

By: Angela Slaven, Director Youth Services and KDAAT
To: Alcohol Misuse Select Committee, 17 March 2009
Subject: Alcohol Misuse Select Committee 'one year on' monitoring report
Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: This report identifies the progress and action undertaken to achieve the recommendations of the Select Committee report on Alcohol Misuse. The detail is provided in the attached Appendix 1: Kent Action on Alcohol Action Plan.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Select Committee report was presented to Kent County Council in March 2008 and was followed in July 2008 by a launch at the Kings Hill Conference and Training Centre when the Kent Action on Alcohol Group was formally adopted.
- 1.2 The launch was attended by partners across a range of agencies including Health, the Police, Fire Services, District Councils and providers of Treatment Misuse Services both in the statutory and voluntary sectors.
- 1.3 Since July the Kent Action on Alcohol Group has worked to develop an Action Plan to deliver against the key recommendations and with the support of Alcohol Concern has produced a draft Alcohol Strategy for Kent which is currently progressing through the Kent County Council Consultative Committees prior to extensive consultation across the county from April 2009 onwards.
- 1.4 The aim is to launch the strategy in the autumn of this year.

2. The 28 Recommendations

The Action Plan addresses 25 of the 28 recommendations contained within the Committee Report.

- 2.1 Recommendation 3: this refers to the production of an overarching Alcohol Strategy for Kent. As outlined above, this is work in progress and is currently being drafted and will be subject to a wider consultation plan.
- 2.2 Recommendation 4: the Committee urged Kent County Council to lobby Central Government to raise the priority and profile of the issues of Alcohol Misuse in the UK. This recommendation was a very timely one

and the Committee will be aware that the agenda both from the Criminal Justice and the Public Health perspective has risen high in the agenda for national action. In the work to deliver the Action Plan, Kent is still amassing the data and needs assessment with an early indication that the trends emerging nationally will be reflected across the county. KDAAT has commissioned new treatment services and as the work progresses via the Kent Action on Alcohol group, briefings can and will be provided to undertake further lobbying.

- 2.3 Recommendation 13: as outlined above Kent Action on Alcohol is concluding the work in the preparation of the strategy which will be supported by a distinct operational plan and will include a directory of alcohol related services.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 The Committee note the progress against the recommendations outlined in the Kent Action on Alcohol Action Plan and the actions against recommendations 3, 4 and 13 contained within this report.
- 3.2 The Committee endorse the continued actions of the Kent Action on Alcohol Steering Group to deliver the Alcohol Strategy for Kent.

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