



EAST HAMPSHIRE DRUG AND ALCOHOL REFERENCE GROUP

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Purpose

The purpose of the EAST HAMPSHIRE DARG is to:

- Identify local needs in respect of drug and alcohol services and work together to address these

2. Information

The use of the word 'drug' or 'drugs' within the context of this document should be taken to mean illegal drugs as defined by the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971.

3. Terms of Reference

- provide a local forum to exchange information on drug and alcohol use and trends, good practice and the development of new initiatives
- support the local implementation of DAAT priorities and plans, in line with the four themes of the National Drug Strategy
- assess the nature and scale of local drug and alcohol misuse problems and advise both the Adult and Young People's JCG on appropriate local measures to tackle them effectively
- identify gaps in service, to enable resources to be targeted where they are most needed
- advise the HDAAT and EAST HAMPSHIRE Community Safety Partnership on the prevalence of drug and alcohol issues and the impact on local communities, to include identifying hotspots and drug trends
- To reduce drug and alcohol related incidents in East Hampshire
- involve local communities in action, to progress the themes of the local or National Drug Strategies
- To educate communities on the dangers of drugs and alcohol
- monitor the promotion of equality at the local level and embrace a culturally sensitive ethos

4. Guiding Principles

4.1 Convening the Group

The Chair of DARG will identify key organisations and invite them to send representatives to meetings

The Group will meet once every 2 months. Invitations and agendas must be distributed 10 working days prior to the date of the group meeting

5. Members of the Group

The Group satisfies the statutory consultation process, and, as a result, will always have representatives from Police and Council, Health, PCT, YOT, Probation, Housing, Education, Social and Youth Services. There may also be other affiliated members.

Members of the Group will undertake to attend regular meetings of the Group

Members will report progress of their plans to the Group on a regular basis.

6. Chair of the Group

DARG Members to elect a Chair and Vice Chair to serve for 2 years

DARG chairs to meet bi-monthly with the Assistant HDAAT Co-ordinator

The Chair of the Group will:

- arrange meetings
- give updated reports to each meeting of the Group
- ensure that the minutes are recorded and circulated at least one week before meetings
- identify and use opportunities for publicising achievements of the Group and its members
- facilitate the effective delivery of initiatives by ensuring, where possible, that training support is provided.

7. Decision Making

A meeting will be quorate if 5 or more members of the Group are present

Where possible, the Group will make decisions by consensus. If this is not possible, decisions will be agreed by a simple majority.

8. Review

The Terms of Reference are to be reviewed annually and updated as appropriate.