

Worcestershire DAAT Partnership Newsletter

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Useful Numbers

Turning Point Worcestershire Druglink
(assessment & referral for adult drug treatment)
01905 724754

Pressure Point: Helpline for people concerned about someone else's drug use **0800 652 9664**

SPACE (drug & alcohol advice & treatment for young people): **0800 169 6064**

WCAT: Worcestershire Community Alcohol Team (a complete range of alcohol services for adults)
01905 27417 / 01527 870707 / 01562 863386



From SMAT to DAAT

As part of our communications refresh, we have revisited how our work is presented, to partners, providers, service users, carers and the wider community.

As part of this exercise we identified a general resistance towards our branding of SMAT (substance misuse action team). This name was introduced many years ago, when the work of the team primarily focused on illicit substance use and related issues.

We have gained agreement to rename and will now be known as Worcestershire DAAT, (Drug and Alcohol Action Team).

This is very exciting for us and we believe that the new name will allow us to strengthen our identity and achieve a greater profile.

In order to support our renaming and desire to enhance our profile locally we have had a new DAAT logo designed and also produced two leaflets. Please click on the links below for electronic versions.

The first provides a [brief overview](#) of who the DAAT is and what we are trying to achieve. The second provides detail of the drug and alcohol [services](#) available across Worcestershire. These publications are both brief overviews of the work we do and the services we commission, more lengthy and detailed support documents are available should they be required. Our new website, www.worcestershire-daat.org.uk is currently being updated to reflect the changes

Printed copies of leaflets are available, which we are happy to provide for public areas at your request. Contact Sue Davidson, sdavidson@worcestershire.gov.uk to request printed versions.

We look forward to working with you over the coming months.

Nic Adamson, DAAT Partnership Manager

Drug Treatment in Prisons: IDTS

As part of the Government's roll out of Integrated Drug Treatment System (IDTS) to prisons, Worcestershire DAAT has received £1.25 million to set up drug treatment services in local prisons.

HMP Hewell and HMP Long Lartin are part of the 3rd and 4th waves of IDTS funding (other prisons in the West Midlands were in the 1st and 2nd waves, and have already set up their services). The DAAT is working with the prisons and the PCT to identify levels of need within the prisons, and to design services that are appropriate to fill that need.

The service provider for HMP Hewell has been agreed as Worcestershire PCT, and it is anticipated that IDTS will be up and running in the prison by March 2010. An interim service will continue to be provided until the new service is fully operational.

The process for HMP Long Lartin is at an earlier stage, as funding for 4th wave sites was only announced in March this year.

Anne McKay, Worcestershire DAAT

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RAMP: Rapid Access Methadone Prescribing

by Pete Duffield & John Devereaux

RAMP (Rapid Access to Medicine Programme) is a joint initiative between Worcestershire Community Drugs Team and Turning Point, Worcestershire Druglink. Conceived in 2007 and agreed by Worcestershire DAAT it was initially run as a pilot programme for the first 12 months until April 2009.

The purpose of the pilot was to show that by providing rapid access to substitute prescribing (within 10 working days of assessment) with active psychosocial support for homeless heroin users in Worcester City, it could have a significant impact in terms of engaging and retaining this traditionally hard to reach group.

The prescribing was through supplementary prescribing, a partnership between the Doctor, Nurse Prescriber and the Service User within an agreed Clinical Management Plan. Closer working with Worcester City Homeless Services helped in the success of engagement and retention of the service users with an



outreach worker from Turning Point attending St Paul's Hostel and Maggs Day Centre on a regular basis.

From this pilot Ramp has and still is demonstrating that rapid access to prescribing and robust partnership working to meet psychosocial needs has proven to increase engagement and reduce harm to this targeted service user group. RAMP is continuing in Worcester City and based on its evidenced outcomes and achievements hopefully a similar service will be considered for other parts of the county.

Please click [here](#) for a full report and evaluation of the project

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New Harm Reduction Workshops

by Pete Hartwell, SURGE

The service user rights group enterprise (SURGE), in conjunction with Turning Point, are presenting a new workshop around the county this year. This workshop is aimed at clients that are injecting. This was put together after concerns were noted and voiced about bad practice with injecting.

The 3-hour session aims to improve people's lives physical and emotionally. People attending these workshops will be given information and guidance on safer practices with their injecting. This is done partly with a fairly realistic prosthetic arm which enables people to actually practice

injecting. There is also a power point presentation which shows some of the consequences of groin injecting and other bad practices. DVT and how it maybe avoided is one of the main talking points in this part of the workshop. There are also discussions around injecting paraphernalia such as the correct method to use tourniquets and keeping your self safe from BBV's.

Alternatives to injecting are also discussed and encouraged, with some emphasis put on some of the cutting agents that are used with street heroin and other drugs. Diet is also discussed along with

tolerance levels after a break from using, such as release from goal. There are normally many questions and discussions that come from the people at the workshop with their using. This is encouraged, so to help cut down malpractices and certain myths with injecting. There is a quiz towards the end of the workshop to help people affirm what they have heard, to help them keep safe whilst injecting. The Safer injecting workshops are run alongside the Overdose and BBV workshops. They are presented at localities around the County throughout the year.

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Alcohol Plan: for a Safer & healthier Worcestershire

The **Worcestershire Alcohol Plan** was successfully launched in January 2009 and since then, the alcohol agenda has gone from strength to strength.

Strategic partners from the Police, PCT, Local Authority, Probation, Youth Offending Services, Healthy Schools, Prison Service, Fire & Rescue Service, County Council and the Mental Health Trust have come together to form the **Worcestershire Strategic Alcohol Group (WSAG)**. The WSAG monitors the delivery of the Worcestershire Alcohol Plan and ensures that the three main agendas (alcohol related health harm; alcohol

related crime and disorder; Children and Young People) are brought together.

Providers and frontline workers are also coming together to discuss day-to-day operational issues and feeding these issues back to the commissioners. The **Alcohol Liaison Forum (ALF)** is now meeting quarterly and so far meetings have consisted of very lively debates and strong links being forged between providers and services.

And finally, Worcestershire DAAT and the PCT are tightly monitoring **NI 39 – the number of alcohol related hospital admissions** - one of the key National Indicators in our

Local Area Agreement, which has been increasing dramatically over the past 10 years. In depth analysis has revealed that the majority of our admissions comprise of older people (over 65s) with hypertensive diseases and cardiac arrhythmias. DAAT and PCT are working hard to design interventions and services that will address alcohol misuse in older people and bring down this rising rate of hospital admissions.

For further information, please contact Kate Ray, DAAT Programme Lead for Alcohol on kray@worcestershire.gov.uk or (01905) 766661. [Back to index](#)

Worcestershire Drug and Alcohol Treatment Plan 2010-11: Needs Assessment

Worcestershire DAAT is holding 6 consultation events this autumn to gather information and views for our needs assessment process. There will be one consultation meeting in each district. The key questions will be:

- **Alcohol:** Understanding the needs of older people's problem drinking
- **Families:** How many children have 'hidden harm' needs (drugs and alcohol) and what are those needs (links with safeguarding audit)
- **Young People:** Thresholds & transitions (from YP into adult services, and across treatment tiers).

Is the treatment system divided at the right age line?

We need to get an accurate picture of what is happening in Worcestershire and what is needed in order to meet the challenges we are facing. We would like to see a wide range of people, including front line workers from:

- Community health and social care
- Housing and homelessness
- Community safety & local policing teams
- Education and youth services
- Employment advisors

- Carers
- Community & voluntary support organisations

Dates will be set shortly and invitations will be sent to DAAT's known contacts as well as Health Improvement Coordinators and Community Safety Partnerships for further distribution.

If you have any information you think would be of use, please contact **Sue Davidson on 01905 766735:**

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A day in the Life of a Viral Hepatitis Clinical Nurse Specialist

Karen Taylor & Hilary Orr, Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust

No two days are the same for us, which make our jobs all the more interesting and enjoyable! Here's a day from our diary as an example.

7.30-8.30 am Arrive in the office, check answer machine messages, sort through emails and respond as appropriate.

8.30-9.30 Check results and notes for Community Clinics and head off to our destinations – Karen to Kidderminster and Hilary to Redditch.

9.30-1pm Starting times vary for all our clinics, but the principles are the same. We offer blood borne virus screening for Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C,

HIV and Hepatitis A. and have recently started offering Hepatitis B vaccinations in most areas, supported by trained staff in the various locations. We discuss results from previous screens and link in to acute clinics in Worcester and Kidderminster Hospitals as appropriate. We also provide support to concerned clients about any issues associated with blood borne viruses.

1-2pm Journey back to hospital and drop blood samples off to the pathology department.

2pm Meeting with finance to discuss capturing clinical data.

2.30 – 4.30pm Respond to phone calls, liaise with health care professionals in all areas. Phone patients from previous clinics with results and arrange follow up appointments as necessary. Check results for tomorrow's acute clinic and ensure notes are prepared. Type referral letters and liaise with prison staff regarding those on treatment in Hewell and Long Lartin. Write prescriptions for patients on treatment and take to pharmacy.

Time to go and collect the kids and start our second jobs!

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Arrivals & Departures

- Nic Adamson was appointed DAAT Partnership Manager in September 2008
- Laura Moore was appointed to the role of DAAT Information Manager in March 2009, replacing Alison Rogers, who has become a Community Safety Manager in Pembrokeshire
- Avril Gilmore is now the Business Unit Lead for Substance Misuse and Prison Health Care Services at Worcestershire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust
- Launa Walker, formerly with South Worcestershire CDRP, is now Community Safety Manager for Hereford & Worcester Fire & Rescue Service
- Sara Goodman has taken over as South Worcestershire CDRP Programme Manager
- Paul Davidson has been appointed to the role of West Mercia Police Force Area Drugs Coordinator, replacing Jim Middleton
- Tim Rice, previously at Wyre Forest District Council, is now Community Safety Manager at Worcestershire County Council. His role covers the DAAT, Supporting People, and Domestic Abuse teams.
- Sue Davidson, previously the DAAT administrator, is now a Project Worker for the DAAT.

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Workforce Development and Mercia Net Training



MerciaNet is now well into its 2009-2010 programme of training. The uptake for the courses continues to increase and now many courses are full well in advance of the delivery dates. We have put in a number of extra dates this year to meet demand.

The main courses, Basic awareness, advanced awareness, harm reduction and drug recognition are all being revised. This is being done in combination with the trainers that deliver the courses. New courses include Parenting and Substance Misuse (free course) and Working with Survivors of Sexual Violence (£140 for 2 day course). If you have not yet received a programme brochure

please email:

mercianetadmin@worcestershire.gov.uk
or call 01905 728543.

Four new trainers have just undertaken the Train the Trainers course at Telford College of Art and Technology (TCAT) so congratulations to them! They will soon be shadowing current courses and helping revise them before delivering them later in the year.

The Workforce development Agenda is reaching quite an important stage. Approximately 35 staff have now attained or are completing the NVQ 3 award. The first of a specially commissioned 'underpinning knowledge' training

package to support professional development (Values in Substance Misuse) is to be delivered in August 2009.

The process of standardising service delivery across all adult treatment services is fully underway with managers and service leads involved in compiling treatment programmes and interventions that will be utilised by all staff.

Dan Phillips, Worcestershire DAAT/ MerciaNet South

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Worcestershire Drug & Alcohol Treatment Services Conference 2009: Think Family

The theme of this year's Treatment Staff Conference will be Families. We will be looking at support for families, and the role that families can play in treatment and recovery.

For the first time the event is open to all drug & alcohol treatment staff within treatment services for Adults and Young People throughout the county.

Speakers have yet to be confirmed. If you are a drug and/or alcohol treatment worker and have not yet heard about this event, please speak to your team leader or service manager, rather than

**Tuesday 6th October
at Worcester Race
Course, Pitchcroft**

contacting the DAAT. Naturally, we cannot close down the treatment services for the day, so skeleton staff will be covering the locality offices.

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Contact the DAAT Support Team

For all general DAAT enquiries, please call 01905 357065, or e-mail

smatadmin@worcestershire.gov.uk

- Nic Adamson – Partnership Manager: 01905 766009
- Anne McKay – Joint Commissioning Manager: 01905 766153

- Jackie Johns – Training & Finance Administrator: 01905 728543
- Jo Martin - Programme Lead, Young People's Substance Misuse Plan: 01905 766
- Laura Moore – Information Manager: 01905 766849
- Kate Ray – Programme Lead -

Alcohol: 01905 766661

- Vacant Post – Senior Administrator: 01905 766735
- Dan Phillips – MerciaNet South Training and Development Officer: 01905 765745
- Sue Davidson – Project Worker: 01905 728649

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