

Agenda Item 2iii.

Highland Alcohol and Drugs Partnership – Strategy Group Meeting

Tuesday 21st May 2024; 2pm-4pm
Larch House, Inverness and via Microsoft Teams

Present:	Carron McDiarmid – Chair
	Eve MacLeod – HADP
	Chris MacInnes – Partners in Advocacy (guest)
	Iain Templeton – Third Sector representative
	Sharon Holloway – HADP
	Jennifer Baughan – Highland Council
	Bev Fraser - NHS DARS
	Frances Matthewson – HADP
	Daniel Jack – Police Scotland
	Liz Smart – NHS
	Cathy Steer – NHS
	Tracey Porter – NHS
	Donna Munro – Highland Council
	Maria Cano – Highland Council
	Arlene Johnstone – Highland Council
	Catherine Russell – NHS
	Mhairi Wylie – HTSI
	Cllr Kate MacLean
Apologies:	Caroline Robertson - CrossReach
	Dr Alex Keith – NHS
	Andrea Broad – NHS
	Jen Valentine – Police Scotland
	Teresa Green - NHS
	Scott Watson - SPS
Notes:	Steph Tyrer

1. Welcome/Apologies
<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted.
2. Declarations of Interest
<ul style="list-style-type: none">For transparency the Chair raised her connection with items where Public Health Scotland (PHS) is noted in relation to her position as a non-executive director with PHS – No conflict arises with these items.MW declared an interest in relation to a few of the Progress Reports from funded services.
3. Minutes of previous meeting and actions
3.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 20th February 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none">The minutes of the meeting held on 20th February 2024 were agreed.
3.2 Action Tracker for the Strategy Group
<ul style="list-style-type: none">It was agreed to close actions 2,5,15,17,19,20,21,22,24. It was noted that the updated action tracker will be circulated in advance of the next meeting along with the draft minute for updates to be requested.
3.3 Positive developments to highlight since 20th February 2024
<u>Housing First Project</u>

- Thanks were given to Iver Forsyth who has finished his secondment with the HADP and produced a report 'Housing First – A Model of Practice'. ES noted that a meeting of the partners involved would be convened to consider the next steps with an update to be provided at the next meeting.

Chairs Network for ADP's

- Work is underway nationally for ADP Chairs to connect and develop a chairs' network. This is being supported by Health Improvement Scotland and PHS.

Action Points	Lead/Responsible	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A meeting of partners involved in the Housing First project will be convened to consider the next steps. 	ES	20 th August

4. Performance Reporting and Scrutiny

4.1 Outcomes/Performance Dashboard by national mission outcomes

- FM gave an overview of the Performance Dashboard which has been formatted against the national outcomes and included new area-based data along with further information on the Planet Youth work. **The group were reminded that the information included in the report is restricted and should not be shared.**
- It was noted that while data was not yet validated for drug deaths for the previous year, it was suspected that 25 had occurred in 2023, down from 42 in the previous year. Since 01/02/2024, there were 10 drug deaths suspected.
- The improving picture in meeting MAT standards was noted.
- It was noted we might expect to see a reduction in the next quarterly report on waiting time targets given workforce issues, especially in relation to alcohol treatment services.
- Most of the information is wider, population-based information, and it is hoped to be able to drill down over time to identify key points and learning.
- It will be useful to be able to benchmark Highland against other parts of Scotland. This will form part of the needs assessment for our new Strategy.
- It was noted that the number of licensed premises in Highland is substantially higher than Scotland. ES agreed to provide further information on the pattern of provision. It was noted that discussion with Cllr. KM may be required in relation to the work of the licensing committee.
- SH provided an update on the experiential data gathered by SDF.
 - 48 people within services were interviewed as well as 5 family members and 17 members of staff.
 - 20 people had started or restarted MAT within the last three months – only 1 person had to wait more than a month to get access to treatment.
 - Still a large amount of people who have not heard of MAT standards. Work is to be done to raise awareness and to standardise MAT information around treatment choices.
 - 78% of people who had missed appointments said they had been followed up by DARS with either a telephone call or home visit.
 - 75% of people said they were offered harm reduction at their appointments.
 - 85% of people said they had a really positive, or very positive, relationship with their worker.

Actions Points	Lead/Responsible	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ES will provide further information on the pattern of provision of licenced premises and link in with Cllr. K.M. in relation to the work of the licencing committee. 	ES	20 th August
	DJ	20 th August

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DJ to provide information on naloxone administered to people and lives saved, to add to the data on naloxone kits issued. MC to put FM in touch with the QA officer and information officer for the CJS to improve data available for the Partnership. To integrate MAT standards performance into the report along with the description of the 10 MAT standards for the next meeting. SH to share the experiential data summary report from SDF. DM & FM to meet before the next Strategy Group to look at getting up to date Child Protection data for the next dashboard. DJ will find out what preventative measures his national colleagues have put in place regarding people driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs and feedback to the group. 	MC	ASAP
	EM	20 th August
	SH	ASAP
	DM/FM	20 th August
	DJ	20 th August
4.2 MAT Standards – Latest Monthly Progress Report		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was agreed that this will now be covered within the Progress Reports. It was noted that monthly reporting to the Scottish Government was still required. 		
4.3i Reviewing Progress with Partnership Funded Services		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work is in progress to update the format of the Progress Reports that involves a RAG assessment to enable focusing on where there are challenges. CM and MW have agreed to be involved in piloting the new form with the aim of getting this out to Partners between now and the next Strategy Group. Further work is required to agree which outcome to have a particular focus on for future meetings. NES have been unable to recruit to the Social Worker post. This funding will be redirected to recruit additional support worker time which aligns with the Caithness model. It is recognised that a decision has not yet been made on the continuation of funding for those services whose funding is ending this year. The funding allocation for HADP for this year has not yet been agreed – it is hoped this will be confirmed around June time. The Partnership may need to make decisions around funding before this is done and if so would be contacted by email in advance of the next meeting ACI Recovery Service requested reallocation of their funds to ensure spend. There was agreement in principle however the HADP support team were tasked with considering details of the response. The WFWP position will be advertised soon – please share across the Partnership. Income has been identified from out with the HADP that will allow the Custody Link Service to continue for the rest of this financial year. The HADP is keen to support evaluation of the service around the economics of prevention. The restrictions on HTSI distributing funding from Scottish Government mean that work is underway to make Café 1668 its' own legal entity which will allow it to access funding directly. 		
Action Points	Lead/Responsible	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CM and MW to pilot the new Progress Report form. 	FM/CM/MW	20 th August
	SH	20 th August

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some further work is to be done to agree which outcomes are to have a particular focus on for future meetings. Support Team to consider ACI Recovery Service reallocation request. JB will send EM the WFWP job advert with a request to share across the Partnership. 	Support Team JB/EM	ASAP ASAP
4.4 Community Planning Partnership Board		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair's report updated the group on the last CPPB in March. There was a workshop for the Board last week to look at finalising the Highland Outcome Improvement Plan. The HADP has items on the agenda for the next meeting on 5th June including the annual reporting survey for the ADP, a Planet Youth briefing and update and there will be an update on the Custody Links Project. CS gave an update on the progress of the HOIP Review. New strategic priorities for the CPP have been drawn up and agreed by the Board in principle. There is work ongoing to create a delivery plan for those new strategic priorities. The Board are due to sign off the refreshed HOIP in June. The key vision is '<i>To maximise opportunities and tackle inequality to build a thriving Highlands for all</i>' with three strategic priorities - people, place and prosperity. There are potential areas for action within the 7 themes that were identified during the CPP Conference and the Workshop. 		
Action Points	Lead/Responsible	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CS will send the HOIP Delivery Plan to ST to cascade to Partners for feedback to be given to CS by 31st May. 	CS/ST	ASAP
4.5 Public Protection Chief Officers Group		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair's report provided an update on the HPPCOG. It was noted that the COG had asked for more up to date information on drug related deaths. There is a meeting on Monday with all of the independent Chairs who support the work of the HPPCOG to look at how data can be combined to create a public protection dashboard. The Chair has suggested having a meeting with the Community Justice Partnership to allow for discussions to ensure we are working together as best we can. 		
4.6 Integrated Children's Service Planning Board/Leaders' Forum		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No update as the last meeting was cancelled. Vision 2026 will take place in August 2024 with the hope that Partners from across statutory and Third Sector will get involved. The theme for this year is around participation and voice, highlighting any examples of good practice that have taken place across the area. 		
4.7 Scottish Government Reporting/Updates		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EM gave an update on the things that have changed in the ADP Annual Survey since it was circulated. Additional information has been added in at questions 3b, 4, 6b, 9, 13, 14, 14b, 15, 17, 18b, 21, 22, 24b, 43. Clarification was sought for questions 19, 23. The funding breakdown needs to be received by COP Friday in order to present to the CPPB. It was noted that the new Head of Drugs Policy at Scottish Government is Alison Byrne. 		
Action Points	Lead/Responsible	Timescale

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circulate the updated ADP Annual Survey to the Partnership for feedback to Eve by this Friday. • TP will speak to FG to see if they can get a breakdown back to EM by 24th May. • JB will get some wording around the WFWP to EM by COP today. 	EM/ST TP JB/EM	24 th May 24 th May 21 st May
5. Partnership Improvement and Learning		
5.1 Drug Death Reviews		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AK had provided apologies and a verbal update was provided by ES. 		
5.2 Deaths Review Day		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ES provided an update from the recent review day and it was noted that multi-agency Partners were included to look at existing processes for various deaths including child deaths, suicide, drug related deaths, alcohol related deaths, road deaths. • One action that came out of the day was the Director of Public Health was to meet with the Fiscal to discuss the delays we are experiencing in getting the post-mortems. ES has also asked to attend this. • There was some discussion around whether we can align how we look at data and if we can consider doing combined audits. • The first joint review has been held between the Drug Related Death Review Group and the Child Death Review Group which was very useful. 		
5.3 Planet Youth in Highland Webinar		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This took place on 18th April 2024 with 84 people attending out of the 88 that were registered. • Feedback included people asking for more discussion time and the need for us to work together across the system. • People were asked what they would like to see happen as a result of the Plant Youth work in Highland – a link to the RSHP in Education and partnership with schools, parents, families and the wider community, that Planet Youth is rolled out in all areas as a timely intervention with the younger generation, greater collaboration between organisations and groups both locally and across Highland. • The sessions were recorded and are available to watch back on the Substance Awareness Toolkit. 		
6. Strategy and Partnership Development		
6.1 Development Plan circulated and to be agreed		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current version of the partnership's development plan has been circulated. • It was noted we needed to move asap to undertake a strategic risk assessment and the self-assessment using the SG template. • There is a meeting scheduled with the Local Authority Improvement Service who may be able to facilitate taking these two issues forward. • The Development Plan is a living document that will be updated for each meeting. 		
6.2 HADP Strategy 2024-27		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop the new HADP Strategy an up-to-date needs assessment is required as well as understanding new and emerging risks. An initial meeting is planned with the Support Team. Partners will be able to contribute to that as well. The first meeting is to scope the needs assessment. 		
7. Finance		
7.1 Update from Finance		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The partnership welcomed the new accountancy support now available. • In the absence of the accountant for this item, it was noted from the written report circulated that the year-end variance for 2023/24 was estimated to be £138,271 which was an underspend. As the lack of accountancy support in Q4 meant we were unable 		

<p>to gauge the year-end position, any underspend could not be redeployed and would not be drawn down from SG funds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> £100,000 had been reallocated to HTSI to support future Third Sector Activity. ES was thanked for her ability to do this within NHSH financial arrangements. This estimated underspend will be reported to the CPPB in June. The finance allocation for 2024/25 is not yet known but we can assume it is the same as the last year until we hear otherwise. With new support from NHSH's procurement team now promised, we can begin this year to move to a more joint/ethical commissioning of services rather than the existing provision of annual grants. 		
7.2 Improving governance		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issues and challenges had been raised with the Director of Finance in relation to the HADP. Meeting with the Head of Finance next week to discuss what new arrangements need to be put in place. 		
8. Emerging Risks		
8.1 Synthetic opioids and responses		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The drugs market is changing which has been highlighted by the RADAR alerts that are coming through. With new guidance and response arrangements in place nationally, it was agreed we need to consider what our local public health emergency response would be. A one-off meeting with key Partners will be arranged to look at this. 		
Actions Points	Lead/Responsible	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrange a one-off meeting with key Partners to look at how we complete the emergency response templates. 	Support Team	ASAP
8.2 Any other emerging risks		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Scottish Illegal Money Lending Unit (part of COSLA) have identified vulnerabilities which are often associated with drugs, alcohol, gambling and illegal loan sharks. They had offered to come and speak to us at a Strategy Group meeting but with the tight timings of the agenda we may need to arrange a one-off meeting for this. 		
Action Points	Lead/Responsible	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrange for the Scottish Illegal Money Lending Unit to come and give a briefing to the Strategy Group as a one-off meeting. 	Support Team	20 th August
9. National Reports and Consultation		
9.1 The National Collaborative		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Collaborative has launched its draft outline of a Charter of Rights for People Affected by Substance Use with consultation open until 3rd June. A meeting will be arranged with Partners for the morning of 31st May, 9:30am-10:30am, to look at collating a response from the ADP as Duty Bearers. 		
Action Points	Lead/Responsible	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A meeting will be arranged with Partners for 31st May to look at collating a response from the ADP. 	EM/ST	ASAP
10. Date of next meeting and meeting considerations		
10.1 Polls re meeting		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A survey will be sent to Partners asking for feedback on these meetings – answers will be anonymised. 		
Action Points	Lead/Responsible	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Send a survey link to all Partners re HADP Strategy Group meetings. 	EM/ST	ASAP
10.2 Next meeting date		

- The next meeting will be on the 20th of August 2024 from 2pm – in person and via Microsoft Teams link if needed.