Western Region
Drug and Alcohol Task Force
Strategic Plan 2017 – 2019

Public Consultation Process
Written Submission

The Western Region Drug and Alcohol Task Force is developing a new Strategic Plan for a three-year period, 2017 – 2019. To help inform the new strategy, we are seeking your views on the role of the Task Force and the services it delivers.

A public consultation process is being undertaken across the Region from December 15th 2016 to January 31st 2017. If you are directly affected by substance misuse, or if your group or organisation provides services / supports to individuals, families or communities affected, we would like to hear from you.

You can provide your views by completing this questionnaire and returning it to us at the address provided at the bottom of this form. At the end of the public consultation, we will gather all the views received and put them together in a report for the Task Force Committee.

What do we mean by “Substance Misuse”?

For the purposes of this questionnaire, when we say “substance misuse” we include the following:

- Illicit (or illegal) drugs: e.g. cannabis, ecstasy, amphetamines, cocaine, new psychoactive substances, magic mushrooms, LSD and heroin.

- Prescription medicines: Harmful misuse of legal medicines which are prescribed by a doctor, dentist or nurse (e.g. for pain relief or to aid sleep, anxiety or depression). It includes taking more than the recommended prescribed dose or increasing the length of use, or using these medicines when they have not been prescribed for you.

- Over the Counter Medicines (OTCs): Harmful use of legal medicines which do not usually require a prescription (e.g. painkillers containing codeine)

- Solvents: e.g. aerosols, glues and gas lighter refills.

- Alcohol: e.g. beer, cider, spirits, wine and alcopop drinks
Please give us your details (optional)

Name:
Organisation:
Address:
Email:

Please complete the questions below.
Remember, you are not obliged to complete them all or to give lengthy responses.

*Family Support
Please note: A comprehensive consultation process on family support was undertaken by the Task Force in early 2016 and its Family Support Strategy was launched in June. As a result, this questionnaire does not cover the Task Force’s family support services. However, if you would like to give input on family supports, please do so under Section 7 “Other Comments”

1. Awareness-Raising
   a) What could the Task Force do to improve awareness of drug and alcohol issues across the Western Region?

2. Training and Education
   a) What kind of training and education could the Task Force provide in relation to drug and alcohol issues?
3. Community Engagement and Capacity-Building

a) How can the Task Force help to build the capacity of your community, or your group/organisation, to respond more effectively to drug and alcohol issues locally?

4. Agency Collaboration

a) How can the Task Force support agencies and organisation to collaborate better so that outcomes for substance misusers are improved?

b) What can your organisation do to strengthen its collaboration with the Task Force in order to improve outcomes for service-users?

5. Target Groups

a) The Task Force takes a “whole population” approach to its services. However, it is eager to ensure that vulnerable groups & communities are supported through this Strategy. Please let us know which target groups should be specifically targeted in the Strategic Plan?
6. Research and Policy

a) On what issues / themes do you think the Task Force should conduct research, in order to improve knowledge and data on drug and alcohol issues in the Western Region and influence Regional and National Policy.

7. Other Comments

Please provide additional feedback here on any other aspect of the Task Force’s role and services.

Please submit your completed questionnaire by 5pm on 31st January 2017 to:

- Email: info@wrdtf.ie
- Post: Strategic Planning Process
  Western Region Drug and Alcohol Task Force
  Unit 6, Galway Technology Park
  Parkmore, Galway
  Western Region

You can also tell us what you think in other ways:

A series of workshops will take place in January/February across the Region. These will be interactive meetings to hear your views on the role and activities of the Task Force. Come along to one of these sessions and tell us what you think.

- Monday, January 23rd, 6pm - 8pm, Menlo Park Hotel, Galway (finger food will be served at 5.45pm)
- Wednesday, February 1st, 2.30pm - 4.30pm, Abbey Hotel, Roscommon
- Thursday, February 2nd, 10am - 12pm, Green Room, MacHale Park, Castlebar
Please email info@wrdttf.ie to confirm your attendance