



The Association of Directors of Public Health

Statement on Public Health England Drug Misuse Treatment Evidence Review

ADPH welcomes the findings of the Public Health England evidence review of the outcomes that can be expected of drug misuse treatment in England.

The Association of Directors of Public Health has welcomed the findings of [an evidence review](#) by Public Health England into the outcomes that can be expected of drug misuse treatment in England. In particular, ADPH welcomes the findings indicating that good progress has been made in reducing drug-related harm and promoting recovery through the commissioning of evidence-based treatment. Directors of Public Health in local authorities will continue to build on this good work going forward and we are pleased that the evidence shows that local authority public health teams are doing good work in this area.

The evidence review has also shown that social factors including housing, employment and deprivation are linked with substance misuse and have an impact on the effectiveness of drug treatment outcomes. ADPH welcomes this message and hopes it will help to stress the importance of population-level approaches to tackle social determinants of substance misuse – as well as the importance of providing a wrap-around support package to individuals throughout their recovery.

ADPH also welcomes the recommendation around broadening the range of outcomes that are assessed to understand an individual's progress. Outcomes such as social integration and harm reduction are very important for fully appreciating the benefits of drug treatment services to individuals.

ADPH President Dr Andrew Furber said:

"Good outcomes from substance misuse treatment services are another great example of public health doing effective commissioning that is led by the evidence. Directors of Public Health play a key role in commissioning these interventions and it is great to see the progress that is being made. We welcome the findings of this review and look forward to building on this good work in the future."

ENDS

Further information

The Association of Directors of Public Health (ADPH) is the representative body for Directors of Public Health (DPH) in the UK.

It seeks to improve and protect the health of the population through collating and presenting the views of DsPH; advising on public health policy and legislation at a local, regional, national and international level; facilitating a support network for DsPH; and providing opportunities for DsPH to develop professional practice. The Association has a rich heritage, its origins dating back more than 160 years. It is a collaborative organisation working in partnership with others to maximise the voice for public health.

www.adph.org.uk

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