

### Chairs Comments

Welcome to the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the DAT newsletter.

Since the previous issue the DAT have received notification from NTA of maintained 'green light' status for the first quarter. The report stated 'good provision in place and good progress being made against assessed need and required standards'.

*Thanks to all who helped us achieve this.*

Currently the DAT are reviewing all elements within the treatment plan to present achievements during a mid year review held by the NTA. Thoughts are also taking place around the planning for next year.

Any comments or suggestions would be appreciated in helping with these processes, please feel free to contact the DAT.

Best Wishes

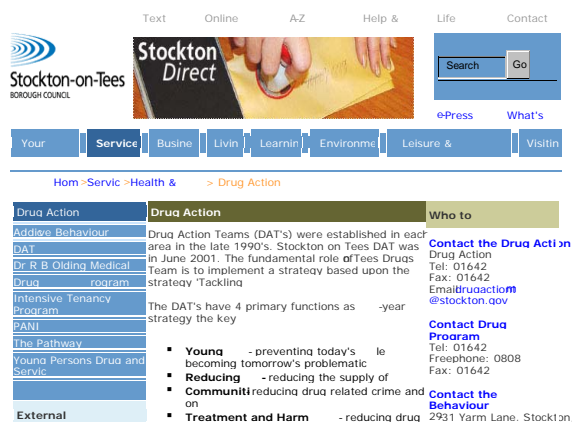


Ann Baxter  
Chair of DAT  
Steering Group

### DAT Website

Work is currently taking place to ensure that the most up to date information is available to all. This will hopefully be achieved via the website. Currently available are contact details, service information, the newsletters and a template to request funding support from the DAT. In the near future minutes will be available and also a new young peoples section is in development.

Please feel free to check the latest information at:  
[www.stockton.gov.uk/drugactionteam](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/drugactionteam)



### Successes Rewarded!



An awards morning to reward clients for their progressions through basis skills and RSA qualifications recently took place. The successful candidates have received a cinema and meal voucher. The event was well attended by clients, partner agencies, staff and the DAT.

### Service User Involvement In Tender Process

Service Users were involved during the recent tender processes and we found this input extremely helpful. A **big thank you** to those involved as we had assistance whilst writing the specifications and also when interviewing potential providers.

We can provide training to help guide and explain the process.

If you would like to be involved in the future please contact us, or your user forum.

### Improvement Review

The Healthcare Commission and NTA will be undertaking an improvement review. The aim of this is to improve the quality of healthcare provided to patients and the public. The review will produce an assessment score which contributes to the DAT and PCT overall annual rating. Each review will focus on an aspect of the patient's pathway. This year's focus is:

- Community Prescribing.
- Care Planning & Care Co-ordination.

### New Staff Member

Andrea Chapman has joined the DAT team to provide admin support.

## What's New?

Since the last issue of the newsletter quite a bit of work has taken place with regard to setting up new services.

### **Harm Minimisation Service**

This service is currently going through a transition period. The old needle exchange service provided by ABS is coming to an end, however the new service is continuing to be delivered from the same location whilst a building base is being developed. The new service is also making links for outreach services to increase availability. This service is confidential and anonymous and provides clean injecting equipment and safely disposes of used equipment. Advice is offered on blood-borne viruses, overdose prevention, harm reduction and safer injecting techniques. One to one support is also available.

### **Prison Resettlement Service**

This service provides a seamless service for eligible DIP clients currently in custody, supporting transition from custody to community with particular concern for the first 24 hours after release. It will also work with individuals following release, providing advice and support on the holistic aspects of their life, to enhance their recovery in the community and support learning, knowledge and skills improvements.

### **Family Worker**

This is a new service operating from within PANIC that will support family members where substance misuse is affecting their lives. Further details and contact can be made available through PANIC.

### **Community Based Structured Adults Day Care**

The DAT have also completed the tender process for this service and are in negotiation with the preferred provider NACRO. As NACRO are providing the current interim service, there will be no break in service. However the service will be further developed to take account of all the DAT requirements and the feedback from service users held within the specification.

### **Young Peoples Substance Misuse Service**

The DAT have completed the tender process for this service and are in negotiation with the preferred provider DISC. It is expected that this service will be fully operational from December; the current service will continue to be provided in the interim to ensure a smooth transition.

## Useful Numbers

### **ABS -Addictive Behaviours Service**

☎ (01642) 802424

### **Dr R.B Olding Medical Practice**

☎ (01642) 352980

### **Drug Interventions Team**

☎ 01642528636

Freephone 24hr Helpline: 0808 1880247

### **Harm Minimisation Service**

☎ (01642) 802424

### **Intensive Tenancy Support Programme**

☎ (01642) 732053 / 54

### **PANIC - Parents and Addicts against Narcotics in the Community**

☎ (01642) 871999

Freephone 24hr Helpline: 0800 0522050

### **Pathway Project**

☎ (01642) 356088

### **Progress 2 Work**

☎ (01642) 607028

### **Young Persons Drug and Alcohol Service**

☎ (01642) 868384

## Football

A football-training event took place in July. Due to the interest shown, there will be a chance for users to receive 6 weeks of football coaching from the University of Teesside in October. The climax of the training will be a Teeswide football tournament for Service Users to be held in December. It is also hoped that an opportunity to progress into a coaching career may arise from this.



Please keep your eye out for details!!

## Service Users/Carers

We invite comments from all users of our services and carers.

Please send any comments to the DAT contact.

There will be 2 events in late October, one for service users and one for carers. Please come along and give comments to help the DAT plan for the future. Please look out for further information!!!

## DAT Contact Details

Email: [drugactionteam@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:drugactionteam@stockton.gov.uk)

Website: [www.stockton.gov.uk/drugactionteam](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/drugactionteam)

☎ (01642) 528474 Fax: (01642) 528457

Address: Service Development Team, Tithebarn House, 1st Floor, High Newham Court, Hardwick, Stockton on tees, TS19 8PD

Hopefully you have found this newsletter useful, if you would like to contribute to the newsletter or if you require an further information then do not hesitate to contact us.