

Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Community Drugs Partnership: Two Years On

funded by new funding from the Department of Health and Social Care to support the implementation of the 2021 government drug strategy, From Harm to Hope, a key aim of which is to reduce number of drug related deaths.

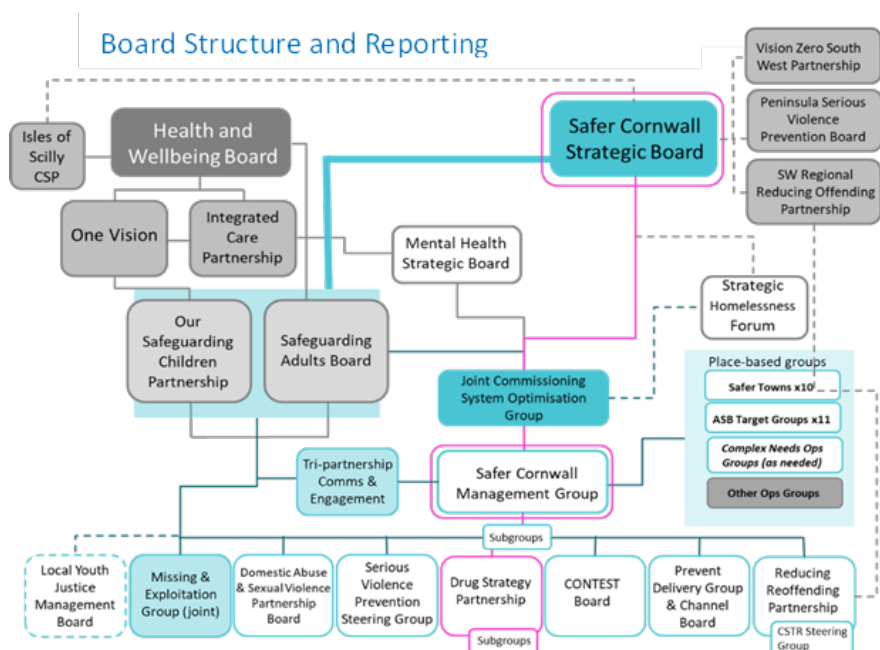
Local Priorities: top 3

- Reducing drug harms
- Treatment and support services
- Continuity of care

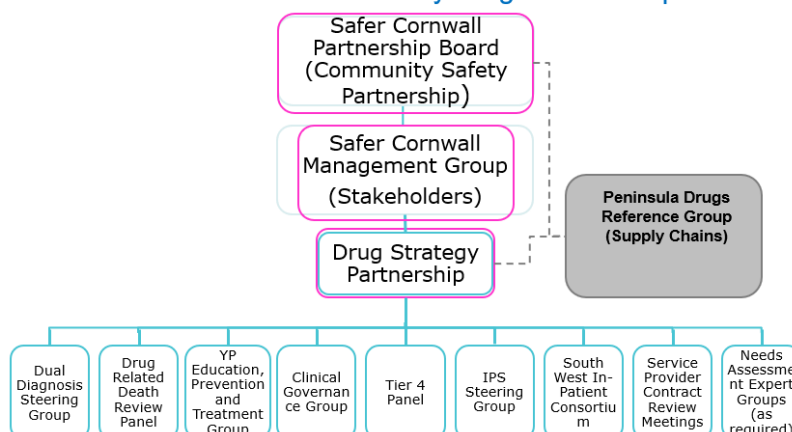
The Community Drugs Partnership

- In addition to reviewing and updating the membership of the Partnership, to assess and respond to need around alcohol and drugs in the local community, we set up a Drugs Strategy **Young People's Education, Prevention and Treatment Group** to address needs specifically related to young people
- Added value continues to be delivered through the alignment and tripartite relationship between the Community Safety Partnership, the Safeguarding Adults and Children's Boards.

Whole System Buy-in



Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Drugs Partnership



Reducing Drug Harms

Drug Related Deaths

The annual [Drug Related Deaths](#) report was produced sharing the stories of those whose deaths were drug related during 2023. The report is available on our [website along with reports from previous years](#).

Too many people still die from a drug-related in Cornwall. In 2023 there were:

- 42 deaths related to drugs and alcohol (31 men, 11 women)
- 2 deaths involving new synthetic opioids
- 17 deaths involving cocaine

We continue to review and learn how we might improve our prevention, as a matter of priority. Priorities for 2024/25 include:

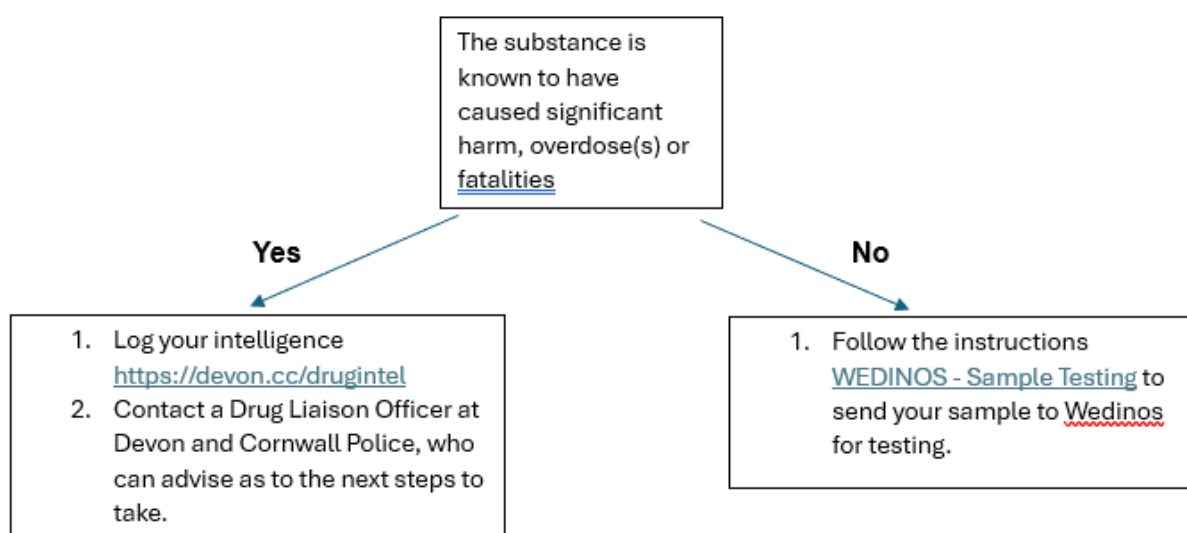
- reviewing all non-fatal overdoses, to identify how we might impact earlier,
- continuing to increase the availability of naloxone
- developing understanding of how childhood trauma impacts upon peoples' vulnerability to drug and alcohol problems and death

Synthetic Opioids

With the reduction in the availability of heroin from Afghanistan, we have seen a rise in the supply of synthetic opioids in the local drugs market and their associated, much increased, harms.

We have rehearsed, with Emergency Management, for a major drug related incident as a result. This included colleagues from treatment, NHS, Police and the Ambulance service.

Work was also done with the police to establish a more effective drug testing pathway to ensure we can test these substances to establish an earlier warnings system, should they appear locally.



The Local Drug Information System was included in the response protocols., to ensure that information and alerts are cascaded effectively.

Promotion of the system to professionals was a focus this year to ensure people knew how to report any intelligence related to drugs and the responsibilities of named delegates in the cascade system for drug alerts. The priorities for next year will be on further promotion especially to the public and ensuring drug alerts reach those taking drugs recreationally who are less likely to be in support services.

Lived Experience & Recovery Communities

- Six Experts by Experience run the Kernow Recovery Communities as part of our approach for people with multiple vulnerabilities. There are currently locations in Truro, Falmouth and Penzance with more planned.
- The second multi-agency Safe and Well Hub opened in Penzance where professionals can collaborate.
- A range of activities are offered including photography, music, creative textiles and the option to just drop in for a chat.
- A [dedicated website](#) was also designed and went live showcasing what the recovery communities offer.

 Kernow Recovery Community

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Welcome to the Kernow Recovery Community

A safe space to explore your recovery



Open to all, accepting of all.

KERNOW RECOVERY COMMUNITY



Kernow Recovery Community offers free and confidential peer led support for those in early recovery



TUESDAY + WEDNESDAY

TIME
10AM - 3PM

LOCATION
ROOM 3A, PYDAR HOUSE, TRURO

WHAT TO EXPECT



- Peer led
- Learn new skills
- Meet new friends
- Safe Space

FOR MORE INFORMATION
www.kernowrecoverycommunity.com

Funding and Treatment

Drug and Alcohol Treatment

- There are 3,556 adults in community treatment in Cornwall & isles of Scilly in 2023/24
- A further 2,500 people access briefer help through online chat, telephone help, drop in and outreach.

Drug and Alcohol Grants

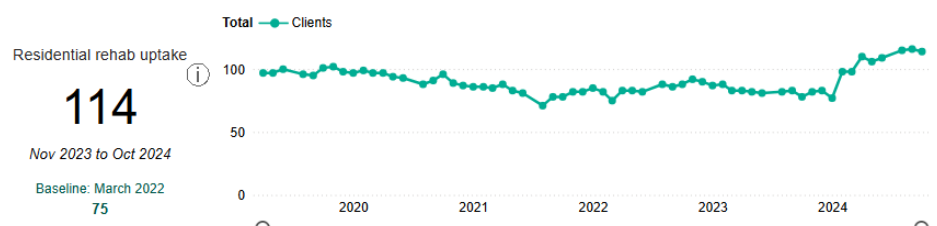
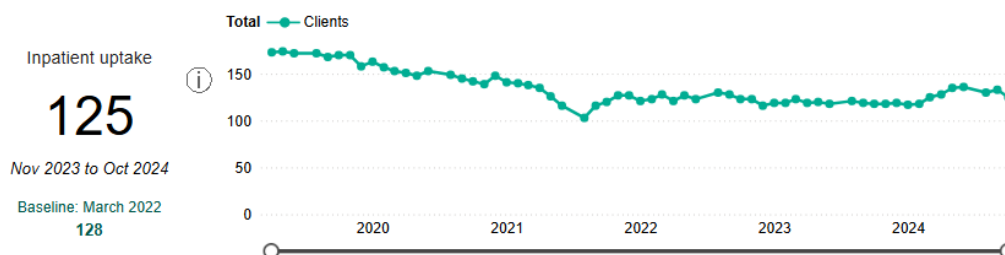
	22-23	23-24	24-25
Rough Sleep Drug & Alcohol Treatment Grant	1.531m* IP/RR	1.531m	1.595m
SSMTRG	755,299	1.42m	2.34m
Housing Support Grant	138,196	631,000	631,000
In Patient (SWPEN)	303,097 (111,712 CIOS)	303,097	303,097
IPS (CIOS/TOR)	153,000	153,000	171,650
MHTRs	185,000	185,000	170,000
	2,874,207	4,031,712	5,210,194
	9.6m	10.8m	12.1m

Inpatient and residential rehab

125 people required an inpatient detox at our local specialist unit at Bosence

115 people required Residential Rehabilitation

We continue to exceed national targets and performance for uptake of inpatient and residential rehab.



Continuity of Care (CoC)

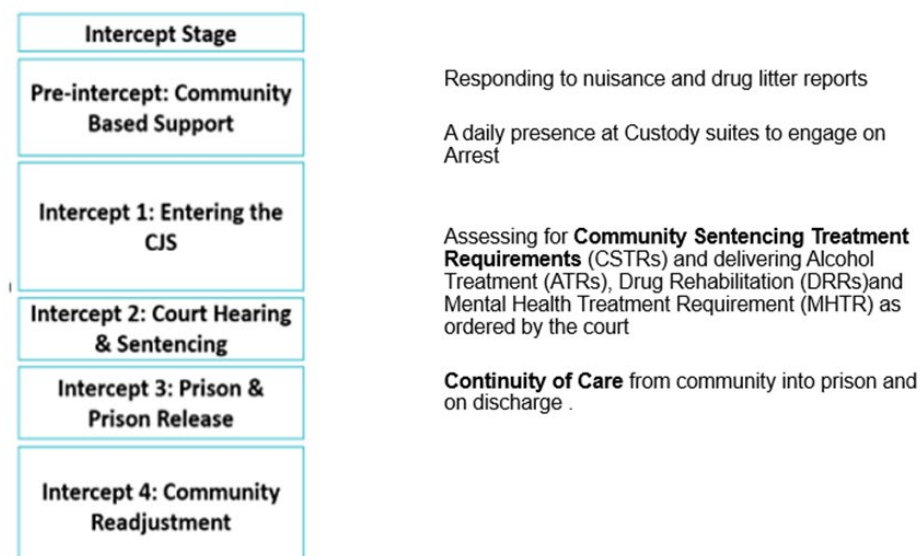
An integrated care pathway from prison to the community is crucial for supporting recovery from problem drug/alcohol use and reducing reoffending among people leaving custody. Those who leave prison are at increased risk of relapsing including overdose and drug related death. Continuity of care means people leaving prison with a substance treatment need are referred to community treatment pre-release and then receive a priority appointment with the community treatment provider within 3 weeks of release. This has been a priority for improvement in the last year.

The community provider in Cornwall, With You, has a dedicated Criminal Justice Team who work closely with the prisons to provide continuity of care for all people leaving prison who are returning to Cornwall.

- The commissioning team have pulled together a local steering group with members from prisons and treatment services to identify the barriers and issues related to CoC.
- The community provider delivered regular in-reach within the local prisons.
- Good working relationships have been established between prisons and community
- Better understanding of processes and practices within prison and community has been facilitated
- Inappropriate referrals have been reduced.
- There is now more joint ownership of referrals.

All of this work has led to an increase in CoC for prison leavers, from 42% in 2023 to 58% in 2024. CoC in Cornwall and Isles of Scilly is now above the national average (54%). This is part of our approach to ensuring that people can be engaged in treatment at every stage of the Criminal Justice System (CJS).

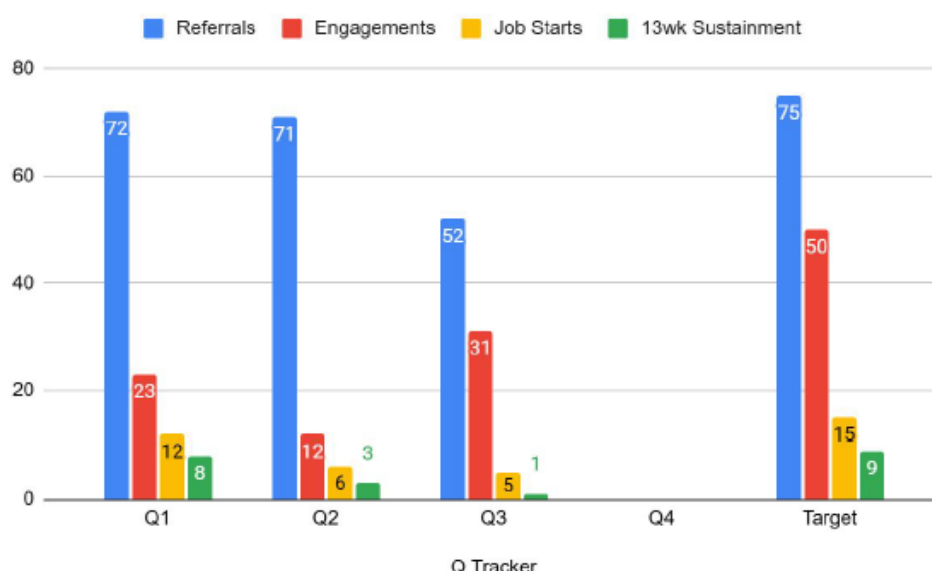
Access at Every Stage of the CJS



Individual Placement & Support (IPS) Employment Grant

- IPS is an employment support approach that offers intensive, individually tailored support to help people in treatment to choose and find the right job, with ongoing support for the employer and employee to help ensure the person sustains their employment.
- The distinguishing feature of IPS is that employment support is provided alongside clinical treatment.

Year Tracker as a team (Targets based on a team of 4 ES's)



Housing Support Grant

- Cornwall has a higher rate than nationally of households owed a statutory housing duty who also have an alcohol/drug dependency.
- 17% of those in treatment have a housing need.
- The grant is paying for more staff in housing and treatment including a dedicated team to support vulnerable women.

The Test and Learn approach is bringing agencies together to prioritise improving support and help to people who have experienced multiple evictions or have been unable to sustain a tenancy.

Workforce development

Upskilling the workforce to work with multiple vulnerabilities

In 2023/24 we **delivered 217 training courses to 5,003 staff** (compared to 269 courses to 4,165 staff in 2022/23). Our training programme is hybrid offering both online and in-person training sessions for the majority of our courses. This is to support different learning styles and work around people's preferences.



Training feedback

"The range of activities was really well planned and very appropriate for online delivery. There was a good balance of presentation, videos, whole group discussion and small group discussion and great use of the chat function for participation. The pace was just right. I will continue using the **padlet** long after the course." *DASV Training*

"I will support my team in better understanding of the cycle an escalation of DV and the correct procedures and pathways." *DASV Level 3 DASH*

"Very **very** knowledgeable and good at explaining. Found the last bit about how to approach different symptoms useful and have taken note of them. Overall a good two days well spent." *Dual Diagnosis*

"I usually hate online training, but I feel I've got a great deal from this. Thank you for the way you have engaged us, and for all the practical and theoretical input that will be incredibly useful in my work with young people." *Dual Diagnosis*

"The most effective learning activity was learning that even doing something after the event can make a difference." *Bystander Training*

"Most things were new to me and I was not sure on how to approach the situations. The input given will go a long way in making me confident to identify, ask and help people in need." *Level 2 DASV Training (NHS Specialist)*

"The training has given me more knowledge and understanding of how to have difficult conversations with the people I work with and support." *Courageous Conversations*

"Just to thank the trainer as my confidence in the subject has increased. A very beneficial course to have the opportunity to attend." *Basic Drug Awareness training*

"Very empowering. The course has helped me structure knowledge about domestic violence and power and control into a presentable and understandable formula." *Bystander Train the Trainer Training*

"I wasn't sure what to expect, but the training surpassed expectations. MI is a complex area, but [TRAINER] did a good job of making it accessible and comprehensible. It was good to do trial runs and put theory into practice - thank you!" *Motivational Interviewing*

"Very informative and very useful in practice." *Alcohol Identification & Brief Advice*

"Thank you for the training, very comprehensive and clear" *MARAC Rep Training*

"Really informative course. Lots of tips to pass onto clients." *Sleep Awareness Training*

"It was really beneficial to do this training in person to allow for collaborative working and discussions. There was a suitable number of attendees. The training had a really good balance of discussion, presentation and videos. The trainer (Kerry) was extremely knowledgeable and approachable. There was a calm learning environment throughout which made it enjoyable training, especially when the topics discussed were emotive and thought provoking." *Mandatory DASV Cornwall Council Managers Training*

"Receiving this training has hugely increased my knowledge regarding substances and how some Young People can get into difficulties with habitual use of them. I particularly found the Adolescent Development Model interesting. This was new info for me and the connections with how/when referrals are made to the service, we can target and use specific strategies to engage with them" *YP Substance Awareness & Screening*

"Exceptional course delivery. Really appreciated the interactive nature of the training; practical application is much better than death by PowerPoint! A lot of food for thought and absolutely relevant to future work with my clients, and also information to be mindful of with all relationships professionally and personally when people are not ready to change." *Practical Management of PTSD*

"We covered a lot during the day but it was well paced and very informative. The trainer was very good and knew their stuff, this was the best course that I have been on in a long time." *Cocaine, Crack and other Stimulants*

"Very insightful...lots of internal thinking...recognition, reflection, with active thought to process, rather than just being in the shit, wading through. Feel I can have direction and proactive prevention in a much better way for me." *Compassion Fatigue Training*

"It will help me to stay safe in day-to-day workings in my role as rough sleeper outreach worker dealing with individuals with complex needs." *Dangerous, Difficult & Disturbing Behaviours Training*

"Effective and informative as ever from Phil. Delivered in a comprehensive way. Thoroughly enjoyed this training." *Supporting Effective Recovery*

Priorities for the next year

- **Children** -Increasing the rollout of education programmes for schools and outreach with young people at risk of or impacted by alcohol and other drug problems
- **Reducing drug related deaths**, including promotion of the Local Drug Information System to increase reporting and rollout of increased Naloxone provision to support reducing drug related deaths
- Continuing to **improve the quality and effectiveness of Treatment** and treatment progress for individuals by prioritising improvements in mental health, employment and housing and reducing caseload sizes.