

Topics for Managing Director's Verbal Update
Communities Policy Overview Committee
12th November 2008

1. KDAAT

- 2007/8 Performance
 - achieved 3693 substance mis-users into treatment equalling + 4.3% of target
 - Trend in 2008/9 continues with 491 new treatment journeys (all adults) in quarter 1, of which 288 are classified as problematic drug users (those using class A drugs – heroin and crack cocaine)
- Major contract award to CRI to deliver treatment services within the criminal justice system, at point of arrest, and within prison system.
 - Commenced on 1st October
 - Targets for 2008/9 - minimum improvement 5%, stretch target 25%
- Young People's Services developing the Hidden Harm agenda – children within substance misusing families. Draft strategy for consultation ready for February 2009. This is a key strand within the Children Safeguarding Agenda

2. Kent Action on Alcohol

- Established to address the range of issues relating to alcohol misuse in Kent
- Focus upon treatment, enforcement, work with the industry and the public health prevention agenda
- A draft strategy is currently being finalised. This will be consulted on from December – January, including this committee.
- Action plan looking to align recommendations arising from Select Committee report with other KCC and partnership plans
- Upcoming launch of Kent Community Alcohol Partnership, which is a partnership between public sector and the alcohol retailers, aimed at promoting responsible drinking and tackling underage sales

3. Education, Training and Employment

- Work commencing to develop a model for working with young offenders to support them into employment:
 - Consider adult model of New Skills New Lives
 - Develop cross-directorate work utilising KEY Training Service and apprenticeship opportunities
 - Link to Kent Offender Employment Forum - look to develop models of peer mentoring and coaching

- AE Course enrolments offering qualifications and employability skills have increased by 7% on 2007-8 whilst others show a decline of 13%. Increases are highest in Thanet (33%), Sevenoaks (30%), Tonbridge (27%) and Shepway (26%).
- Three Graduate Placements have started in the Communities Directorate in Libraries, Youth Offending Services and Policy & Resources.

4. Migration

- Taken on role as lead for migration – including a seat on National Migration Group
- Medway have joined Kent Wide Strategic Network on Migration
- A key issues for Kent at present is the Seasonal Agricultural Workers Scheme (SAWS)

5. Health & Safety Week

- Series of awareness raising events including the Managing Director, in her role as Chair of the Corporate Health & Safety board, scaling the climbing which was erected outside County Hall

6. Sports Leisure & Olympics

- Shortlisted for Beacon status for Olympic Games and Paralympic Games Legacy: using the opportunity of hosting the Games to encourage communities to be more active
- Visit by external assessors during November followed by a presentation to the Assessment Team and Advisory Panel in London in January.
- The successful councils will be announced in March
- The scores that we have been given so far highlight how well we are doing in positioning Kent to get maximum benefit from the Games:
 - Leadership, Vision and Strategy - **Excellent Plus**
 - Community and Customer Engagement and Empowerment - **Very Good**
 - Actions - **Excellent Plus**
 - Partnerships - **Excellent**
 - Outcomes - **Excellent**