

Drug-Related Critical Incidents Group

Introduction

The number of drug-related deaths in Forth Valley is increasing year on year. There is national and local work going on to look at this problem. However, it may be appropriate to take a broader view of the problem and include events which although not leading to death are potentially life threatening, which may be termed critical incidents (or something else more appropriate).

Purpose

The purpose of the group would be to provide a frame of reference for work relating to drug-related deaths and near deaths, and co-ordinate relevant activity relating to prevention of critical incidents, harm reduction and dissemination of information.

Aims and Objectives

The group would:

- co-ordinate the gathering and interpretation of information in relation to deaths and near deaths,
- obtain information and evidence on best practice in relation to prevention of drug-related deaths and management of critical incidents
- focus on particular risk factors such as release from prison, leaving services early and changes in tolerance
- make recommendations for changes in service provision, which may take the form of a range of projects

Terms of Reference

The group could be constituted as a sub-group of the SAT, or of the Process of Care Group.

Membership

The membership should include representation from:

- Police
- Ambulance Service
- Accident and Emergency Departments
- SignPost
- CADS
- Public Health
- SPS
- SAT