

## The Professional Body for Drug and Alcohol Treatment

### Welcome...

Welcome to EATA's membership briefing. Our aim is to ensure that people affected by substance dependencies get the treatment they need. By being part of the umbrella body of the sector, our members are able to contribute to improvements in access and quality in the provision of treatment.

**Peter Martin, CEO:** *"We are really excited by the number of new members EATA is attracting at the moment. EATA will be a much stronger voice for the sector the larger the membership becomes and we welcome all new members into the EATA fold. We hope that they enjoy the benefits EATA membership can bring."*

### EATA news

#### Welcome to new members

EATA are pleased to announce that we now have 111 members with 13 new members since the new team has been in place. We are happy to welcome the following new members:

#### SMART-UK

Pathways House Ltd  
Matt Talbot Adolescent Services Ltd  
Community Integrated Care  
The Bayberry Clinic  
Spirit Online

### EVENTS '09 – STRATEGIC DECISIONS AND REGIONAL CONFERENCES

EATA has been busy running a number of events in the last couple of months including an event for Chief Executives and reaching out to our members in the South West and the North/Midlands. These events were all part of EATA's collaboration project activities and provided a great opportunity to engage with members and listen to the issues from the ground. The CEO event held on the 19th October covered the challenges and opportunities for the drug and alcohol treatment sector and was attended by around 30 Chief Executives representing a broad spectrum of providers. David Burrowes MP, the Shadow Minister for Justice joined a panel of Viv Evans, Adfam Chief Executive, Steve Rossell, Cranstoun Drug Services Chief Executive and Chair of EATA, and Peter Martin CBE, EATA Chief Executive.

At the Regional Conference in Bristol Maggie Telfer, Chief Executive of the Bristol Drugs Project gave members an interesting and passionate presentation about the issues in Bristol and what she saw as the challenges for the future. Attendees at the Derby Regional Conference



Derby Panel Discussion



Chief Executives at Strategic Decisions

were able to hear from Dionne Reid, Chief Executive of Derby Women's Work, a charity providing respite, advice and support to female substance misusers involved in street sex work.

At both Regional Conferences members were given detailed briefings by David Finney about the new CQC registration requirements and learnt about the benefits of EATA accreditation from the Chair of EATA's accreditation panel, Pauline Bissett. The events have so far seen over 30 members attend and we hope for more at our final regional conference in London on the 18th January. We are also looking into the possibility of working with David on 'masterclasses' on the new registration regime in February or March. Watch this space!

We are looking forward to the final regional conference to be held in London on the 18th January 2010 and a national conference in June/July 2010. Following the success of the CEO event we are also planning an event for Finance Directors in March to discuss funding and tips to beat the inevitable downturn in public spending.

## EATA LAUNCHES NEW FREE SERVICE FOR MEMBERS

EATA are pleased to announce the launch of a new FREE service for EATA members. GrantNet is a search engine capable of searching through over 4,000 grants nationwide and Europe-wide.

In order to access this service please login to the members' area of the EATA website (login details below). You will then need to register with

GrantNet before carrying out searches. All reports will then be sent through to us at EATA and we will then be able to pass these on to you and provide you with any tips and suggestions in the application process.

A mailing has been sent out to all fundraisers and finance directors with their updated login for the website. Please contact [katie.hill@eata.org.uk](mailto:katie.hill@eata.org.uk) if you have not received any and would like to use the service.

## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF AN EATA INTERN – NAOMI VISITS COMPASS IN YORK



Naomi meets Tony Towers, Compass Service Manager

**When I think of York, I think of the Minster, the old Roman wall, and the rich heritage.**

Why would anyone include heroin on such a list? That changed for me during my first visit to York. On that trip, I did not visit the tourist sites; I saw the inner workings of the United Kingdom drug treatment system whilst visiting services provided by Compass UK, a leading provider of drug treatment. On the day we visited a needle exchange and a prescribing service where I saw firsthand the realities of harm reduction and the initial stages of drug treatment.

Compass, like many other treatment providers understand that you cannot force anyone to quit an addictive habit. As a result, when someone comes into a programme, such as the needle

exchange, treatment pamphlets are not thrown in their face. The nurses and staff simply and subtly inform the addict about the different forms of treatment, such as methadone or residential rehabilitation. It is important that services such as Compass offer drug users the skills needed to overcome their addiction in a more natural way through counselling and rehabilitation. This enables the addict to move past their addiction without the possibility of picking up another one.

It is important to remember that in both the U.S. and U.K. drug use is constantly on the rise and the people using them are getting younger and younger. Therefore, it is great that drug and alcohol treatment providers, such as Compass, are doing their part to help people with these terrible addictions.

## EATA MANIFESTO: PATHWAYS TO RECOVERY

We are pleased to announce the launch of the EATA manifesto: Pathways to Recovery. Almost all members operate in the not-for-profit 'third sector' and largely depend on Government funding and contracts that are designed to meet Government's strategic objectives to reduce the harm that drugs cause to individuals and communities.

This document outlines the policies and beliefs EATA has in developing a balanced treatment

system, which not only serves to benefit the service user but their families and the community as a whole. The seven principles in the document attempt to define the values needed for a policy based on recovery. They frame a renewed vision for treatment, one in which the path individuals take towards leading drug-free lives is measured and where outcomes are evaluated.

There has been significant input from the EATA membership at the CEO events and

the regional conferences in both Derby and Bristol. Many points were taken on board and we value to inputs and insightful thoughts that our members provided contributing to a well-balanced and credible document.

To view the manifesto, please visit the EATA website by [clicking here](#).

If you have any comments or questions please email [peter.martin@eata.org.uk](mailto:peter.martin@eata.org.uk)

## PRELIMINARY RESULTS FROM THE EATA MEMBERS SURVEY 2009

Thanks to all who have kindly taken the time to complete the EATA Members survey. Despite the fact that many members are busy we have had some really informative and detailed responses so far. The collation of your experiences on the ground is essential for us to guide plan our strategy accordingly. So please don't miss this opportunity to make your voice heard! It is not too late to contribute and we would love all members to take part in our survey so please contact [louise.walsh@eata.org.uk](mailto:louise.walsh@eata.org.uk)

Collating the responses so far reveals some major themes emerging and there is no surprise as to what is the most problematic and challenging area is - Yes you guessed it - funding and coming up a close second, the low occupancy rates currently experienced by some tier 4 providers. There is also a problem with competitive and unfair tendering and also deficiencies with the commissioning process. It may be either reassuring or depressing to know many of our members are facing similar problems but we want you to know we are developing our work to devise new partnerships /networks and strategies with the aim to bring about positive change.

You have made some suggestions for us like providing tendering classes and educating the commissioners and to champion recovery and the necessity to lobby for massive investment in independent alcohol services. However there is still so much we can learn from you so please take the couple of minutes and take part in our survey. Full results will be published on our website so please take a look in the New Year.

## EATA AND THE 'CORDIS BRIGHT' COLLABORATION PROJECT

**Partners:** EATA, DrugScope, The Alliance, Adfam

**Aim:** The overall purpose of the Coalition is to provide an effective conduit between the drugs voluntary sector and Government and to support the implementation of the Drugs Strategy. One key role is to make available information and intelligence on key deliverables.

Each organisation remains independent with each separate project involving interlinked work streams. We want to reassure our membership that this is not a merger but an exciting and promising collaboration within the sector, which will enable us to deliver more events for our members and continuing to remain as the voice for the drug and alcohol treatment sector.

**EATA's role:** As part of the collaboration EATA will be focussing on improving treatment: this project plan is designed in accordance with Cordis Bright report on its review of second tier activity and aims to help prepare the drug treatment sector for the inevitable changes that will occur as a result of the down turn in public expenditure and changes that will follow any change in policy as a result of the general election. It will also help prepare the drug treatment sector for improving standards and delivery of treatment across the sector, for the changes required to deliver recovery and reintegration agenda and for managing the introduction of "World Class Commissioning" and implementation of standards required by the Care Quality Commission.

To find out what we are planning and what are partners are planning please [click here](#) for a more detailed briefing.

# POLICY ROUND-UP

A key role of EATA is working on behalf of its members with government departments and other agencies. By representing the interests of its members on working groups and at consultation events, EATA continually raises the concerns and needs of the independent sector. We also engage our members so that they contribute to the impact we make on policy and practice.

## Important changes to the Welfare Reform Bill

Important concessions to measures specific to problem drug users were announced to the Welfare Reform Bill during the House of Lords Report Stage. The Government announcement was made in response to amendments made by Baroness Meacher, which sought to remove a requirement to undergo treatment and to remove drug testing.

The Bill includes changes regarding the requirement to undergo treatment and changes related to drug testing.

With regard to the requirement to undergo treatment and drug testing the bill will be amended as follows:

- Make it clear that a claimant cannot be required to submit to drug treatment. Interpretations of the bill implied users would be forced into specific forms of treatment.
- Claimants will still be required to comply with a rehabilitation plan, but participation in drug treatment will only be included if a claimant agrees to it being there.
- Claimants will be required to follow a rehabilitation plan if they are identified as being dependent on or having 'a propensity to misuse drugs' and this is considered to be a factor affecting their ability to obtain or remain in work and their condition is susceptible to treatment.
- There is still some requirement for a claimant who will still have to 'engage' either through educational sessions or counselling. A refusal to engage, without good cause, could result in a benefit sanction.
- The power to drug test will remain but there will be further limits on when it could apply, including cases where someone is already in drug treatment, have self identified their drug misuse or were referred to a substance misuse assessment because of information obtained from the criminal justice system.

The Bill is now with the House of Lords for its third reading.

## EMCDDA Annual Report 2009: the state of the drugs problem in Europe

The latest annual report produced by the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) was released on November 5th. The report shows that drug use levels are still high within Europe and in particular cocaine and heroin still maintain a firm hold on the European drug scene. Polydrug use was also more common and there have been some new drugs on the market primarily synthetic cannabinoids, which was the latest in 'designer drugs'

Cocaine is still Europe's most popular stimulant with some 13 million European adults having tried cocaine in their lifetime. It is mainly concentrated in Western European countries so the UK's current cocaine use is mirrored in Denmark, Spain, Ireland and Italy. Across Europe 22% of users presenting for treatment named cocaine as their primary drug of use and 500 deaths were cocaine-related.

Figures for heroin uses again mirrored figures recently released in the UK as stabilising without the massive spread of heroin use that was seen in the 1980s and 1990s. However, heroin is still responsible for the largest share of drug-related health and social costs and most fatal overdoses are associated with opioids.

Cannabis use across Europe is on the decline and is declining in popularity amongst young adults particularly schoolchildren. This mirrors a similar decline in the USA and Australia. An example of innovative treatment has been the use of internet-based drug treatment interventions.

Polydrug use is a major issue across Europe which increases the problems facing treatment delivery. Alcohol is present in almost all polydrug use.

To read the report in full please visit [www.emcdda.europa.eu](http://www.emcdda.europa.eu)

## Think Families – Moves to provide greater protection to children living with drug addicts

New guidance entitled Drugs and Alcohol Treatment has been produced by a joint approach by the NTA, the Department of Health and the Department for Children, Schools and Families. The protocol attempts to address the need for adult drug and alcohol services to work with children's services to ensure that all children in families who are affected by drug or alcohol misuse get the support they need and they are safe from harm.

This joined-up approach aims to bring together drug and alcohol services, dedicated young carer services and children, parenting and family services to deliver a whole family approach and meeting the needs of parents whose substance misuse is adversely affecting the whole family.

The protocol moves on the Government's 2008 drug strategy Drugs: protecting families and communities in which it states "all drug-misusing parents with treatment needs to have ready access to treatment, with all problem drug user parents whose children are at risk having prompt access to treatment, with assessments taking account of family needs."

For more information on Think Families please visit the NTA website or [click here](#).

## CQC registration update

The Department of Health has now published the Response to consultation on draft Regulations for the framework for the registration of health and adult social care providers. The document details the changes made in response to consultation responses and any discussions with stakeholders throughout the consultation process. These regulations are still to be passed by Parliament but if passed will provide the regulations that underpin the Care Quality Commission's new registration system.

The CQC has now produced "Your Guide to Registration" which is available by clicking here

The full guidance should be available to download from December.

The consultation document and impact assessments can be viewed on the Department of Health website by clicking here.

Also today, Rt Hon Mike O'Brien QC MP, Minister of State for Health Services, has laid the finalised set of draft Regulations before Parliament. These are available on the Office for Public Sector Information website by clicking here.

If you have any questions about the registration process please do contact EATA at [katie.hill@eata.org.uk](mailto:katie.hill@eata.org.uk)

## Addicts in Glasgow to be given 'less addictive' heroin substitute

Suboxone, a heroin substitute which has proven to be less addictive than methadone, is to be trialled in Glasgow. Suboxone is a synthetic opiate which contains naloxone, which produces unpleasant withdrawal symptoms in the user if crushed and injected. Evidence has suggested that clients have a faster and easier withdrawal from the substitute compared to methadone. Doctors also claim it leaves users in a more 'clear-headed' state compared to methadone, making it more suitable for home dosing.

The new substitute will be trialled by Scotland's first dedicated drugs court who have been given extra funding to trial the drug. It has already proven to be successful in the US where there has been a 42% increase in sales this year.

For more information about the Glasgow Drugs Court please [click here](#)

## Advertise your jobs online at [www.eata.org.uk](http://www.eata.org.uk)

We have been busy posting up several job vacancies on our website, both for EATA and for members. Don't forget that it is free for members to have their adverts uploaded here and it is one of our most visited pages. So go and have a look at the current vacancies. For more information, email [louise.walsh@eata.org.uk](mailto:louise.walsh@eata.org.uk)

# Events

### EATA Regional Conferences 2009/10: The Future of Drug & Alcohol Services

**Monday 18th January 2010**  
The offices of the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund, The County Hall, Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7PB

Speakers so far include: Martin Barnes, Chief Executive DrugScope; Peter Martin CBE, EATA; Steve Rossell FRSA, Chief Executive Cranstoun Drug Services; David Finney; Pauline Bissett and Karen Biggs, Chief Executive Phoenix Futures.

For more details and a booking form please contact Louise Walsh on **020 7553 9580** or email [louise.walsh@eata.org.uk](mailto:louise.walsh@eata.org.uk)

### UKESAD 2010

Building bridges: how to recover from addiction (incorporating A Recovery Celebration: the Inaugural London Recovery Rally, InExcess TV live shows)

**13th, 14th, 15th May 2010**  
Grange City Hotel, 8-14 Cooper's Row, London EC3N 2BQ

EATA will be there. Make sure you don't miss out – delegates booking before the 8th December can take advantage of the early bird and save up to £100 per delegate.

Visit [www.ukesad.org](http://www.ukesad.org) for more information on how to book.

### Right here, right now – The third DDN/Alliance national service user involvement conference

**Thursday 4th February 2010**  
Holiday Inn, Birmingham City Centre

Don't miss the annual conference for service user involvement in Birmingham. Contact Ian Ralph **020 7463 2081** or Faye Liddle **020 7463 2205** for further information or book at [www.cjwellings.com/righthererightnow](http://www.cjwellings.com/righthererightnow)

### Harm Reduction 2010 – The 21st annual conference of the International Harm Reduction Association

**Sunday 25th April 2010 – Thursday 29th April 2010**  
Liverpool

For more information visit: [www.ihraconferences.net](http://www.ihraconferences.net)

## News from our members

### Addaction – Breaking the Cycle

Addaction, reveals the results of a three-year pilot project called Breaking the Cycle, which was set up to help those children who are living in drug or alcohol-abusing families and aim to break the cycle of substance misuse in these families.

At the moment in the UK Addaction reveals that 1.3 million children under the age of 16 are living in homes where one of the parents has serious drug and drink problems. These children are living lonely and intensely difficult lives. Some are assuming the role of a parent themselves, looking after younger brothers and sisters. Others are isolated at school because of the stigma attached to their parents' problems. Many are exposed to danger and violence associated with substance misuse.

Above all, this is a generation of children growing up in homes where problem drinking and drugs are seen as normal – something that makes them seven times more likely to become drug users or problem drinkers themselves in later life.

For more information and a video illustrating the life of a child living with substance misuse can be found by [clicking here](#).

### WGCADA celebrate 30 years

West Glamorgan Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (WGCADA), one of EATA's newest members, celebrate their 30th Anniversary this year and held a conference on the 8th October in Swansea.

The service has expanded massively over the last thirty years after starting up in some rented rooms above a gent's tailors in Uplands, Swansea. They

have expanded into a multi-million pound project helping thousands of people every year. They now have seven centres across Swansea and Neath Port Talbot and two in Bridgend. The council has a budget of £3million and last year treated 4,000 people for drug and alcohol addictions.

To read the full story, please [click here](#) to visit the EATA news section of the website.

### TTP opens seventh centre

Trust The Process (TTP) has officially opened its seventh centre with an open day at the new clinic in Coventry, held during National Alcohol Awareness Week. Commissioned and funded by the area's Community Safety Partnership, TTP Coventry offers a Day Recovery Service for adults in the city.



One very special element of the service is the new approach to family working from a specialist family support worker who is helping parents, partners and extended family members over the age of 18.

Potential clients and their families can self-refer to the centre or can be referred through other agencies involved in housing, health and criminal justice. The service can work with at least 30 people at any one time and plans to support up to 200 Coventry residents and their families during the first year.

To read the full story please [click here](#).

### Cyswllt Contact wins funding to deliver Welsh National Peer Mentoring Scheme

Welsh member, Cyswllt Contact has just won a contract for to cover the Dyfed Powys region of the Welsh National Peer Mentoring Scheme, a Welsh Assembly Government scheme backed with European funding.



This ambitious proposal seeks to harness local resources in terms of service providers and clients to drastically increase the level of support available to substance misusers throughout Dyfed Powys and help them to move towards economic independence.

To read more about this story please [click here](#).

## Contact EATA

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EATA – the professional body for the drug and alcohol treatment sector