

LONDON DRUGS FORUM: PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF WORK 2023

The purpose of the London Drugs Forum (LDF) is to build a strong multi-agency partnership bringing together criminal justice and health agencies to develop an effective pan-London whole system response to drug related harms and crimes. The Forum provides a co-ordinated approach to address the complex relationship between drugs, crime and ASB, health inequalities and deprivation and will provide strategic oversight of criminal enforcement of drug related crimes and delivery of drug treatment and recovery interventions.

The first LDF identified several areas where members believed a pan-London partnership led 'public health' approach could add most value to the work already going on to tackle the wide-ranging harms to both individuals and communities caused by drugs.

To ensure the LDF is in the strongest position to have the most positive impact it can, within the current Mayoralty and beyond, we suggest the LDF should focus on driving progress on the following shared strategic priorities, which span the criminal justice and health care systems:

1. **Diverting** people who use drugs from the criminal justice system
2. Improving **continuity of care** for those leaving prison
3. Addressing the **workforce** challenge
4. Reducing **drug related deaths and health harms**

The work plan below has been shaped by the LDF strategic priorities, the development of the London Drugs Problem Profile and wider issues identified by members at the first LDF in October 2022. Topics to be covered in these meetings include, but are not limited to:

- *Diversion*
- *Workforce challenges*
- *London Drug Problem Profile*
- *Thematic analysis of CDP joint needs assessments*
- *Continuity of care*
- *Housing*
- *Reducing Drug Related Deaths and Health Harms*
- *Naloxone*
- *Data Sharing with Coroners*
- *MPS drugs strategy*
- *Chemsex*
- *Project ADDER*
- *VAWG and Substance Misuse*
- *Homelessness and Drug Use*
- *Strengthening co-ordination of treatment services for drug users with multiple and complex needs*
- *Neurodiversity Provision in IOM*
- *Policing & Mental Health*
- *Drug Checking Services*
- *Cuckooing*
- *Needle Exchanges/Hepatitis C*
- *Cannabis*