

eATA wants to engage with as many of our members as possible so please do forward this on to colleagues who will find this useful.

eATAE-Bulletin

August 2010

The monthly e-bulletin from the European Association for the Treatment of Addiction (eATA) to keep our members up to date on the latest developments and news in the drug and alcohol treatment and aftercare sector. If you have any comments or questions about our articles, don't hesitate to get in touch.

Coming up in this month's e-bulletin...

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Chief Executives Update

It has been another busy month keeping up with the myriad of policy announcements from the coalition. July saw the launch of the NHS White Paper, the Structural Reform Plans for the Department of Health, Ministry of Justice and Home Office, and a Green Paper from the Centre for Social Justice on Addictions and Criminal Justice (I reattach the policy update sent round recently again summarising these developments). The latest news is the abolition of the National Treatment Agency for Substance Misuse (NTA) and the transfer of its functions to the new Public Health Service by April 2012.

eATA have also continued to get around visiting members across the country including ARA, Cranstoun (Portsmouth CDA), ANA Treatment Centres, Promis, and Phoenix Futures (Sheffield). Again if you would like a visit from eATA please do email me and we will arrange something.

Please look out for consultation templates for the various policy documents eATA will be putting in submissions for such as the NHS White Paper and the Rehabilitation Green Paper. We will also keep you updated on any new policy updates – however with the summer recess now underway there will be significantly fewer announcements. The Comprehensive Spending Review due to be announced on the 25th October will give us a clearer indication of how policy will develop and the scale of any budget cuts not forgetting that the public health budget is ring-fenced.

Like I have said before please do email me (katie.hill@eata.org.uk) or call me (020 7820 8230) if you have any thoughts or concerns regarding policy developments and suggestions on how eATA can best serve you as a valued member

NTA to be abolished by 2012 and transferred to the new Public Health Service

The NTA joins a number of arms-length bodies (ALB's) due to have its powers and responsibilities transferred or abolished under the latest plans released by the coalition. In total the plans will reduce the number of health ALB's from eighteen to between eight and ten with savings of up to £180m by 2014/15. The aim is to make costs savings but also remove duplication and burdens on the NHS. Other ALB's affected by the changes include: Appointments Commission, Alcohol Education and Research Council, Health Protection Agency and Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority.

The NTA will be abolished as a statutory organisation and have its functions transferred to the new Public Health Service by April 2012, which was announced by Andrew Lansley on 7th July. The new Public Health Service will have a ring-fenced budget at a national and local level. This lead-time will also give the Department and the NTA time to ensure that the transition goes smoothly and there are no adverse effects felt by the changeover in drug treatment.

Tier 4 meeting – 19th July 2010

On the 19th July eATA convened a meeting of tier 4 providers and those who have an interest in residential provision to discuss issues and opportunities facing providers. The meeting was well attended with over 30 attendees representing a broad range of providers. Other aims from the meeting were to establish what members want from eATA going forward and to provide a greater understanding on hot topics such as Payment by Results and the personalisation agenda.

Action points for eATA include:

- Campaign for a balanced treatment system building on eATA manifesto: Pathways to Recovery;

- Push government on availability of bed spaces – opportunity for sector to raise occupancy levels within tier 4;
- Take forward a working group on outcomes to input into government thinking on payment by results
- Submit responses to the NHS White Paper; Structural Reform Plans for the Home Office, Ministry of Justice and Department of Health, and the Rehabilitation Green Paper;
- Consider submissions to the Centre for Social Justice and Centre for Policy Studies;
- Roundtable on payment by results held by Ministry of Justice;
- Compile an accurate picture of occupancy rates from surveying members;
- Engage with Home Office over the new drugs strategy due out by the end of the year.

Please find attached a full summary of key points expressed by attendees.

The Impact of Drugs on Different Minority Groups

The UK Drug Policy Commission released a report on 26th July on the difficulties and challenges many minority groups experience with access, education and aftercare within the addiction sector.

The report details how the illicit drug use among gay and lesbian groups is significantly higher than heterosexuals and that the drug choice of minority groups is not always reflected by both the service priorities, accessibility and laws. The launch of the findings was attended by eATA at the House of Lords and comprised of speakers including Lord Kamlesh Patel, Tris Reid Smith – Group Editor of Pink Paper and Gay Times, Lord Victor Adebawale, Turning Point and Brian Carlin of the charity Aspire (a spinal injury charity). All the speakers were working in partnership with the UKDPC on this issue and voiced many impassioned points on the subject. For instance it was made clear that for many people who had spinal injury would use marijuana for pain and spasms relief but would be totally isolated and often deemed too complicated to be able to access and utilise services.

The Guardian covers the report in an interesting article which can be found here [Gay men and lesbians are putting their health at risk by abusing drugs | Society | The Observer](#). The launch of the findings from the UKDPC also highlights that drug services in the UK are of *little relevance to diverse ethnic communities* and calls for the government and who work in the fields and partners to take this into consideration when drawing up the drug strategy against the backdrop of new equalities legislation. If you would like more info on the launch of the policy findings go to <http://www.ukdpc.org.uk/publications.shtml#Diversity> for full details. The findings are set out in 3 sections; 1 Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities (LGBT) 2. Ethnic Minorities, and 3, Disabled Communities. so we would urge all members to take a look and take these findings into consideration when planning their services.

eATA National Conference 2010

eATA are pleased to announce that **Anne Milton MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Public Health** will be the keynote speaker for our National Conference on Wednesday 13th October 2010.

Anne has responsibility for public health, which includes tobacco, drugs and alcohol and therefore has a strong interest in drug and alcohol treatment.

So make sure you don't miss out on this conference – eATA members are entitled to a special discounted event – you can find out more information on the full programme and how to book by [clicking here](#).

eATA Meeting Space Available

eATA is pleased to announce meeting room available for members is available for members to use at our new offices in Vauxhall. Please find attached a leaflet listing what we offer as part of the room – please note there is a small cover charge for teas, coffees and biscuits (flip chart paper is also available).

Cost saving Tip for of the Month

In a tool for eATA members we will highlight possible money savers for your organisation each month. We hope you find this useful and if you have any tips you would like to share please let us know.

You may not be aware that charities are eligible for VAT-free purchasing of certain goods and services. The HMRC website gives further details of this;

There are special VAT reliefs available on certain purchases made by charities which mean you either don't have to pay VAT or you pay a reduced rate of VAT - whether or not you're VAT registered. For each of these reliefs specific conditions have to be met.

There is also a special VAT relief available on certain goods and services bought with charitable funds for use by certain types of charities and certain other eligible bodies.

If you want to take advantage of these reliefs you must provide your supplier with an eligibility declaration certifying that the conditions have been met.

The online guide below tells you more about the range of VAT reliefs available and provides links to more detailed guidance. <http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/charities/vat/purchases.htm>

Members Highlights

Action on Addiction: The Spider Project (Liverpool and Wirral) has become an autonomous trading subsidiary of Action on Addiction. The highly innovative and creative relapse prevention project provides additional support for people who have become drug and alcohol free to maintain ongoing recovery. The Spider Project: is seen as an excellent resource in the City of Liverpool and was awarded Drug Team of the Year in the “Tackling Drugs Changing Lives” Awards in 2008, an award that SHARP Liverpool won the following year.

Broadway Lodge has been shortlisted for a Charity Times Award in the Charity of the Year with an income more than £1m category. The Awards ceremony will take place on the 1st September 2010 at the London Hilton, Park Lane.

The Ley Community won a prestigious CSJ (Centre for Social Justice) Award in July. The awards are given to outstanding grass roots organisations that are bringing about significant positive change in communities around Britain. The judges looked for excellence, effectiveness, compassion and innovation.

Congratulations to you all!

Public Impact

In another recommendation of a provider, eATA are pleased to attach a case study highlighting the services of Public Impact, a design and communications company based in Reading. eATA has been working with Public Impact over the last few months delivering a new brand for the organisation and improving our marketing materials.

Phoenix Futures Training Courses

Phoenix runs a number of training courses, which are open to other providers. They run courses in a range of areas including alcohol knowledge, basic counselling skills, crack cocaine, harm reduction, domestic violence, new and legal highs and recovery planning. For a full list and prices please contact katie.hill@eata.org.uk. Phoenix also run a management development programme called Prospect which is an S/NVQ Level 3 or 4 and is accredited with the Chartered Management Institute and an S/NVQ Level 3 equivalent for therapeutic staff the Core Competency Framework which is based on 9 core DANOS standards and is accredited with the OCN and FDAP.

They are also piloting therapeutic communities training – more details can be found in this article in DDN:

<http://www.drinkanddrugsnews.com/magazine/6f0913456ce546bda3003329f9886103.pdf>

And finally...

While we are the subject of savings, it is worth knowing that Virgin Trains offers charity staff travelling on work related journeys 20 per cent off advance (booked at least the day before travel) tickets. This offer begins on 13 August and includes peak times.

For more details visit

<http://mediaroom.virgintrains.co.uk/2010/07/charity-discounts-from-virgin-trains.html>