

"Tackling Drugs on a Typical Estate" as part of Community Regeneration

Evidence

The Estate They're In - 62% in treatment (over 80% of opiates users in treatment)

Drug worker caseloads 45-50 in CDT. Little or no time to address "social issues" The Estate They're In" sites boredom as a major factor in drug use, coupled with lack of opportunity. (47% first heroin use before age 19) Average drug spend £12,500.

88% unemployed/sick. 50% no skill or trade, 14% had been in care, 58% excluded from school, 72% no formal qualifications. Only 2% had a higher education qualification (A Level)

Supportive Interventions to Address The Complex Needs of Drugs Users

Treatment

Best practice prescribing interventions for drug and alcohol problems, with immediate access, titration for optimum dosing at earliest opportunity, random urinalysis to assess compliance, and integrated planning to maximise outcomes for 100 Problem Drug Users. Based on one drug worker session per week, specialist doctor time every six weeks, along with enhanced harm reduction.

Care Planning and Management

Case management of individual drug users. Providing one to one intensive support, advice, advocacy with generic services, structured counselling, motivation and diversion opportunities (based on MH Assertive Outreach model).
A "buddy" on the path to recovery.
Ideal caseload of between 5 and 10 clients per worker. Team of 18-20 workers plus Care Management Co-ordinator.

Diversionary Activities Budget

At the very least every day spent golfing, horse-riding, swimming, mountain biking or decorating is a day spent not committing crime. At best we can provide real opportunities for encouraging changes in lifestyle. A stepping stone to more structured activities.

Intermediate Labour Market - Drug User Specific

From the outside this looks and behaves just like work - a structured focussed environment that turns out a useful product for example Alleygates - that can be used in the local community. On the inside a flexible, supportive environment that provides the recovering drug users the opportunity to learn new skills and ways of coping with a more regular routine, whilst continuing to address substance misuse issues. A clear pathway to paid employment.

Community Activity/Training Project

Sports Development in conjunction with Street Scenes (BTCV) to provide a mixed menu of activities and training to mix diversion with preparation for work. An opportunity to gain training in waste management whilst improving the local community and engaging in sporting activity. An outdoor alternative to the proposed ILM.

Costs

£3000 per user per year based on 100 PDU's

£300,000

20xft@ 25k,
1xft manager @ 35k

£285,000

£50,000

Based on first year revenue costs for MDC Alternatives

£345,000

Capital/Building costs

£150,000

£50,000
separate proposal in existence

Generic Specialists to assist with Case Management of Individual with Particular Issues.

60% had served a prison sentence, 83% thought this was drug related

Probation Officer

To casework all those involved in the project who may also be on community sentences/released on licence.

£35,000

56% in rented accommodation, 38% with relatives or friends

Tenancy Support Officer

To assist with housing related issues and tenancy relations. Low level housing support such as budgeting, benefits, property maintenance may also be appropriate.

£25,000

62% are parents

Family Social Worker

Dedicated social services/investing in children resource dedicated to supporting drug users with children either at home or looked after, to minimise the harm that occurs with the family and achieve the best supportive environment for the child.

£35,000

72% no qualifications

Education/Vocational Support Officer

Maximising the education and voluntary opportunities that an individual may access in order to reintegrating into a non drug using community through improved skills and knowledge.

£30,000

98% want to be drug free. In achieving drug free status, other primary health concerns will need to be addressed

Dedicated Primary Health Care

Drug users often neglect their general health and as such associated health consequences make living a normal life harder to achieve. Dental, chiropody and nutritional problems are common along with low level mental health problems such as anxiety, depression and stress. Dedicated primary health resource for dealing with these issues such as G.P. and Dentist time supported by a nurse practitioner.

Sessional costs approx

£50,000

Co-ordination and Administration

Project set -up, development, administration and liaison with elected members, chief officers, regional and national fora, and link with enforcement activities to ensure joined up working and common goals.

1xfte Co-ordinator @ 40,000
1 x fte admin @ 18,000

£58,000

A Community Base

Somewhere local to provide all of these facilities - staff accommodation, drop in, group rooms, one to one rooms, a meeting place to reintegrate the drug using population with the wider community. Staffed in the main by community volunteers - their starting point for regenerating their own community.

**£300,000
(?)**

Total Estimated Costs for addressing the needs of 100 Adult Problem Drug Users

£1,713,000

Tackling The Growing Youth Drug Culture

CTC identifies age of onset of drug use is lower than National Average

The Estate They're in identified 17 young people already involved in more problematic drug use

Young drug users tend to mix with adult drug using peer group making them more difficult for Youth Work to engage with.

Only 26 supported YP housing placements across the borough.

Communities that Care have conducted intensive research into the Youth Culture on the Estate. Detailed here are a few ideas to start the process of addressing the growing drug culture amongst young people. This list is by no means exhaustive and further research may be an option to identify best options for progress.

Treatment

Specialist young persons drug worker - to address the complex needs of young people (18 and under) who are already engaged in problematic drug/alcohol use. Capacity to provide best practice clinical intervention with support from a CAMHS specialist.

Dedicated Youth Work

Engaging with the hardest to reach young people, those on the borders of the adult drug scene. To provide support, advice, information and develop peer led networks (health, self esteem, self awareness, etc) to discourage substance misuse and promote engagement in meaningful activity.

Diversionsary Activities.

A range of diversion such as extreme sports, drama, go karting, art & crafts, Music/DJ, etc - a mix and match menu of activities for young people, led by peer leaders and youth work to provide an alternative to substance misuse/anti social behaviour.

Training/Employment Project

Local versions of the borough provision for school leavers - to encourage and motivate young people to continue learning on exit from school.

Supported Housing for Young People

Accommodation for 16 -18 year olds whose family ties are broken, providing a home, with support and assistance in creating long term tenancies for the vulnerable and at risk of problematic drug use.

Approximate Cost of Starting to Address Drug Use Amongst Young People

Total First Year Costs of "Tackling Drugs on a Typical Estate"

2 x fte YP Drug workers @ 25k + Doctor time @ 10k

£60,000

2 x fte Youth Workers @ 22k

£44,000

£25,000

£50,000 upwards

20 units
£300,000

£479,000

Tackling Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour

High profile, intelligence-led policing can impact on both crime levels and public confidence

A dedicated policing team to support existing resources on the estate.

1 Sergeant
£34.3k

7 PCs
£193.5k

Covert Human Resources (informants) to build intelligence networks.

£5,000

Professional Witnesses to gather evidence against the most prolific ASB offenders.

10 inserts x £3k
£30,000

Surveillance Equipment

Supporting police intelligence-gathering operations.

£7,000

Publicity Materials

To address public confidence, reporting and engagement.

£5,000

Bolton outreach police station showing excellent results

Mobile Police Station

As a base for police and other partner agencies on the estate.

£100,000

Approximate costs of an effective programme of enforcement.

£374,800

Total First Year Costs
of
"Tackling Drugs on a Typical Estate"

£2,566,800