

# Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Drug And Alcohol Task Force

## *Report on Activities, 2018 into 2019*



A 2018 DATF meeting



Minister Mary Mitchell O'Connor, TD and Dr. Eamon Keenan, HSE, at the launch of the report 'Just Maintaining the Status Quo?'



Dr. Paula Mayock, TCD speaking at launch of her report 'Just Maintaining the Status Quo?'



Sandra Campbell, DATF Chairperson at launch of report 'Just Maintaining the Status Quo?'

The DLR Drug and Alcohol Task Force was established in 1997 to coordinate a community response to drug problems

It is made up of representatives from community, voluntary and statutory bodies and public representatives.

The Task Force is hosted by Southside Partnership (SSP) and is funded by the Departments of Health, and Children and Youth Affairs, the Health Service Executive, the Dublin and Dun Laoghaire Education & Training Board, and Healthy Ireland.

### Activity 1 Coordination

Supported through DATF recommendation to HSE (contract with SSP)

Grant of €88,684 held in DATF account (includes a small programme budget circa €6,000). The overall grant covers coordinator f/t, admin support p/t & hosting fees (DATF invoiced for these services by SSP) (All financial figures are *per annum* basis).

- **Coordinating the DATF:** maintaining membership; facilitating meetings 6/7 times pa; supporting Ops Group; updating on information, national developments, funding decisions, incorporation etc
- **Support to projects funded through DATF recommendation:** DLR-CAT (€416,6322); Mounttown NYFP (€132,985); Barnardos, Dun Laoghaire and Ballyogan (€148,454) and Ballyogan FRC (€43,000).
- **Participating in other DLR structures:** DLR Joint Policing Committee; DL Local Policing Forum; DLR - CYPSC central committee; CYPSC sub-committee on harms to children and families
- **Participating in other external groups / events:** Local DATF Coordinators' network; national working group on DATF handbook
- **Information:** updating and maintaining information on drug and alcohol trends: circulars & website <http://www.dlrdrugtaskforce.ie>

### Activity 2 Special projects

Supported through once-off Ministerial Fund

Grants of €10,000 and €25,000 to DATF

- **Participation:** Initiating a community project, in conjunction with SSP
- **Research:** Initiating a research study on adolescent substance misuse



Participants at Youth At-Risk Network workshop, Ballyogan



Participants at Knowledge Into Action held in Lexlcon



Dr. Bobby Smyth, HSE, leading a Network workshop, Dun Laoghaire

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### Activity 3 Research, training, and development

Supported through DATF recommendation to DOH (ETB).

Grant of €51,676 to SSP

- Research: Qualitative research on health & social needs of persons long-term on Methadone Maintenance Treatment (MMT) – production and launch of the report *‘Just Maintaining the Status Quo?’* in County Hall
- Programmes: Development and other supports to funded projects (Barnardos, DROP) and other relevant projects (Hillview FRC)
- Equipment: Purchase of equipment for training facilities as required
- 2018 Training: Addiction specific First Aid; Community addiction studies; Social media and young people’s mental health; On-line safety for young people; cyber safety; ASSIST training (suicide prevention); GDPR; child protection; community development; Fund-raising and grant-writing
- Networking: Youth At-Risk Network Events (*brochure extract below*)

### FIVE WORKSHOPS

Workshop 1 adopted a basic *World-Café* approach. At café style tables participants had a general discussion about the most significant issues for young people at-risk, followed by thematic discussions on how to work together and collaborate on these issues.

- 2019 Training preparations: Assertiveness training & self-development for service-users; planning; governance training in support of incorporation; Hep C awareness training
- 2019 initiatives: Alcohol Hidden Harms - establish a collaborative initiative across both addiction and child/family projects & services.

### Activity 4 Prevention & education

Supported through DCYA (ETB) grant to DATF

Grant of €40,000 to DATF

- Prevention coordinator (15-24yrs) in conjunction with SSP
- Prevention & education progs (12-15 yrs)
- Researching adolescent substance misuse (scoping exercise and commissioning) in conjunction with *Activity 2* above.

### Activity 5 Knowledge into action

Supported through Healthy Ireland Funding via LCDC, jointly with SSP to undertake knowledge, information workshop.

Grant of €8,200 to SSP



Planned and staged a single *Knowledge into Action* event for Feb 14th, 2019, with workshops / inputs on: Hepatitis C, Alcohol Hidden Harms to children and families; needs of older drug users, youth substance misuse, and the voice of service users.