

Meeting of South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership	Performance and Audit Committee	
Held on:	19th April 2023	
Agenda Item:	8	
Title:	Reducing Drug Related Deaths in South Ayrshire	
Summary:		
<p>The purpose of the report is to provide members of the Performance and Audit Committee with an overview of approaches being taken forward by the South Ayrshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP) aimed at reducing drug related deaths.</p>		
Author:	Gary Hoey, ADP Chair / Chief Social Work Officer Faye Murfet, ADP Coordinator	
Recommendations:		
<p>It is recommended that the Performance and Audit Committee notes the approach and activities being taken forward by members of South Ayrshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership aimed at reducing drug related deaths.</p>		
Route to meeting:		
<p>The improvement activities being taken forward by the ADP have been developed in partnership with, and approved by, members of the ADP including individuals with lived experience.</p>		
Directions:		Implications:
1. No Directions Required <input type="checkbox"/>		Financial <input type="checkbox"/>
2. Directions to NHS Ayrshire & Arran <input type="checkbox"/>		HR <input type="checkbox"/>
3. Directions to South Ayrshire Council <input type="checkbox"/>		Legal <input type="checkbox"/>
4. Directions to both SAC & NHS <input type="checkbox"/>		Equalities <input type="checkbox"/>
		Sustainability <input type="checkbox"/>
		Policy <input type="checkbox"/>
		ICT <input type="checkbox"/>

REDUCING DRUG RELATED DEATHS IN SOUTH AYRSHIRE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide members of the Performance and Audit Committee with an overview of approaches being taken forward by the South Ayrshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP) aimed at reducing drug related deaths.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Performance and Audit Committee notes the approach and activities being taken forward by members of South Ayrshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership aimed at reducing drug related deaths.**

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 In 2021, national statistics showed that 1,330 people died as a direct result of drugs related death, in comparison to 1,339 in 2020. While the data shows a slight decrease in the number of drug related deaths, it is too early to be able to confirm if this is a continuing downward position.

- 3.2 In South Ayrshire there were 23 drug related deaths in 2021 compared to 31 deaths in 2020. In 2022 there were 18 suspected drug related deaths in South Ayrshire, however it is important to note that not all deaths considered through the review process will be confirmed as drug related deaths following post-mortem and the confirmation of the cause of death.

3.3 Local Review of Suspect Drug Related Deaths

- 3.3.1 The ADP Reducing Drug Related Death (RDRD) Subgroup have developed a process for reviewing all suspected drug related deaths in South Ayrshire. A root cause analysis methodology has been adopted which gathers information from partners who were supporting an individual and considers known protective factors which may have reduced or contributing factors which may have increased risk, along with key learning and recommendations (where appropriate).

- 3.4 The review of suspected drug related deaths allows the ADP to increase its understanding of factors contributing to suspected drug related deaths, help identify people who may be at risk, explore possible intervention points and consider test of change / service improvements.

- 3.5 The ADP RDRD Subgroup is currently developing its review processes to produce a quarterly thematic review of suspected drug related deaths.

3.6 ADP Learning Review

- 3.6.1 In September 2020 the ADP agreed to undertake an independent Learning Review and develop a fresh approach to evaluation of the ADP and the difference our work is making in terms of supporting better outcomes for those who access services and how we develop collaborative practices with other parts of the system in South Ayrshire.
- 3.6.2 In addition to the three phase Learning Review a range of research, scoping, pilot and test of change activities were undertaken, aimed at implementing the local and national priorities within [National Drugs Mission Plan 2022 - 2026](#).
- 3.6.3 The Learning Review activities concluded in 2022 with the launch of our new [ADP Change Story](#) on the 4th November 2022.
- 3.6.4 The core Learning Review identified three recommendations which are being progressed by the ADP:
- Owing our space' better - Ongoing development of activities to promote the work of the ADP throughout South Ayrshire, sharing our Change Story and to celebrating success.
 - Develop a new Commissioning Plan for all ADP funded services which is underpinned by ethical principles, including participation and collaboration with other partners.
 - Development of a new ADP performance management system, at a strategic level and for all ADP funded services to support services to improve on their delivery against ADP outcomes.
- 3.6.5 The existing ADP Strategy [Recovery is Reality, 2020 – 2024](#) is being currently being refreshed to take account of the Change Story and will be available for consultation during April 2023.

4. REPORT

- 4.1 In the last two years the ADP has taken forward a range of activities aimed at reducing drug related deaths including:
- Piloting a multidisciplinary and multiagency team, Connect4Change (C4C) aimed at providing intensive and flexible support for individuals at risk of an alcohol or drug related death, who are disengaging from treatment and recovery services, or who are coming to the attention of emergency services. Following an independent evaluation of the pilot, C4C has been funded for three years and embedded as a core service.
 - Research and scoping activities to develop a model for individuals to access long term residential rehabilitation, including the implementation of the new ROADS team offering intensive preparatory and aftercare support, as well as support for family members.
 - Development of an Improvement Plan and relating activities to support the implementation of the [Medication Assisted Treatment Standards](#) across South Ayrshire.

- NHS START (formerly NHS Addictions Service), in partnership with Public Health, have developed a notification process for anyone open to NHS Addictions Service who has attended the Emergency Department.
- Expanding the provision of Naloxone, including the new intranasal Naloxone kits, to individuals at risk and their family members and developed a Peer2Peer Naloxone Network.
- In partnership with Police Scotland, undertaking a pilot project in custody settings where a Peer Worker (within lived experience) visits individuals while they are in custody to build a connection and raise awareness of local services and recovery activities.
- In partnership with the Violence Reduction Unit, Community Justice Ayrshire, East and North Ayrshire ADPs and HMP Kilmarnock, piloting a Prison Navigator project aimed at supporting men on remand returning to the local community. Following an independent evaluation East Ayrshire ADP and South Ayrshire ADP have committed funding to extend the service for a further year.
- Expanding the development of peer led recovery communities across South Ayrshire.
- Further developing and embedding lived experience (peer) roles across our services.
- Test of change activity in relation to developing support for young people, and implementing the new national [Framework for Holistic Whole Family Approaches and Family Inclusive Practice](#).

4.2 The ADP has committed to additional priority areas over the next two years including:

- Implementation of the Hub & Spoke One Stop Shop (OSS) model which aims to remove barriers and offer a safe space to engage with people not currently being supported by services, who may be struggling to engage with core services or are experiencing challenges due to a transition e.g., leaving hospital or prison. The Ayr based hub will primarily operate on a drop-in basis and will include evening and weekend support.
- Implementation of the Outreach Vehicle offering support to individuals in rural areas.
- Further develop and embed South Ayrshire Near-Fatal Overdose pathway to ensure all people at high risk of drug related harm are proactively identified, rapidly followed-up and offered intensive support, including a test of change multiagency 'huddle' model.

- Scoping and research activity, in partnership with the Adult Protection Committee, to explore and improve our understanding of how our system can respond to improve support for people with complex needs who we struggle to engage with.
- Ongoing implementation of our Medication Assisted Treatment Standards Improvement Plan.
- Collaborative working with the Children Service Planning Partnership to embed a whole family approach across South Ayrshire and remove barriers for children, families, and young people to access support.
- Continue to develop our collaborative working with justice services to ensure all individuals at high risk are identified and offered support tailored to their needs.
- Develop our collaborative working with Mental Health Services to develop support for individuals affected by co-occurring mental health and substance use.
- Develop and implement the ADPs long term vision for residential rehabilitation.
- Continue to embed our ADP Trauma Pledge across our services to support our journey to embedding trauma-informed practice across our workforce and the services that we deliver.
- Implementation of our new Stigma Charter across South Ayrshire aimed at reducing stigma and barriers for individuals and families accessing support.
- Supporting the recovery community with the development of a lived experience led Recovery Hub offering a range of training, volunteering and recovery focussed activities for individuals, families, and the wider community, including evening and weekend activities.
- Continue to embed lived experience roles across our services and develop our new Peer2Peer Network.

5 STRATEGIC CONTEXT

- 5.1 The activities being progressed by the ADP are aimed at reducing drug related deaths and are in line with the vision, principles and priorities set out within the ADP strategy and Change Story, and the [National Drugs Mission Plan 2022 - 2026](#).

6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Financial Implications

- 6.1.1 There are no immediate financial implications arising directly from this report.

6.2 Human Resource Implications

6.2.1 There are no human resource implications arising directly from the consideration of this report

6.3 Legal Implications

6.3.1 There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

7. CONSULTATION AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING

7.1 The ADP is a partnership with over 100 members from statutory and third sector services, and individuals and families with lived experience, who have been involved in the ADP Learning Review activities and the development of the new ADP Change Story and Strategy.

8. RISK ASSESSMENT

8.1 There are no immediate risks associated arising directly from this report.

9. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no equalities implications arising directly from the consideration of this report.

10. SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no sustainability implications arising directly from the consideration of this report.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

10th April 2023