



## Nottingham

### General information

#### **Total of inhabitants:**

Nottingham City 288,700

Nottinghamshire County 750,000

#### **Special demographical/geographical characteristics:**

City has a multicultural/urban make up

Nottinghamshire County 7 districts of 805 square miles made up of towns of 80,000 and rural areas

#### **Key drugs-related issues:**

High heroin and alcohol use

#### **Strengths of the city's drug policy:**

Large numbers in treatment and links to crime reduction

#### **Weaknesses in the city's drug policy:**

More need for young people and joined up service provision

#### **Chosen thematic platform(s) in the DC&D II Project:**

- Health education around drug use for professionals
- Drug and women specificities

#### **Other needs:**

Work with vulnerable young people

## Focus on a local project

### NAME OF THE PROJECT

*Bassetlaw Assertive Outreach project. Nottinghamshire UK.*

### TERRITORY

CITY: Nottingham  
REGION: Nottinghamshire  
COUNTRY: United Kingdom

### DURATION

*This project was a pilot project that began in January 09 and ended in June 09.*

### KEYWORDS

*Engaging substance misuser's both Adult and Young People who had fallen out of treatment services or who had never previously engaged.*

### BACKGROUND

*A Police Operation had identified a number of drug users who had been instrumental in committing high levels of crime. They wanted a targeted outreach approach to follow up some of these individuals to see whether they were still in treatment or not, In addition there were concerns about young people involved in potentially problematic behaviour and this was also an area to target. The project looked at where these people were congregating using police intelligence and support and the drugs workers engaged in targeted assertive outreach to engage and enable these individuals to re access or access treatment services for the first time, or offer brief interventions as appropriate*

### OBJECTIVES

**AIM:** *were to identify and track individuals known to the police as problematic drug users to support them into treatment.*

**ACTIONS:** *To work alongside the Police and neighbourhood policing teams to identify were individuals were and target interventions to them to support their re engagement with treatment services. To identify problematic young people who might be on the periphery of criminal behaviours to support them into the appropriate services.*

**GENERAL GOALS:** *To support people who had lapsed back into treatment services and to identify those who were treatment naive and enable them to engage at some level either with treatment, brief interventions and basic harm reduction.*

**DESIRED OUTCOMES:** *That those individuals who needed support to access treatment or re access treatment were able to do so in an appropriate and timely manner.*

### TARGET GROUPS

*Target groups were those identified through Police intelligence and neighbourhood policing teams as representing vulnerable and potentially problematic young people.*

*Area of activity was around Worksop town centre and the canal side where a number of street drinkers were identified. Both groups were important to work with.*

## **ACTIVITIES & STRATEGY**

*The drugs workers and the police would meet and be given an overview of where some identified individuals had been seen the drugs workers would then target those areas and engage with the individuals they met up with there. Sometimes taking them for drinks or snacks as appropriate. Engaging them in discussions around their substance misuse, their engagement in treatment and some harm reduction initiatives .they would also refer into treatment services as appropriate and support the people they engaged. The project was managed through a steering group that met bi monthly and activity and outcome reported into the Crime and Disorder reduction Partnership and the Crime reduction Delivery Group as an accountable body in relation to the spend.*

*The project was a part of the Nottinghamshire Crime reduction strategy and the delivery of the National drugs strategy, The Project was a local initiative and no significant wider communication was given to it beyond the partnership.*

## **LEADER**

*The project was a collective initiative driven through the DAAT and the Police in order to support a crime reduction initiative. The Police and the DAAT were equal in relation to the drivers behind the project. The healthcare services were the commissioned services who delivered the project and evaluated the outcomes.*

## **PARTNERS**

*The Partnership consisted of Police, Bassetlaw PCT Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust young people's service and the Safer Nottinghamshire Drug and Alcohol Action team. There was no formal partnership sign up to the project, The Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership supported some of the funding and were reported to in relation to output and outcomes. The DAAT Police and healthcare managers had an overview of the project and the DAAT Chaired the Steering group. The health services delivered the activity alongside support from the Police. There was also support fork the CCTV operators who tracked and monitored some of the activity for safety.*

## **BUDGET**

*The project did not have a per annum budget £7,200 was made available to support back filling the treatment workers time and allowing for a small amount of petty cash to be available to engage with individuals , buying them breakfast, hot drinks snacks etc.*

## **RESULTS**

*There was a number of positive outcomes in relation to the interactions the workers had with the people they engaged with. Although a number of the young people they engaged with were not ready to access formal services the workers were able to do a significant amount of informal engagement round harm reduction particularly. Some of the older clients re engaged in treatment services and where a vulnerable service user was being targeted by a hostile dealer this was identified and addressed through appropriate channels which supported the vulnerable adult.*

## EVALUATION

- **What are the main conditions of the project's success?**

*There was excellent working between the treatment services as well as the Police and wider neighbourhood policing teams. Also the work of an adult Treatment service and a young persons treatment service came together and worked very effectively particularly around the transition agenda ( the transition between young people moving from Young peoples services to Adult services).*

- **What are the main obstacles and/or inadequacies of the project?**

*The service was only a pilot project and funded accordingly. There was some pressures on the delivery of the project with it being dependent on two drugs workers initially, however other services such as alcohol provision also were involved where appropriate. It relied significantly on the self- reliance and good will of the service providers in many respects but had successful outcomes nevertheless.*

## PERSPECTIVES

*This particular project is not continuing, however the work that it started has driven the development of what is called 'The Sandy Lane Community Action Plan' which centres on a particularly deprived area of Work.sop where a number of agencies have challenging individuals and circumstances to work with, The community Action plan uses the template of the assertive outreach delivery and is supporting a partnership approach to targeted assertive outreach across the partnership in a particularly difficult area of Work.sop.*