

**Midlothian and East Lothian Drugs and Alcohol Partnership (MELDAP)
Delivery Plan 2012-15****Report by Eibhlin McHugh Acting Director, Communities & Wellbeing****1 Purpose of Report**

To inform Cabinet of the main MELDAP priorities for the next three years in relation to a range of substance misuse issues that impact on the lives and well-being children, young people, adults and communities.

2 Background

2.1 In 2011/12, the Scottish Government's allocation letters for the earmarked alcohol and drugs funding identified agreed core outcomes against which all ADPs are expected to deliver. ADPs were asked to develop plans of how they will use this funding to deliver these core and any local outcomes. To support the development of these plans and to identify their contents and reporting processes, a Short Life Working Group, chaired by Robert Peat, Chair of Angus ADP and Chair of ADSW, was established.

2.2 In December 2011 the Short Life Working Group issued its draft proposals on the planning and reporting arrangements for 2012/15 with a view to ADPs submitting a completed plan by the end of May 2012. Thereafter each ADP would be required to submit to the Scottish Government by the end of June an Annual Report detailing progress on the implementation of the plan's priorities.

2.3 These proposals noted by the working group are based on the following key principles:

- Strengthening local partnership working and accountability
- Focus on outcome based approaches
- Supporting ADPs to improve accountability to their Community Planning Partnership and demonstrating their contribution to local SOAs by building on good practice
- Providing local flexibility but with a degree of consistency to enable benchmarking
- Building a national picture of delivery
- Minimising additional reporting requirements on ADPs.

3 Report Implications**3.1 Resource**

No additional resources will be required to implement the plan's priorities. Longer term planning has been based on the financial resources provided by both Councils and the Scottish Government funding for drugs and alcohol.

3.2 Risk

The Scottish Government has raised its expectations regarding the performance of ADPs. There is a reputational risk to the Council in terms of the performance of its alcohol and drug partnership. This delivery plan ensures that the services delivered are appropriate to the needs of individuals affected by substance misuse and local communities.

3.3 Policy

Strategy

The Delivery Plan is based on MELDAP's own Strategic Plan (2010-13) which was approved by Midlothian and East Lothian councils. The Delivery Plan therefore reflects Midlothian Council's priorities for drugs and alcohol noted in its Community Plan and other key plans, for example, Integrated Children's Services Plan.

Consultation

Because of the tight timescale for submission of the Delivery Plan there was little opportunity to consult widely on the plan's priorities. Lack of consultation on the Delivery Plan, while regrettable was not essential given its link to the approved MELDAP Strategic Plan where there had been wide partner consultation.

Equalities

There are no equalities issues arising from the plan.

Sustainability

None

3.4 IT Issues

None

4 Summary

MELDAP was well placed to meet the Scottish Government's requirements and timescales associated with the Delivery Plan. There was a good fit between the national outcomes and the six priorities identified in the 2010 MELDAP Strategy. The introduction of a more robust system of measuring progress against the national outcomes is welcome and builds on the innovative quality assurance procedures introduced by MELDAP in 2011.

5 Recommendations

Cabinet notes the content of the report

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Background Papers:

MELDAP Delivery Plan 2012-15