

Title of Action Plan being assessed	Reduce Substance Misuse by Young People
LAA indicator	NI115
Name of person completing this assessment	Sally Hills
Contact Telephone Number	01245 434307
Date	31 st March 2010
Which Partners are involved?	EDAP & Children's Trust

1. What are the aims and objectives of this Action Plan?

- Reduce Substance Misuse by Young People – measured by the annual TellUs (voluntary) survey from DCSF

2. What are the steps used to deliver the Action Plan?

1. To implement a robust commissioning & governance structure to commission effective specialist young peoples substance misuse services to provide the 5 main interventions
2. To implement the young people's treatment action plan that ensures parity of services to all vulnerable young people and those at risk of substance misuse can access appropriate services including Children Looked After, criminal justice services and to those with mental health concerns
3. To ensure that Essex has a competent and skilled workforce through the delivery of a comprehensive training packages
4. To develop, publish and distribute a family resource booklet in relation to substance misuse and related issues.
5. To develop a range of multi media tools to deliver accurate information and harm reduction messages to young people
6. Review, develop and implement a new schools drug and alcohol policy

3a. Think carefully about each of the equality groups below in turn. Could the Action Plan have a negative or positive effect on people in the group? Tick any group that could be positively affected, and put a cross against any group that could be negatively affected. Some groups can have both a tick and a cross.

√	Race and Culture	√x	Disability
√ x	Age	√	Gender
√ x	Sexual Orientation	√x	Religion and Belief
√	Rural Isolation	√	Economic Deprivation

3b. Describe any positive or negative issues that you think are relevant under each equality strand. If you identify an issue that substantially affects a particular group, and might stop them benefiting, state what changes you will make to the Action Plan.

Race & Culture

Issues:

- Different ethnic groups require different approaches and models to deliver effective substance

misuse advice, information and interventions

- Some drugs are seen as part of specific cultures, therefore further sensitivity will be needed.
- There is a growing BME population within the south west & west Essex areas including Children Being Looked After population
- CYP and families experiencing racist/hate crime may cope by using drugs or alcohol which can further affect their physical, emotional & mental health

Changes to Action Plan:

- Target substance misuse services to specific areas using National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS) and other related data on BME and ethnic groups/communities.
- To ensure services consider the emerging ethnicity groups when recruiting and within their training and development of the workforce.

Age

Issues:

- 15-18 year old young people are the largest group accessing services currently.
- CYP affected by parental substance misuse requiring psychosocial interventions continue to increase.

Changes to Action Plan:

- Improve the transitional arrangements from young people services to adult services where appropriate using the care co-ordination framework

Disability

Issues:

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Changes to Action Plan:

- Substance misuse awareness training to be made available to all SENCAN & CWD workforce

Religion and Belief

Issues:

- There will be some links to race & culture.

Changes to Action Plan:

- Ensure services are sensitive to young people and families when delivering services
- Ensure service have a robust Diversity & Equality policy and workforce strategy

Gender

Issues:

- The national picture is that approximately 15 – 20% more males access specialist services than females.
- Those young people who are questioning their sexuality and who are considering gender re-assignment have an increased propensity to emotional and mental health issues that may lead to self-medicating with illegal and legal substances to cope.

Changes to Action Plan:

- Ensure services are sensitive to young people and families when delivering services
- Ensure service have a robust Diversity & Equality policy and workforce strategy

Sexual Orientation

Issues:

- Gay, Lesbian, Bi-sexual young people may experience bullying, emotional and mental health issues that could make them vulnerable to taking substance misuse as a coping mechanism.
- Young people affected by substance misuse will be more vulnerable to exploitation and risky sexual behaviours

Changes to Action Plan:

- Ensure services are sensitive to young people and families when delivering services to inform information, multi-media campaigns and messages
- Ensure service have a robust Diversity & Equality policy and workforce strategy

Rural Isolation

Issues:

- Specialist services deliver interventions to young people and families within their own locality, however other CYP services are clinic based only and do not offer domiciliary or outreach services
- Lack of regular public transport in some areas & in more deprived areas families may not have access to their own transport
- Traveller sites throughout Essex some are approved and some are not

Changes to Action Plan:

- To work towards all CYP services offering services in a outreach, domiciliary and peripatetic model
- Implement robust referral and care pathways

Economic Deprivation

Issues:

- Lack of regular public transport in some areas & in more deprived areas families may not have access to their own transport increasing problems with accessing services
- Increased deprivation leads to increases in NEET, social exclusion, parental substance misuse and criminal activity and numbers of children looked after which all increases the vulnerability of substance misuse of CYP and families

Changes to Action Plan:

- To link with all other appropriate services for children, young people and families to co-ordinate service delivery, share resources and measure/share outcomes
- Using available data to target services

4. What equality statistics or other evidence from public engagement do you need to help you test your initial conclusions in Section 1?

What statistics or reports already exist – nationally or locally?

What else do you need to know – what are the gaps?

How will you collect this evidence? If you feel that particular organisations or community/voluntary groups will be able to help you please list these too.

STATISTICS

What evidence do you want?	Where is it available?	How will you use the evidence?
How do schools manage substance misuse concerns, what does their policy say?	Individual schools Some will be in narrative form	Shape the new policy development
How many school exclusions are there on an annual basis?	Data team in SCF	To target schools & communities with biggest exclusion rates
What are the CSPs contribution to CYP substance misuse	CDNE team or individual areas LSPs	To align future commissioning decisions
What are PCTs contributing to CYP substance misuse	PCT x5	To align future commissioning decisions
Predictive Risk Profile (to be done April/May 2010)	Being developed	To target services

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PLAN

What do you want to know?	What questions will you ask?	Who are you going to ask?	Name of planned source (if known)	What will you do with the answer?