alcohol services south.

Title: CORK LOCAL DRUG AND ALCOHOL TASK FORCE POLICY LAUNCHED.

Source: 96fm.ie

Media Type: INTERNET

Date: T, 04-June-2015

Length: 132

<http://www.96fm.ie/Article/?ItemID=5191>

CORK LOCAL DRUG AND ALCOHOL TASK FORCE POLICY LAUNCHED.

Thursday 4 June 2015

The Cork Local Drug and Alcohol Task Force Strategic Plan for the next two years is being launched today .

Figures show 300 individuals are currently in treatment for heroin use in Cork with another 100 injecting drug users who are not receiving treatment.

2 ,000 individuals assessed HSE drug and alcohol services last year and many have both a mental health and addiction issue.

The main abuse substances include alcohol , cannabis and heroin .

The latest strategic plan highlights the inclusion of alcohol to the task force brief as well as outlining how it will respond to drug and alcohol issues over the next two years.

HSE Area Operations Manager David Lane says it`s based on hands-on research of the current situation in Cork city .



Hotlines for dirty needle collections to be established

Sean O'Riordan

Hotlines are being set up in Cork City to contact specially trained personnel who will safely dispose of the increasing number of dirty needles being discarded on the streets by heroin addicts.

The initiative is being co-ordinated by the HSE's Drug & Alcohol Task Force, which is also planning to distribute "drug litter information leaflets" to schools, businesses, and community organisations.

It is estimated that there are up to 500 heroin addicts in Cork City and county. More than 100 of them are not getting treatment and are not involved in needle-exchange programmes.

These are the addicts who are regularly dropping used needles in the city streets, it is believed.

David Lane, the area operations manager of the HSE Drug & Alcohol Services, said a new outreach worker had recently been appointed to work with street addicts and he was also disposing of discarded needles.

Mr Lane said his organisation was also exploring methods of encouraging heroin addicts not to inject in public by bringing them into "medically supervised centres".

He said similar centres had been opened in other countries. He pointed to one example in Sydney, Australia, which he said was proving very successful as it cut down considerably on overdosing and the spread of infections such as HIV and

hepatitis B and C.

Special needle disposal boxes have been built into the walls of the public toilets at Grand Parade, Cork City, which is a known haunt for heroin users.

Mr Lane said it was proving successful because they were collecting hundreds of needles from these boxes every month.

He said they were looking to expand this service to other public areas used by heroin injectors and were also talking to some city centre businesses whose toilets are frequented by addicts.

Mr Lane said distributing leaflets on drug litter was important to educate the public about discarded needles.

While the chances of catching HIV or hepatitis from a dirty needle are low, it could still happen, especially if the needle pierces the skin.

"If that happens the person should immediately seek medical assistance," Mr Lane said.

"But we don't want people to pick them up, we want them to report their location to any of the three hotlines. It's important they make that phone call," he added.

■ The contact numbers are: Freephone 1800 22 22 26 (9am-5pm); 021 4966512 (out of hours);

■ The new outreach worker, who will work with street addicts is available at 086 0255410.



Alcohol initiative to tackle abuse

Sean O'Riordan

An initiative is being set up in Cork and Kerry to combat what is by far the biggest drug abused - alcohol.

Around 400 healthcare workers have just been trained to spot alcohol abuse and offer 'coalface' help to alcoholics.

HSE officials in the region have reported that alcohol is by far the number one abused drug, well ahead of cannabis, benzodiazepines such as Valium and Xanax, and heroin.

Joe Kirby, rehabilitation co-ordinator for the Cork Local Drug and Alcohol Task Force, said his organisation helped more than 2000 addicted people last year and around two-thirds were alcohol-dependant.

He said heroin addicts often used other drugs as well and when they couldn't get heroin frequently abused a combination of alcohol and benzodiazepines.

The 400 trained for the anti-alcohol abuse project include mental health nurses, social workers, probation officers and midwives. A further 100 will be trained shortly.

Mr Kirby said his organisation was also setting up a benzodiazepines taskforce which will be launched in August. It will work with GPs to wean people off prescription drugs within their own communities.

The Cork Local Drug and Alcohol Task Force is also teaming up with homeless services in the city and county to provide a "higher and more continuous" level of care for homeless people, many of whom are chronic alcohol abusers.

This is the first teaming-up of its type in the country and will be officially launched in September.

Mr Kirby told a meeting attended by health professionals, care workers and gardai in County Hall yesterday that several other measures had to be taken to lower the very high levels of drinking in this country.

He said the government had to introduce minimum pricing, ensure the widespread availability of alcohol was reduced and curtail alcohol-producing companies marketing their products.

Mr Kirby made his comments as the task force launched its strategic plan for 2015-2017.

David Lane, area operation manager for the HSE drug and alcohol services, said more investment would be needed to tackle alcohol abuse, which he described "as the elephant in the room" of drug addiction.

Title: Hotlines for dirty needle collections to be established

Source: irishexaminer.com

Media Type: INTERNET

Date: F, 05-June-2015

Length: 400

<http://www.irishexaminer.com/ireland/hotlines-for-dirty-needle-collections-to-be-established-334699.html>

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Title: VIDEO: Cork/Kerry alcohol initiative to tackle abuse and offer supports

Source: irishexaminer.com

Media Type: INTERNET

Date: F, 05-June-2015

Length: 361

<http://www.irishexaminer.com/ireland/video-corkkerry-alcohol-initiative-to-tackle-abuse-and-offer-supports-334691.html>

VIDEO: Cork/Kerry alcohol initiative to tackle abuse and offer supports

An initiative is being set up in Cork and Kerry to combat what is by far the biggest drug abused – alcohol.

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