

LONDON DRUGS FORUM

MEETING NOTES

Tuesday 18th October 2022
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Committee Room 3 (Ground Floor)
City Hall, Kamal Chunchie Way, London E16 1ZE

Co-Chairs: Sophie Linden, Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime; Dr Tom Coffey OBE, Mayor's Senior Health Advisor

Attended: Farrah Hart (GLA Group Public Health); Karen Tipping (HMPPS); Kate Lloyd (MOPAC); Alison Keating (OHID); Dan Greaves (LB Waltham Forest); DCI Sean Lyons (MPS); Keith Daley (LB Tower Hamlets); Simon Young (LB Hackney); Rachael Miller (Joint Combating Drugs Unit); Karina Wane-Henry (VRU); Jason Strelitz (LB Newham); Dr Emily Finch (SLAM); Arnold Yousef (VRU); Kenny Bowie (MOPAC); DCS Nick Blackburn (MPS); Cmdr Paul Brogden (MPS); DAC Graham McNulty (MOPAC); Oliver Standing (Collective Voice); James Bottomley (MOPAC); Brendan Charnock (MOPAC); Tim Sampey (Build on Belief); Will Haydock (Joint Combating Drugs Unit); Sinead Dervin (NHS England); Keith Stanger (LB Tower Hamlets); Paul Murphy (LB Ealing); Sharon Whitmore (HMPPS); Michele Kemp (OHID); Mat Pickering (MOPAC); Rangan Momen (London Councils); Zoe Hickman (MOPAC); Karen Thomas (MOPAC)

Apologies: Iona Lidington (LB Kingston); Kilvinder Vigurs (HMPPS); Cllr Jas Athwal (LB Redbridge); Josie Garrett (GLA Group Public Health)

Introductions

The Co-Chairs welcomed everyone and outlined the forum's ambitions.

Terms of Reference

Members were asked to comment on the terms of reference circulated ahead of the meeting. Additional recommendations were taken away to feed into a final terms of reference.

From harm to hope: A 10-year drugs plan to cut crime and save lives – Joint Combating Drugs Unit Presentation & Discussion

Lead officer for the Home Office's Joint Combating Drugs Unit (JCDU) presented on plans for the Combating Drugs Partnerships and their role in a London context. Members discussed how best to coordinate similar needs/work across London, and an action was taken for the Secretariat to work with GLA Health, Office for Health Improvement and Disparities and JCDU colleagues to explore this.

GLA Group Public Health Unit: Overview of Drug Treatment for London

GLA's Public Health Consultant provided members with an overview of the previously circulated presentation on drug treatment provision in London, providing a national as well as local context. Comments from partners included funding availability, workforce/recruitment challenges, naloxone provision, continuity of care when leaving prison and analysis of drug related deaths. It was agreed that these areas would all be covered in the ongoing workplan for the forum.

Draft London Drugs Problem Profile

MOPAC's Evidence & Insight Performance Lead presented a draft version of the London Drugs Problem Profile for comment. It was agreed that an updated version of the profile would be discussed at the next meeting, with work undertaken between meetings with members.

Project ADDER (Addiction, Diversion, Disruption, Enforcement and Recovery)

Metropolitan Police Service Commander and Project ADDER lead for Central East Basic Command Unit presented on the establishment and work to date of the Project ADDER in Tower Hamlets and Hackney. A further update on Project ADDER work would be added to the forum's workplan.