

Harm reduction

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Aim of talk



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for Substance Misuse*

- Inform you about the work that we are doing regionally around harm reduction so that we can link better with harm reduction work within the prisons and share experiences between community and prison settings.

Harm Reduction Regional Group



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- Chaired by Barry Eveleigh, Coventry Commissioning Manager
- Been going for over two years
- Meets every six weeks
- Attended by: joint commissioning managers, harm reduction leads, service user rep, prison rep, practitioners
- Reports to regional Joint Commissioning Managers meeting

Role of Group

- To support local delivery of effective harm reduction services
- To raise the profile of harm reduction across the region
- To identify opportunities for collaborative working between Partnerships where this is the most effective way of achieving harm reduction objectives

Workplan for 2009/10



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- Drug related deaths
 - Overdose prevention
- Hep C survey
- Harm reduction strategies
- Making sense of the data
- Linking with national work

Drug Related Deaths

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- Looking at how drug related deaths are dealt with across the region
 - Start to share good practice
 - Look at where we may need to prioritise any regional support
- Looking at:
 - Definition of drug related deaths
 - Types of death (overdose, long term effects of substance misuse,
 - Processes that are gone through to investigate deaths
 - Preventative work
- National guidance on Confidential Inquiries expected end year.

Hepatitis C



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- Carrying out a scoping exercise to find out information from partnerships about the Hep C services they provide, how these services are funded, what priority they are given, etc.
- Supporting the wider Hep C work being led by Dr Jammi Rao, Deputy Regional Director of Public Health.
- Looking at ways of showing the impact of money spent on tackling Hep C.
- Information patchy so far!
- **Not included Hep C services in prisons. Should/could we do this?**

Harm reduction strategies

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- Each area required to produce a harm reduction strategy
- Group looking at strategies across the region
 - Identify good practice
 - Share learning
 - Get views from other areas
- Worcestershire, Walsall, Birmingham and Dudley

Making sense of the data

- Recording of BBV interventions
- Needle exchange data
- Ambulance service data
- Near misses report
- Drug related deaths



National harm reduction work



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- Harm Reduction Works
- Naloxone pilots in 16 sites
 - Families and carers of injecting drug users given training in how to respond to overdoses and how to administer naloxone in the event of a heroin overdose
- Drug related deaths
- Data monitoring

Harm Reduction Works

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- National communications campaign targeting those users most at risk of drug related deaths and BBVs
- Also aimed at families, treatment service providers and commissioners
- Resources include a website, films, leaflets and cards, posters, online briefings and a magazine.
- Informal style of materials to reach the most difficult to engage users

Ordering materials



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- Can order directly from website

www.harmreductionworks.org.uk

- No cost
- Materials being evaluated
 - Welcome any comments on their impact within prisons

- **Reducing Drug-related Harm : An Action Plan (2007)**
- **Clinical Guidelines (2007)**
- **Good Practice in harm reduction (Oct 2008)**
 - result of interviews with partnership areas who scored highly on the Healthcare Commission/NTA joint improvement review of harm reduction services.
 - seeks to identify what works well on the front-line and what drug partnerships could do to improve their harm reduction services.



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