

**DRUG MISUSE - UPDATE**

**REPORT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: SP3 SAFE CITY**

**CORPORATE IMPROVEMENT OBJECTIVES: CI01: Delivering Customer Focussed Services, CI04: Improving partnership working to deliver 'One City'**

**1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To provide Members of the Community and Safer City Scrutiny Committee with an update of the current national and local frame work to tackle drug misuse, including the current challenges Sunderland faces regarding drug misuse and the interventions in place to reduce drug taking and any drug related harm and crime.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 At its meeting on 11 June 2011, the Committee agreed to receive further reports during the year on drug strategy with the city.
- 2.2 Leanne Davis leads on the coordination of the Safer Sunderland Partnership's activity in relation to drug misuse and will provide a presentation with an overview of the new national Drug Strategy, the current challenges Sunderland encounters in relation to drug misuse and drug related crime and the initiatives in place to tackle these.

**3. Current position**

- 3.1 The Government's new Drug Strategy 2010: Reducing Demand, Restricting Supply, Building Recovery. Supporting People to live a drug free life was published in December 2010. This strategy sets out the Government's approach to tackle drug misuse with an emphasis on preventing drug use from occurring and if it does, moving people in to and through drug treatment to ensure that they are able to live drug free lives. This presentation will provide and overview of the strategy and how it is being implemented in Sunderland.
- 3.2 Sunderland's performance in relation to drug treatment has improved in recent years and the presentation will seek to establish the context of drug misuse in Sunderland, providing a summary of the current drug issues and the current performance of drug treatment services.
- 3.3 The Safer Sunderland Partnership has identified tackling drug misuse and the harm caused by it, including drug related crime as a priority for

2010-11. There are numerous schemes in place to achieve this and the presentation will provide an overview of some key initiatives throughout the city to tackle drug misuse and drug related crime.

#### **4. Recommendations**

4.1 That the report be noted.

#### **5 Background Papers**

No background papers were used in this report.

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