

As mentioned above the Police and Crime Plan embeds the principles of a public health approach to policing and crime by making 'safer places and thriving communities', and 'responding to multiple and complex needs' two of its four strategic priorities, in recognition that supporting people away from the harm that drugs and alcohol can cause requires a whole systems approach.

Drugs and alcohol misuse are part of the wider determinants of crime and community safety which require the designing and commissioning of appropriate services to reduce the harm on individuals and communities. To support delivery of this harm reduction, the Mayor has continued to provide funding through her Community Safety Fund to Community Safety Partnerships to enable them to commission appropriate services for each local area.

This passported fund contributes to specific criminal justice related drug and alcohol support, as well as youth based initiatives that educate young people away from substance and alcohol misuse.

The specific drug and alcohol related outcomes of the Community Safety Fund are:

- Supporting services and early intervention approaches in preventing crime and anti-social behaviour. (*Keeping People Safe & Building Resilience*)
- Reducing crime and disorder through place-based community safety initiatives identified by the Community Safety Partnership. (*Safer Places and Thriving Communities*)
- Tackling the linked determinants of crime as part of a wider local approach on responding to multiple and complex needs, including re-offending and re-victimisation. (*Responding to Multiple & Complex Needs*)

The Mayor also funds specific dedicated testing of those arrested for offences likely to be linked to Class A substance misuse through the Test on Arrest / custody based Drug Intervention Programme. A positive test result allows a number of treatment options to be considered to support individuals out of the cycle of drug related offending.

The Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) have conducted a research project looking at the links between drugs and violence.

The Mayor has co-ordinated bids locally to the Safer Streets 4 Fund that have resulted in safe spaces being introduced in towns and cities. These safe spaces support people to enjoy the night-time economy and offer a range of services and support, including help to those that become vulnerable due to consuming of drugs and or alcohol.

Of note is the development of Combatting Drugs Partnerships (CDPs) across the county. CDPs represent a multi-agency platform for understanding and addressing drug-related harm. Together, these agencies can take a holistic view of the issue of substance misuse in their area, and work to devise a strong partnership response.

Chaired by the DMPC, the West Yorkshire Combating Drugs Partnership Strategic Board has promoted the use of the opiate overdose medication, Naloxone, which is soon to be carried by West Yorkshire Police officers as part of a pilot project.

8. Mayor's Safer Communities Fund

The Mayor's Safer Communities Fund continues to support projects which tackle Drugs and Alcohol, details of projects funded can be found here ([Mayor's Safer Communities Fund - West Yorkshire Combined Authority \(westyorks-ca.gov.uk\)](https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/mayors-safer-communities-fund))

PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTION

Drugs and Alcohol interventions and support are undertaken in partnership with Community Safety Partnerships. Activity to date is highlighted within the report.

The Mayor supports all five local authorities across West Yorkshire through the Community Safety Fund. This enables LAs to identify and fund local priorities. In addition, Drugs Intervention Programme (DIP) Funding is provided to West Yorkshire Police to undertake specific drug services with a focus on drug testing in custody.

In Wakefield District, the Home Office have provided additional funding to support activity known as Project ADDER. This is a national pilot project bringing together enforcement and drug treatment to reduce opiate related drug deaths. The Mayor is looking to learn and share best practice from Project ADDER to support the new Combatting Drugs Partnerships across West Yorkshire Districts.

Each District ensures delivery of Drugs and Alcohol services through their local Partnership arrangements. The DMPC will ensure county-wide join up and oversight through the chairing of the WY Combatting Drugs Partnerships Strategic Board arrangements.

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

Drugs and Alcohol is tackled most effectively in partnership. It is known that minority groups and marginalised individuals can be at increased risk of drug and alcohol misuse issues.

ATTACHMENT

[Chief Constables report – Drugs and Alcohol](#)