

Welcome to this pilot newsletter on substance misuse for Derbyshire, keeping stakeholders throughout the partnership up to date on:

- services, activities and training across the county
- key performance issues
- the latest information and research, both local and national.

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Young people

Pupils less tolerant of drinking

The latest NHS survey of pupils aged 11 to 15 shows that:

- Pupils are becoming less tolerant of drunkenness among their peers.
- The proportion of pupils who have never drunk has risen since 2003.
- Pupils are more likely to be given alcohol than to buy it, most commonly by family or friends.
- Pupils are more likely to drink if they believe their parents are tolerant of their drinking.

- The prevalence of drug use has declined since 2001.
- In 2008, 22% of pupils had ever used drugs, 15% had taken drugs in the last year, and 8% had taken drugs in the last month.
- 3.5% of pupils had taken a Class A drug in the last year, fairly level since 2001.
- Fewer pupils reported having been offered drugs in 2008 than in 2001.

Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England in 2008:

www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs/sdd08fullreport

New project protects teens



B-Safe is a new project that helps young people who use alcohol on Friday and Saturday evenings to stay safe. B-Safe will initially focus on drinking hotspots in Chesterfield, Bolsover, North East Derbyshire and High Peak and will provide:

- street work with young people
- a safe centre for young people to go to
- positive diversionary activities
- assessment for alcohol problems and referral to further support or treatment.

The project is based on multi-agency teams involving young people's services, the police, health and county and district councils. Workers will challenge high risk behaviour, promote sensible drinking and provide meaningful advice on personal safety and social responsibility.

Contact chris.campbell@derbyshire.gov.uk
01629 536562.

Young people affected by others' substance misuse

New guidance on *Children and Young People affected by Parents/Carers or Siblings' Drug or Alcohol Misuse-Guidance for Professionals* is now available. The guidance offers a comprehensive, consistent and child centred model of common practice, with clear safeguarding thresholds, pathways for referral to specialist services and guidance regarding the roles and responsibilities of different professionals who may be able to offer support. The guidance is timely, as *Hidden harm* estimates in a school of 1,000 pupils, 20-30 pupils will be living with a drug misusing parent – if this included alcohol the figure would be considerably higher.

For **FREE** copies or to discuss training sessions: Alison.hill@derbyshire.gov.uk
01629 532 735.

Shattered now touring

Shattered is a Theatre in Higher Education production which will be touring around the county in November. Developed specifically for post 16 year old audiences, and performed in schools, colleges and Youth Centres across Derbyshire, *Shattered* uses compelling drama and focused discussion to encourage audiences to:

- identify links between alcohol misuse and violence
- recognise the risks to young people of becoming a victim or an offender, and suggest ways of minimising those risks
- examine the wider social, emotional and lifestyle impacts of alcohol misuse.

"It could happen to anyone. It really made me think." (Post 16 student)

"I liked ...the way it let you make up your own mind. I thought it was very original."
(Head of Sixth Form, Belper School)



Contact: Alison.hill@derbyshire.gov.uk,
01629 532 735.

The 2 Faces of Coke

The 2 faces of coke – which one are you? campaign aims to raise awareness of the risks of cocaine use. The campaign has been developed with young people in Derbyshire. Posters and coasters produced by students at Ilkeston School are going to



be made available to venues across Derbyshire.

The main aim is to reduce harm to the individual and impact on others through exploring how cocaine can affect relationships, lifestyle choices and emotional health. One poster specifically highlights the increased dangers of mixing cocaine and alcohol.

Research suggests that 11% of Britons aged 15-24 have taken cocaine and emerging evidence shows strong links between cocaine and violent crimes, in particular when combined with alcohol. Police intelligence shows that cocaine is used across Derbyshire.

Contact: lisa.colville@derbyshire.gov.uk
01629 531455.

Drug and sexual health event

The Forum, led by the AIDS Resource Team, is an event covering the latest issues in drug and sexual health work with young people. The event will take place on Wednesday, 4 November, in Clay Cross and will include presentations on:

- young people and alcohol health needs assessment
- young people and pornography
- grooming of young people
- drug use and pregnancy
- young people and self harm

The event is free, and lunch is provided.
 Contact: Jackie.mee@derbyshire.gov.uk
 01629 531452

Alcohol

Operation Relentless begins

Operation Relentless 2009 – Safe and Confident is a joint partnership initiative aiming to raise public confidence by dealing with crime and anti-social behaviour issues across Derbyshire.

The operation, running from 28 September to 8 November 2009, will tie in with the historical increases in anti-social behaviour around Autumn Half Term, Halloween and Bonfire Night. Alcohol Awareness Week falls within this time frame as well (19-25 October).



Activities include 'Neighbourhood Sweeps', some of which will involve engaging with young alcohol and drug users to offer referrals, advice and help through diversionary activities. A full diary of events is available to view at www.derbyshire.police.uk.

The operation is coordinated by Derbyshire Constabulary but involves partners from across the statutory, voluntary and community sectors.

If your organisation would like to get involved please contact T/Chief Inspector Pete Szabo, 01773 572221, pete.szabo.691@derbyshire.pnn.police.uk.

New alcohol service launched

From 1 April 2009, a new alcohol service has been operating across the county – the Derbyshire Alcohol Advice Service. The service provides open access support for

DERBYSHIRE
 ALCOHOL ADVICE SERVICE



people with alcohol problems and supports primary care level services in the identification and effective delivery of services for people with alcohol problems, their families and carers.

Anyone wishing to seek advice, treatment or support can contact the service on its confidential helpline - 0845 308 4010.

DAAS will:

- provide free, confidential treatment advice and support
- promote positive messages about safe drinking
- provide information about other linked services
- offer referral into more specialised services for those people with more complex alcohol problems
- provide training and education to health and community workers.

For information, see www.daas.uk.com.

Free alcohol training now available

DAAS are providing training for partnership staff on alcohol Identification and Brief Advice (IBA). Training is free for health, social care and criminal justice workers throughout Derbyshire and supports frontline workers who come into contact with clients with alcohol problems, giving staff the skills, confidence and knowledge to deliver appropriate advice or referral into treatment.

Contact: 0845 3084010 / www.daas.uk.com.

Local action on alcohol Chesterfield

A convenience store on Brimington High Street has been banned from selling alcohol

for three months. Chesterfield's Violence, Alcohol and Licensing group made the decision after test purchases showed sales to young people, despite close working with the store to prevent it. This shows that action is being taken against those who flout the licensing law.

On a more positive note, hundreds of young people gathered in Chesterfield's Queen's Park in August for a music festival that provided young people with five hours of free entertainment and at the same time delivered important messages about alcohol.

Contact Joe.tomlinson@chesterfield.gov.uk
01246 345093

A Derbyshire treatment service user representative has been out with the police in Chesterfield to look into young people's drinking. They were joined by a Central News reporter and camera team, which resulted in a news report that highlighted the unsafe environments in which young people are drinking. The B-Safe project will attempt to address some of the issues identified.

Contact: Paul.fitzgerald@derbyshire.gov.uk
01629 538 482

Bolsover

A Booze Busting Bus was used in February and March to reduce underage drinking and minimise antisocial behaviour (ASB). The bus went out every Friday and Saturday night and returned underage young people found to be under the influence of alcohol or illegal substances to their homes. The bus proved popular with the local community and effective in engaging young people.

Contact: Jo.selby@bolsover.gov.uk, 01246 242217.

South Derbyshire

The parents of 17 teenagers have been sent letters by police after their children were found drinking and two drunk 13-year-olds were escorted home for their own safety during a 10-day Boozebusted crackdown on underage drinking carried out by the Safer South Derbyshire Partnership. Trading

standards also carried out test purchases and visited pubs to remind staff of the importance of asking for identification.

Contact: Chris.smith@south-derbys.gov.uk,
01283 595924

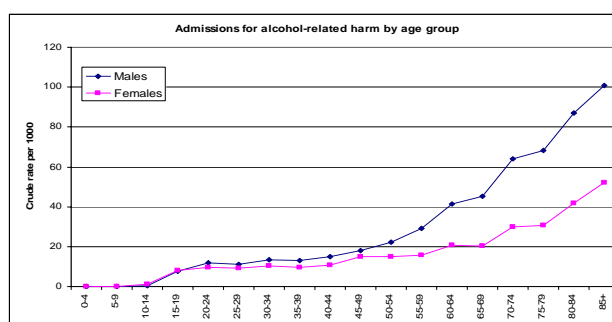
Alcohol related hospital admissions up

Alcohol related hospital admissions are increasing, but analysis is showing more detail behind the trends and pointing to ways in which admissions can be tackled.

Admissions by age and gender

Within Derbyshire, rates of admissions rise with age, particularly from age 45 onwards. This emphasises the need to focus not just on binge drinking, but also on longer-term drinking that builds morbidity over time:

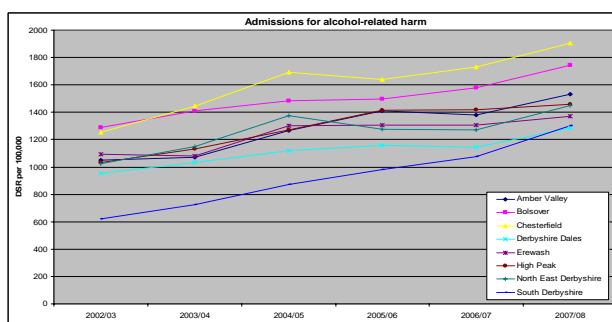
Figure 1 - Admissions for alcohol-related harm by age group in Derbyshire, 2007-08



Admission trends

All districts within Derbyshire have seen increases in alcohol admissions over the past six years, with South Derbyshire showing the biggest increase:

Figure 2 - Admission trends for alcohol related harm 2002-03 to 2007-08 per district



Admissions by diagnosis

Across Derbyshire, the highest alcohol admissions by diagnosis are:

1. hypertensive disease (37%)
2. cardiac arrhythmias (18%)
3. mental and behavioural disorders due to alcohol (12%).

These, along with alcoholic liver disease, epilepsy, and ethanol poisoning comprise the top six causes of admissions for each district.

Report available

Alcohol admissions in Derbyshire districts is explored in a report which contains specific recommendations for what partnerships can do to tackle alcohol and drug related harm.

Contact: diane.steiner@derbyshire.gov.uk, 01629 538 262.

Drugs

Numbers in effective drug treatment rise

The number of clients in effective drug treatment rose by 5% in 2008-09. 'Effective treatment' measures the number of clients in drug treatment who have been retained for 12 weeks or have had a planned discharge. The provisional figures for 2008-09 are positive:

Figure 3 – Numbers in effective treatment

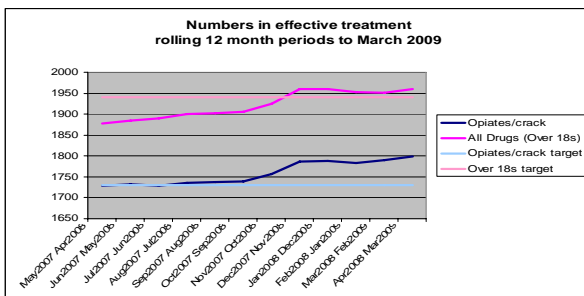


Table 1 – Increase in numbers in effective treatment

	All adults	Opiate/crack users
Target 2008-09	1940	1730
Number in effective treatment	1959	1798
Increase from 2007-08	5%	5%

Unplanned discharges before 12 weeks of treatment remain a challenge.

Contact: diane.steiner@derbyshire.gov.uk

Free training for GPs



Royal College of General Practitioners

Training for the RCGP *Certificate in the Management of Drug Misuse - Part One* will take place on October 15th 2009 in Derby.

This course is ideal for GPs working at a generalist level or as part of a 'shared care' scheme, as well as for pharmacists and nurses who are in a position to prescribe to substance misusers. The training is a requirement for those intending to provide treatment to drug users as part of an enhanced service in Derbyshire.

The course is free for Derbyshire County PCT prescribers, while there is a charge of £200 for non-Derbyshire County PCT staff.

Contact Kathryn.Walker@derbyshire.gov.uk, 01629 538229.

A 'bad' batch of heroin?

One often sees press reports that 'a bad batch / extra strong batch of heroin' has contributed to a person's death.

These comments are often made before toxicology results are known and beg the question 'what is a good batch?'

The purity and standard of heroin sold on the streets varies daily and the strength of the drug is rarely, if ever, a factor in a death. Most heroin deaths occur after a person has had a period of abstinence and lost some resistance to the drug, or has taken other substances as well, most usually alcohol.

On the subject of urban myths there are often messages sent by email or text about risks from 'drugs'. They are very often untrue, but mixed with a bit of truth to make them look realistic. Examples include one about a 'date rape' drug called Progesterex

which leaves women sterile after its use, and one about children using a drug called 'Jenkem'. Both are completely made up.

If you receive any such circulation, even if it comes from a reliable source, please check it with the Derbyshire Police Drug Market Project (Steve or Kate on 01773 573 649) instead of circulating it further.

National drug misuse low

The most recent British Crime Survey findings on drug misuse show that the

current level of *last year* illicit drug use remains historically low compared with the level seen in 1996. However, there is a slight increase in Class A drug use, primarily due to an increase in cocaine use. Class A drug use amongst younger adults aged 16-24 has remained stable since 1996.

<http://www.cjp.org.uk/publications/archive/drug-misuse-declared-findings-from-the-2008-09-british-crime-survey-england-and-wales-23-07-2009/>

Derbyshire Drug and Alcohol Calendar

Date	Event	Comment	Contact
28 Sept – 8 Nov 2009	Operation Relentless 2009: Safe and Confident	A joint partnership initiative to raise public confidence levels by identifying and dealing with crime and anti-social behaviour (see article above).	T/Chief Inspector Pete Szabo 01773 572221 pete.szabo.691@derbyshire.pnn.police.uk
19-23 Oct 2009	National Alcohol Awareness Week	Aims to raise public awareness of the scale and harm of alcohol abuse and offers recommendations for action.	Alcohol Concern: http://www.alcoholconcern.org.uk/servlets/press/campaigns.jsp
November 2009	Shattered – Theatre in HE	Touring in November (see article above).	Alison.hill@derbyshire.gov.uk 01629 532726
4 Nov 2009	The Forum	Drug and sexual health work with young people (see article above).	Jackie.mee@derbyshire.gov.uk 01629 531 452
12 Nov 2009	Children/Young People and Alcohol Update	One day conference free to all members of the whole school community.	penny.elks@derbyshirecountypct.nhs.uk 01773 525 087
27 Nov 2009 Ilkeston	Erewash Alcohol and Young People Day	Will cover the national and local picture, how young people are affected by others' use of alcohol and working with those affected.	Michaela Blanche Micheala.blanche@derbyshire.gov.uk 0115 855 4960
28 Nov 2009 2000 - midnight County Hall	World Aids Day Musical Event	Fantastic musical event with the brilliant dance band Funk Station Zebra, the Bijoux Belles, a disco and raffle to raise money to support people living with HIV in Derbyshire.	Lisa Colville Lisa.colville@derbyshire.gov.uk 01629 531455
1 Dec 2009 County Hall	World Aids Day	Themed REALITY – that HIV figures continue to rise and many young people are unaware how the virus is transmitted. The AIDS Resource Team will be in the Foyer with goodies, leaflets, posters, ribbons.	Lisa Colville Lisa.colville@derbyshire.gov.uk 01629 531455
15-16 Dec 2009 Swadlincote	Chill Out	Two day course on drug awareness and working with young people	Lisa.colville@derbyshire.gov.uk 01629 531455
25 Jan 2010 0915 – 1530 Cromford Mill	Impact of Parents/Carers Drug or Alcohol Misuse on Children and Young People	One day conference free to all members of the whole school community - if you work with schools, this conference could be for you. Led by Ali Hill, Drugs Education Consultant.	Penny Elks penny.elks@derbyshirecountypct.nhs.uk 01773 525 087