

Derbyshire Drug and Alcohol News

June 2010

Table of Contents

Young people	1
Young people concerned about alcohol and drugs misuse	1
Targeted alcohol and drug workers – an introduction	1
Under age off-licence sales fall	2
Help living with teenagers	2
Are you Ok?	3
Alcohol awareness and young people training days	3
Alcohol	3
Managing alcohol related violent offenders	3
New mandatory licensing conditions	4
Alcohol harm – where do we stand and what are we doing? ...	4
Drugs	5
Legal highs – the latest news	5
General	5
For info: characteristics of offenders	5
Service User Reps take action	5
Derbyshire Drug and Alcohol Calendar	6

Please help!

We'd love to have your feedback on this newsletter to help make it better for you in future.

It will be quick and easy – we've even put the survey online, so all it will take is a few clicks of a button and a couple of minutes – couldn't be simpler! Just click on the link below or enter it in your web browser:
www.surveymonkey.com/s/BSCYLG2

Young people

Young people concerned about alcohol and drugs misuse

Young people in Derbyshire have identified reducing alcohol and drug misuse as top priorities, according to the Derbyshire Youth Service Participants Survey 2010.

A total of 2071 young people responded to the survey, answering a variety of questions, including 'What are the three most important youth issues today?' Out of 20 choices – ranging from jobs to teen pregnancy to

racism to saving the environment – local young people identified alcohol and drug misuse as their first and third concerns. In fact, these two issues cropped up in the top five concerns for every CAYA district, with the exception of South Derbyshire and South Dales – how they ranked in the top five is shown in the table below:

CAYA district	Alcohol ranking	Drugs ranking
Amber Valley	1	2
Bolsover	3	5
Chesterfield	1	2
Erewash	1	2
High Peak and North Dales	1	5
North East Derbyshire	1	5
South Derbyshire / South Dales	--	--
Derbyshire	1	3

The survey results will inform CAYA district youth teams' planning, and it is hoped that the Derbyshire Youth Council will campaign on some of the issues identified in the survey.

Contact: Gerard.mclister@derbyshire.gov.uk
01629 536 560

Targeted alcohol and drug workers – an introduction

Below, Bev Oates, one of the county's targeted alcohol and drug workers, explains what this group does to help young people.

As our title suggests we 'target' young people who may be starting to face difficulties from alcohol or drugs but who do not yet need high level specialist services.

We work one to one with young people between the ages of 11 and 19, offering specific advice and information on alcohol and drugs. Occasionally we also work with small groups of up to 5 young people.

Our role is to look at harm minimisation and help clients look at the risks of their

substance use, eg risks to health, education, family and career plans. We are not there to say 'no', but to help the young person think about the consequences of their actions.

The majority of our work is within educational establishments but we also work closely with Connexions and Youth Service colleagues in each district. Referrals to us can be made by anyone – as long as the young person is willing to engage with us. We work closely with other professionals so that the young person doesn't feel they have loads of workers all asking them similar questions.

Our work is confidential (within safeguarding boundaries), which is valued by young people as they know we will not share information with school or their parents without their permission.

There is a targeted alcohol and drugs worker linked to each CAYA District, employed either by Connexions or the Youth Service with DAAT funding.

For further information contact:

Chesterfield, Bolsover, North East Derbyshire	Katie Shaw / Bev Oates 01246 201 581
Derbyshire Dales	Julie Gwyther 01629 57427
High Peak	Simon Green 01457 864 641
South Derbyshire	Mohammed Malooq 01283 229 709
Amber Valley	Lesley Jones 01773 769 995
Erewash	Helen Counce 07887 833 959

Under age off-licence sales fall

Trading Standards have seen a fall in the percentage of test purchases resulting in the sale of alcohol to an under-18, with compliance over the past three years moving from less than 75% to over 90%:

Test purchases of alcohol	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Total Attempts	276	286	280
Refusals	200	209	255
Sales	76	77	25
Sales (%)	27.5%	26.9%	8.9%

Trading Standards have been working hard to reach these improved levels of compliance through a combination of:

- targeted advice and information
- proportionate enforcement action
- increased use of licence reviews.

The Division has also sought to advise young people of the potential harmful effects of excessive alcohol consumption with the launch of *Consequences*, a teaching resource pack which includes a series of films produced by young people.

Contact: Robert.taylor@derbyshire.gov.uk
01629 539 830.

Help living with teenagers

Living With Teenagers is an eight week programme, co-ordinated by NHS Derbyshire

County, that gives parents and carers of children aged nine years and upwards the opportunity to share both the positive experiences and difficulties of

living with teenagers. The teenage years can present all sorts of problems for parents: boundaries can be tested and conflicts can arise as young people's need for independence increases, as does the potential for sex, alcohol or drug use.

A wide range of topics is covered such as building self-esteem, expectations and challenges, discipline and boundary setting as well as specialist input on drugs and alcohol awareness.

The programme is delivered in an informal, and non-judgemental way, encouraging parents to understand behaviour and discuss ways to improve relationships.

Contact: 01246 514 979
jane.hawley@derbyshirecountypct.nhs.uk



Are you Ok?

Safer Derbyshire is asking young people *Are you OK?* in a new campaign launched in June. *OK?* is aimed at 11 to 19-year-olds, following research that shows this age group can worry about staying safe while they're out, having their property stolen, being offered drink or drugs or being physically attacked.

Credit card sized USB sticks have been produced for young people to plug in to a computer to download loads of helpful information and direct them to new pages on the *OK?* website, Facebook and MySpace. Young people will also be directed to other websites and organisations that are working to help them stay safe and will be given



colourful pocket-sized guides on what the campaign offers and how to get help. *OK?* will also feature in a special edition of *b_line* magazine.

Contact: Alison.Boyce@derbyshire.gov.uk
01629 538272 www.derbyshire.gov.uk/ok

Alcohol awareness and young people training days

The AIDS Resource Team is currently developing a short training day on *Alcohol Awareness and Young People: Brief Interventions*. The first pilot day is due to run in October and if successful will be repeated four times each year. The sessions will be aimed at a universal level (ie all services who may come into contact with young people) and will include awareness of potential risks, ways to reduce harm, brief interventions, signposting and the use of a screening tool.

Contact: 01629 531452
Nichola.Smithurst@derbyshire.gov.uk

Alcohol

Managing alcohol related violent offenders

A new pilot scheme is underway to manage alcohol related violent offenders who are viewed as most damaging to their communities.

The six month pilot in Amber Valley and Erewash resulted from the recent Prolific and Priority Offender (PPO) review and will be watched with interest by the Strategy and Implementation Group (PPO SIG). The group of offenders was identified by a piece of research that revealed that these offenders repeatedly cause nuisance and offence in town centres and local neighbourhoods but often are not being managed by existing arrangements like MAPPA, Intensive Alternative to Custody or the PPO scheme.

From April, the Amber Valley and Erewash PPO Panel will consider referrals from police and other agencies and will decide whether and how they should be managed. This might involve a range of specific requirements attached to Community Orders and post release licences which challenge and change attitudes and beliefs. Other services will be offered by alcohol treatment providers and community mental health.

The Panel will also consider arrangements to restrict and control behaviour (eg ASBOs, banning orders, licensing decisions) in order to change thought processes and manage the individual's behaviour, reducing their likelihood of re-offending.

The pilot will identify what works well for this group and what should be adapted or changed. A report will be presented at the Autumn PPO SIG meeting with recommendations on future action for PPO Panels across the county.

Contact: Glenn.Mason@derbyshire.gov.uk
01629 538226.

New mandatory licensing conditions

Did you know? The following new mandatory licensing conditions are now in effect, with others coming into play from October:

From April 2010:

- Banning irresponsible promotions such as drinking games, speed drinking, women drink for free, all you can drink for £10 etc
- Banning the dispensing of alcohol directly into the mouth
- Ensuring the provision of free tap water for customers



From October 2010:

- Ensuring that an age verification policy is in place, which includes checking the ID of anyone who appears to be under 18 who attempts to purchase alcohol
- Ensuring that small measures of beers, spirits and wines are made available to customers



So next time you're in a pub or club, try asking for free tap water, or – in October – a small glass of wine and see if it works!

Contact: 01629 538 271

Christine.flinton@derbyshire.gov.uk

Alcohol harm – where do we stand and what are we doing?

Local Alcohol Profiles

The latest local alcohol profiles, looking at 22 different indicators of alcohol harm, show the following:

- There have been decreases in the estimated rates of alcohol related crimes across the county.
- Derbyshire is now significantly worse than England on female hospital admissions caused directly by alcohol, and Chesterfield has the highest rate in the East Midlands. The county is also worse than England on a number of other indicators related to women, such as mortality from chronic liver disease

and deaths due to alcohol. (The PCT Public Health department is doing some work to try to understand this apparent link between women and alcohol harm in the county.)

- Out of the 40 local authorities in the East Midlands, Chesterfield, Bolsover, High Peak and North East Derbyshire have the 1st, 2nd, 4th and 8th highest rates of hospital admissions due to alcohol in under 18s.
- Overall, the rate of alcohol related hospital admissions for Derbyshire was worse than the England average, as were the rates for Amber Valley, Bolsover, Chesterfield, Erewash and High Peak – and rates have risen in all Derbyshire districts and boroughs since 2002-03.

Reducing alcohol harm

An updated list of activity around the county shows around 60 streams of work aimed at tackling alcohol harm including:

- new open-access and structured adult alcohol treatment services
- safer drinking campaigns using new media and marketing techniques
- support for parents on their own and their children's alcohol use
- new criminal justice programmes such as the Alcohol Diversion Scheme, Alcohol Specified Activity, Drink Impaired Drivers Programme, Low Intensity Alcohol Programme and alcohol interventions for local prisoners
- schemes to reduce alcohol harm and domestic violence during the World Cup
- innovative, creative work with young people to reduce alcohol misuse
- new work to manage the night time economy.

The list, *Reducing Alcohol Harm: June 2010 edition*, which includes a summary of the Local Alcohol Profiles and a list of treatment services, will be sent out with this newsletter.

For a copy of the list contact:

Kathryn.walker@derbyshire.gov.uk

Drugs

'Legal' highs – the latest news

Mephedrone and related substances were made Class B drugs from 16 April 2010. However, new 'legal' highs are moving into the market to take their place – some sold with formal sounding health warnings such as 'not for pregnant women':

- *NRG-1* – seemed to replace M-Cat in popularity, but local seizures have contained MDPV which is a Class B drug
- *NRG-2* – often sold as plant food
- *Raz* – possibly sold as bath salts
- *Charged* – marketed as a 'non-BZP' range (BZP is now illegal)
- *MDAI and MDAT* – billed as serotonin releasing agents
- *Dimethocaine / larocaine*
- *Benzo Fury*
- *Flephedrone*
- *5-IAI* – being used for 'research' in the UK
- *Synthacaine / synth / street coke*.

Across the partnership, staff are working to get out key messages about 'legal' highs:

- just because it's (currently) 'legal' doesn't mean it's safe
- 'legal' highs contain a range of potentially dangerous chemicals, with the makeup constantly changing so no one can be certain what they have bought – and the effects can be unpredictable
- there is no safe way to use mephedrone and it is now illegal.

A series of four leaflets have been produced for young people, parents/carers, professionals and adults. PowerPoint presentations to accompany the leaflets are also available.

General: ed.ronayne@derbyshire.gov.uk
01629 538 496.

For schools: alison.hill@derbyshire.gov.uk
07919 112 368

For details of legal highs: 01773 573 648
Stephen.Holme.9425@Derbyshire.PNN.Police.UK

General

For info: characteristics of offenders

The following statistics are taken from *Reducing re-offending by ex-prisoners*, a report by the Social Exclusion Unit, 2002.

Characteristic	%			
	General population		Prisoners	
Ran away from home as a child	11 (all)		47 ¹ (male)	50 ¹ (female)
Taken into care as a child	2 (all)		27 (all)	
Unmarried	39 (all)		81 ² (all)	
Excluded from school	2 (all)		28 (male)	33 (female)
Have no qualifications	15 (all)		28 (male)	71 (female)
Unemployed	5 (all)		67 (all)	
Suffer from two or more mental disorders	5 (male)	2 (female)	28 (male)	70 (female)
Drug use in the previous year	13 (male)	8 (female)	66 ³ (male)	55 ³ (female)
Hazardous drinking	38 (male)	15 (female)	63 ³ (male)	39 ³ (female)
Smoking	28 (male)	27 (female)	77 (male)	82 (female)
Hepatitis B	0.3 (all)		8 ⁴ (male)	12 ⁴ (female)
Hepatitis C	0.4 (all)		9 ⁵ (male)	11 ⁵ (female)

¹ Higher for remanded prisoners and much higher for those with mental health, drug and alcohol problems

² Prior to imprisonment

³ In year prior to imprisonment

⁴ Tested Hepatitis B antibody positive

⁵ Tested hepatitis C antibody positive

Service User Reps take action

The DAAT's work is greatly enhanced by the input of Service User and Carer Representatives – setting Derbyshire apart as a model of good practice and improving

the work the partnership does to tackle drug and alcohol harm.

For example, Service User Reps recently ran well-received workshops at the Children's Safeguarding Conference and the Alcohol Conference this Spring, giving their personal perspectives on substance misuse, parenting and safeguarding. One workshop participant said, 'very interesting to hear from personal experiences as regards drug use and culture – I think personal experiences from actual drug users is the way forward to educate young people, professionals and parents.'

The Service Users Reps also:

- engage with service users to ensure high levels of service user survey returns and high quality information
- sit on the DAAT Board and Joint Commissioning Groups
- get involved with work to assess levels of need for and quality of services
- are supporting the development of a service user group in Derby City
- are investigating setting up a peer-led social inclusion project
- aim to provide regular support clinics in all local treatment services
- plan to facilitate young people's forums to enable the DAAT to ensure that service need is being met.

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

Derbyshire Drug and Alcohol Calendar

Date	Event	Comment	Contact
13 July 2010 9.15 – 15.30 Cromford	Drug Education for Vulnerable Young People	One day conference free to all members of the whole school community, led by Ali Hill, Drugs Education Consultant.	Penny Elks penny.elks@derbyshirecountypct.nhs.uk 01773 525 087
14 July 2010 09.30 – 13.30 Park Hill, Egginton	DAAS Alcohol Awareness Training Course	FREE multi-agency training designed to support workers who may come into contact with someone who is misusing alcohol and to improve the worker's knowledge and skill in raising the issue of drinking and making (where appropriate) an effective brief intervention with the drinker.	01246 206 514 or book online at www.alcoholadvice.wedden.co.uk/#/training/4535987016 (or www.daas.uk.com and click on 'training')
27 September – 7 November 2010	Operation Relentless	Operation Relentless is keeping the theme 'Safe and Confident' for 2010	
18 – 24 October 2010	Alcohol Awareness Week	National theme: alcohol and childhood, incorporating alcohol use by young people and the impact on young people of problematic alcohol use at home	
October Shipley Country Park	Alcohol and young people: brief interventions	See article above	01629 531 452 Jackie.mee@derbyshire.gov.uk
October Bakewell	DAAS Alcohol Awareness Training Course	FREE training as above – date and venue TBC	www.daas.uk.com 01246 206 514
November Chesterfield	DAAS Alcohol Awareness Training Course	FREE training as above – date and venue TBC	www.daas.uk.com 01246 206 514
December Eckington	DAAS Alcohol Awareness Training Course	FREE training as above – date and venue TBC	www.daas.uk.com 01246 206 514