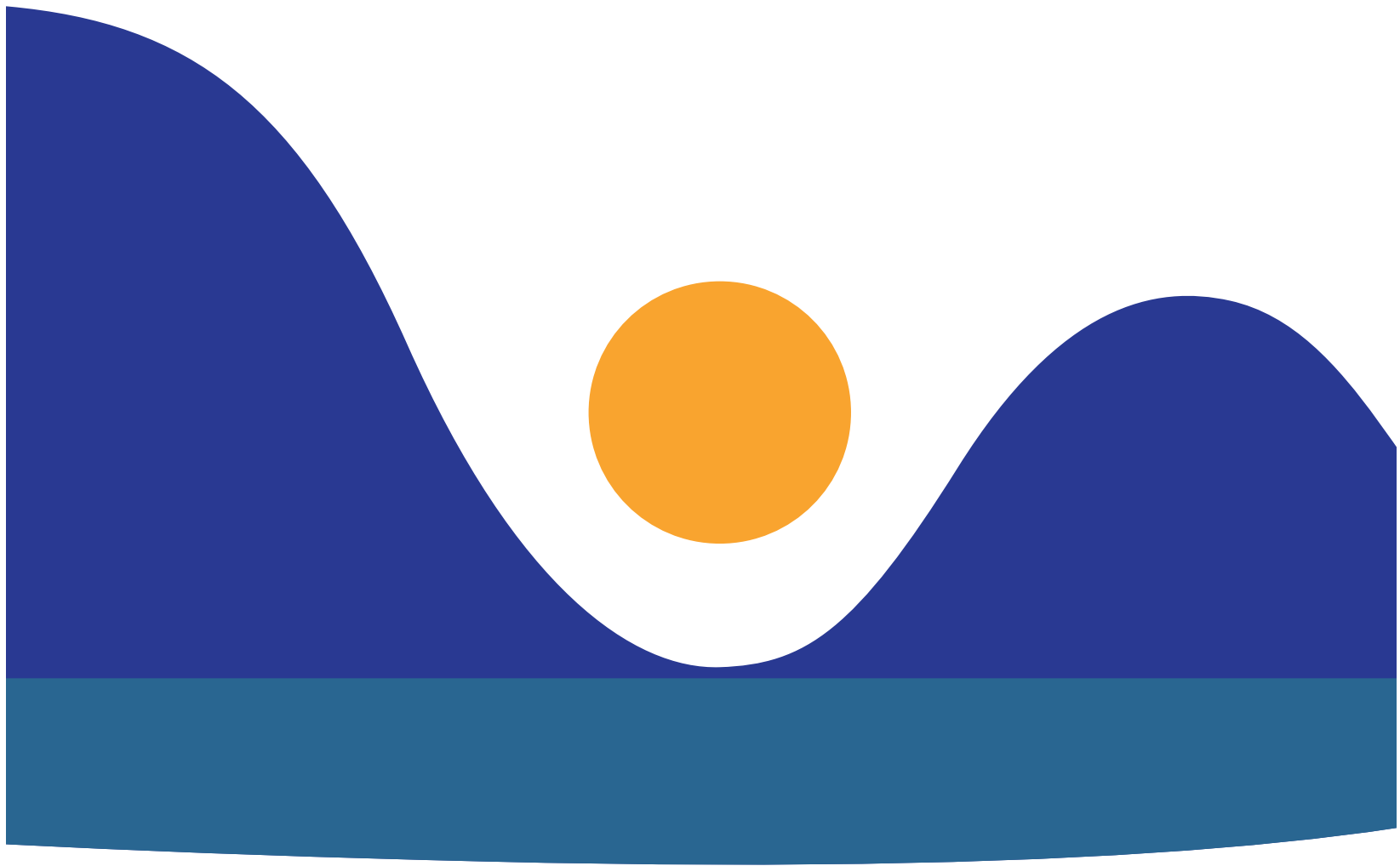




EastCoast
Regional Drugs &
Alcohol Task Force



Strategic Plan



2023-2027



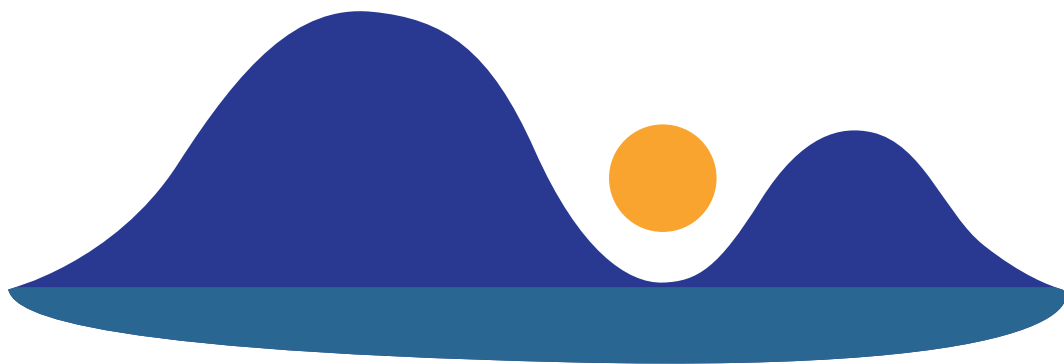
EastCoast
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Foreword



The East Coast Regional Drugs and Alcohol Task Force (ECRDATF) comprises representatives of community, voluntary, statutory, elected and interest groups who seek to deliver the core actions of the National Drug Strategy across the East Coast region. These actions include addressing alcohol and other drug problems through education, prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, recovery and youth and family supports.

The members of the main Task Force committee and our many subgroups along with our funded projects, other statutory and community based support services, and our service users have all contributed to the development of this strategy, for which we are very thankful. The work of all these groups and services together make a real and lasting impact on the lives of the individuals, families, and communities they serve.

The new strategy builds on previous strategies and their evaluations to continue to support and strengthen community-based responses to drug and alcohol misuse. It is the product of extensive consultation within the Task Force itself, and with service providers, service users and local communities. However, we are conscious of the changing drug and alcohol environment, so the new strategy will assist with continued monitoring of emerging needs and seek to address future needs in a timely manner, using evidence-based approaches to direct service provision. The continued partnership of this Task Force with the many other services across the East Coast communities is an essential component of delivering a high quality intervention and making real and ongoing differences in the lives of individuals, families, and communities for the betterment of all.

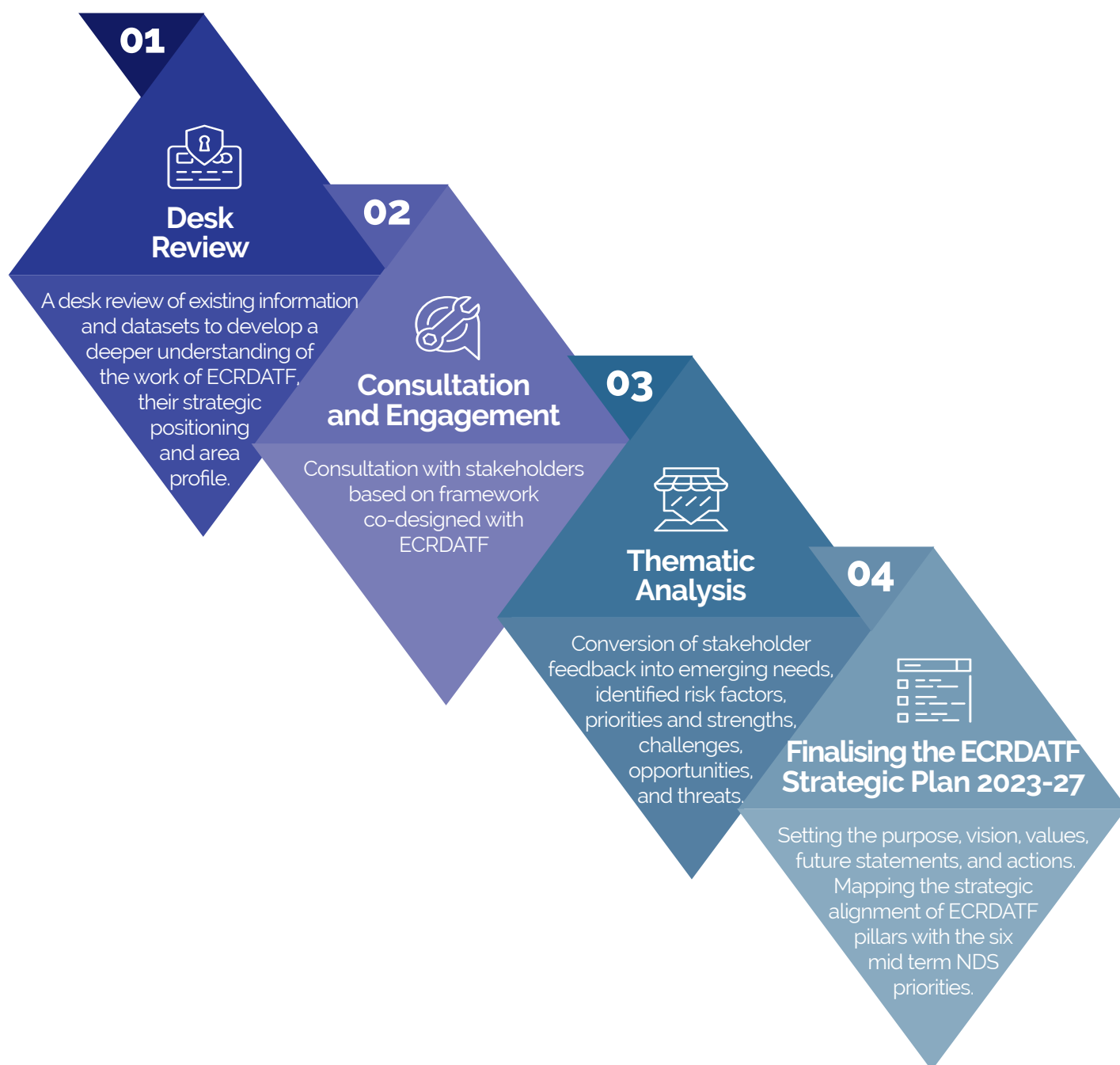
From the last strategy, we were able to reform our work with new and enhanced services supported by the Task Force. We trust that this will continue to have a significant impact on the communities of the East Coast Region, and that this strategy will further assist them into the future.

I wish to thank the members of the Task Force, and especially the Task Force Coordinator, Maeve Shanley, along with members of our funded projects and service users for their contributions to the development of this strategy. Through our collective energy and drive, we hope to again refocus our work and develop appropriate and needed drug and alcohol services across the East Coast Region to address the concerns of the communities and provide help, information, and support to those in need.

Frank Gallagher
Chairperson

Developing Our Strategic Plan

This strategic plan has been developed following consultation with taskforce representatives, service providers, and stakeholders from the statutory, voluntary and community sectors. Contributions were received from more than 20 unique organisations across the ECRDATF area reflecting the interagency nature of their work. A mixed method approach was used comprising focus group discussions, online 1-1 semi-structured meetings to ensure an accessible and inclusive consultation process.



What We Do

ECRDATAF is one of ten Regional Drug & Alcohol Task Forces (DATAFs) in Ireland that were set up in 2003 from recommendations in the then National Drugs Strategy (NDS). DATAFs were formed to facilitate a more effective response in areas experiencing the highest levels of substance misuse and involve those directly affected by the problem in the development of an area-based strategy. ECRDATAF directs funding to projects across the region spanning tiers 2-4 of the Four Tier Model of Intervention.

ECRDATAF Global Budget 2023



ECRDATAF Operational Budget (EC4)

The total amount allocated in 2023 was €209,486. This included the rent and utilities for 3 separate offices and funding for 2 Under-18 Addiction Workers (pilot schemes) and 2 additional CRIS workers in 2023. This will not be an annual arrangement.



Living Life Counselling (EC7)

The total amount allocated in 2023 was €15,850 to provide specific addiction counselling services for adults in the East Coast area who are low waged and/or unemployed.



Tiglin Residential Services (EC13)

The total amount allocated in 2023 was €96,530 to fund five residential beds to deliver a drug rehabilitation programme for adults from the ECRDATAF area, based on need and appropriate care.



Merchants Quay Ireland (MQI) Community Recovery & Integration Supports (CRIS) Project (EC15)

The total amount allocated in 2023 was €214,834 to provide rehabilitation and aftercare support along with information, education, and advocacy to target and engage with drugs and alcohol service users and support to their family members.



ECRDATAF Development Worker (EC16)

The hosting of an ECRDATAF Development Worker position and all associated costs was piloted and funded by 2022 funding at a cost of €40,303. Delays in recruitment resulted in a worker being employed from April to December 2023.



MQI Counselling Service (EC17)

The total amount allocated in 2023 was €30,000 to provide an Early Intervention Addiction Counselling Service comprising an assessment session and a short series of one-to-one additional brief intervention counselling sessions to assist them in understanding and managing their substance use.

ECRDATAF Funded Projects 2023

2023 Pilots

2023 is a year of realignment of ECRDATF funding, Wicklow Child & Family Project are hosting an U-18 drug/alcohol worker on a pilot basis for 2023 which is funded out of the operational budget and will not have a Service Level Agreement. Similarly, Arklow Springboard are piloting a new U18 drug/alcohol service in 2023 which will be funded from the ECRDATF operational budget. There has been an expansion of the MQI service with the addition of two new workers and the provision of appropriate office space to facilitate this.

Our Governance

The ECRDATF and its sub-structures bring together members representing the community, voluntary and statutory sectors, public representatives, and key interest groups to co-ordinate a collective and integrated response to substance misuse in the East Coast region. The day-to-day operations of the ECRDATF are led by the Co-ordinator whose remit combines, operational, developmental, and strategic roles. The Co-ordinator is supported in these areas by the ECRDATF Development Worker.

We are committed to implementing the themes and actions as set out in this Strategic Plan. Successful delivery is reliant on a number of dependencies, namely retaining our staff team, securing resources, and funding and ensuring the implementation of good governance through our committee and subcommittee structure.

ECRDATF Members

Member	Sector
Frank Gallagher	Chairperson, Independent
John Craven	HSE Addiction Service – Statutory Representative
Michelle Byrne, Insp	An Garda Siochana – Statutory Representative
Catherine Byrne	Kildare Wicklow Education Training Board – Statutory Representative
Kay O'Connor	Local Development – County Wicklow Partnership Rep.
Delores Goucher	Wicklow town and environs – Community Representative and Deputy Chairperson
Winifred Kelly	Dublin Simon Housing Services – Voluntary Service Representative
John Snell, Cllr	Wicklow County Council – Elected Representative
Tommy Annesley, Cllr	Wicklow County Council – Elected Representative
Peir Leonard, Cllr	Wicklow County Council – Elected Representative
Eileen Brassington	Greystones and environs – Community Representative
Shiela Busher	Arklow & Environs – Community Representative
Kirsty Kirkwood	Living Life Counselling – Voluntary Services Representative
Niall O'Shea	Independent – Finance & Audit Committee Lead
Maeve Shanley	ECRDATF Co-ordinator
Deborah Jordan	ECRDATF Development Worker
Martina Robinson	Wicklow & Environs, Community Representative

ECRDATAF Area Profile

ECRDATAF covers HSE Community Healthcare East (CHE), formerly CHO 6 encompassing a mix of urban and rural areas of Counties Wicklow and South and Southeast Dublin. Its remit excludes the town of Bray (part of Bray Local DATAF) and the 21 designated areas of Dún Laoghaire Rathdown (covered by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Local DATAF). Hence, ECRDATAF covers: Sandymount, Ballsbridge, Ranelagh, Donnybrook, Milltown, Dundrum, Ballinteer, Kilternan, Dun Laoghaire, Dalkey, Cabinteely, Stillorgan, Sallynoggin, Loughlinstown, and County Wicklow (excluding West Wicklow).

ECRDATAF crosses four local authority areas namely, Wicklow, South Dublin, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown and Dublin City County Councils. Each of these have established their own strategic plans and Local Economic and Community Plans (LECP). There are also three Education and Training Boards with coverage within the ECRDATAF boundary. These include City of Dublin (CDETB), County Dublin with Dun Laoghaire (DDLETB); and Kildare with Wicklow (KWETB).

The ECRDATAF is partially within the Garda Eastern Region and within that, the Wicklow/Wexford Division. It is also part of the Dublin Metropolitan Region and within that, the South Central Division. Amalgamations of Garda Divisions from 28 to 19 has resulted in the merging of Wexford and Wicklow now overseen by a Chief Superintendent based in Wexford town.

ECRDATAF crosses three Local Development companies; namely, Bray Area Partnership, County Wicklow Partnership and Dublin South City Partnership.

Above Average Population Increase

According to preliminary 2022 census data, the population of County Wicklow increased by 9.2% (n=13,426) to 155,851 between 2016 and 2022. The average national increase in population over the same period was 8%.



One Parent Families

The national average for one parent family households in 2016 was 24%, in County Wicklow it was 19.38%, in Dublin City it was 36% while across County Dublin it was 22.9%. In County Wicklow in 2016, there were 2,369 families with all children aged 15 or under in homes headed by a lone parent mother and 157 of same headed by a lone father¹.



Children in State Care

At the end of 2020, there were 846 children resident in the Dublin South East/Wicklow Tusla area in receipt of Family Support Services with 231 children in state care in this area. In the Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow area the figure was more than double at 1,971 for Family Support Services and significantly higher at 402 for children in state care².



Education

36.71% of the population in County Wicklow and 45.18% of the population in County Dublin attained third level education. (Census 2016)



School attendance can be an early indicator of vulnerability to substance misuse. The mean percentage of 20-day absences in County Wicklow primary schools in the academic year 2017-18 was 10.7% which was above the national average of 9.5%. For secondary schools in County Wicklow, it was 17.3% again above the national average of 16.2%³.

Employment

2022 Census Results indicate that in April 2022, there were 68,971 people (aged 15 and over) at work in Wicklow, an increase of 9,837 people (+17%) between 2016 and 2022.



¹ Security (Data Catalog) (tusla.ie)

² Safe (Data Catalog) (tusla.ie)

³ Achieving (Data Catalog) (tusla.ie)

Drug Prevalence

REFERRALS



114% increase in referrals from 2017 to 2022.

2022 REFERRALS

621



61%



39%

Based on provisional data from the National Drug Treatment Reporting System (NDTRS) shared by the Health Research Board (HRB)



542

residents from Wicklow area

79

in the Dublin South East area

2022 REFERRALS



54 children under the age of 5 and

163 aged 5-17 years living with a person with substance misuse issues.

2022 DRUG OF CHOICE



Alcohol



Cocaine

14%



Cannabis

10%



Heroin

5%

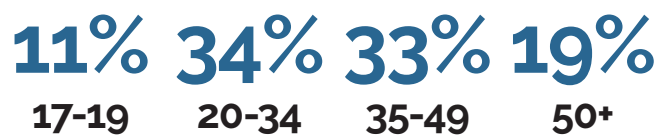


Benzodiazepines

37% more than 1 problem drug

19% more than 3 problem drugs

AGE PROFILE 2022 REFERRALS



TREATMENT OUTCOMES

500 exited services in 2022

51% drug or alcohol free or had reduced use

MQI CRISIS SERVICE



Our Work in Context

This section provides a high-level summary of the strategic, and policy context which will inform the work of the NDRDATF and its funded services over the next five years.

The **National Drug Strategy: Reducing Harm Supporting Delivery** is a key policy driver for our work. A mid-term review of the Strategy identified six priority areas to strengthen implementation, priorities which have been carefully examined and considered in the development of this plan, to ensure the alignment of our work over the next five years.

There are 10 actions in the NDS assigned to DATFs:

1. Ensure that the commitment to an integrated public health approach to drugs and alcohol is delivered as a key priority.
2. Support the Social Personal and Health Education (SPHE) programme.
3. Improve services for young people at risk in socially and economically disadvantaged communities.
4. Expand the availability and geographic spread of relevant quality drug and alcohol services based on identified need.
5. Respond to the needs of women who are using drugs and/or alcohol in a harmful manner.
6. Expand the range, availability and geographic spread of drug and alcohol services for those under the age of 18.
7. Improve the response to the needs of older people with long term substance misuse issues.
8. Continue to target a reduction in drug related deaths and non-fatal overdoses.
9. Support and promote community participation in all local, regional, and national structures.
10. Promote the participation of service users and their families including those in recovery, in local, regional and national decision-making structures and networks in order to facilitate their involvement in the design, planning and development of services and policies.

Our Strategic Plan also reflects the priorities within the Programme for Government relating to substance misuse and synergizes with national health and wellbeing and criminal justice and rehabilitation policy.

National Drug Strategy: Reducing Harm, Supporting Recovery



Programme for Government



An Garda Síochána Crime Prevention & Reduction Strategy 2021-2024



Department of Justice's Statement of Strategy 2021-2023



Healthy Ireland Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013-2025



Healthy Ireland Strategic Action Plan for 2021-2025



Review of ECRDATF 2019-22 Strategic Plan

This section will reflect on the progress against the 2019-22 ECRDATF strategic plan based on our desk review and the qualitative perspectives from the stakeholder consultations.

Impact of COVID 19

The ECRDATF and its funded services adopted the public health guidelines and pivoted where necessary to remote working. In the two-year period of the pandemic, there was a 25% increase in the numbers presenting to the MQI CRIS service. Youth services who contributed to this review felt that disruptions to school and youth programmes during COVID has adversely impacted vulnerable students and the repercussions of this have not yet fully manifested in behaviours.

Evaluation of ECRDATF funded services

An evaluation of ECRDATF funded services completed in August 2020 recommended that the ECRDATF move to a commissioning model of funding services to enable it to procure based on local need and take ownership of the KPIs through which such services are monitored.

This increased treatment interventions for ECRDATF residents coincided with the commissioning of the MQI CRIS service in the East Coast Region in 2017 and the strategic direction adopted by the ECRDATF to increase access to services for people impacted by drugs and alcohol resident in the East Coast area. In 2021 and 2022, over 50% of those treated had reduced or ceased their drug or alcohol use. This is an important outcome and demonstrates the impact of services in changing the client's relationship with their drug/s of choice.

Youth Drug and Alcohol Services (YoDA) for CHE

ECRDATF successfully advocated for the extension of this service to cover the CHE area. A Nurse Practitioner was appointed to deliver this service under the clinical direction of the Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist.

Restructuring of the Brief Intervention Counselling (BIC) Service

Twelve changes were approved to the service included it's rebranding to the Early Intervention Addiction Counselling Service. An information sheet for existing and prospective clients was devised. MQI were successful in procuring for this new service which commenced on January 1st, 2023.

Expansion to Greystones Municipal District

To enable greater reach across County Wicklow, ECRDATF secured a lease of a premises in Greystones where the MQI service placed a worker to commence meeting clients from Greystones and surrounding areas. This precipitated an increase in the number of clients from the area presenting to the MQI service.

Stakeholder Consultation

The consultation process included passionate and forthright contributions from stakeholders about where we need to go and what we need to do to enhance our approach during the next 4 years. The following is not an exhaustive list of comments and statements but rather a thematic overview of the key issues and ideas that appeared time and again throughout the consultations. Our Strategic Plan for 2023-2027 acknowledges all stakeholder contributions, and our strategy sets out the key areas of action developed in response to these findings.

Insights



Perceptions of current landscape of substance misuse

Substance misuse and associated impacts have worsened over the past three years in the ECRDATF area.

Vaping as an aide to assist smoking cessation has morphed into a gateway drug for young people to such an extent that the Government has pledged but not yet enacted legislation to address this trend.

Lack of awareness about the impact of regular cannabis use is a factor in the normalisation of this drug from a young age.

Polydrug use has also become embedded with services indicating that most of those presenting are using two or more drugs.

The visibility of drug dealing and consumption, anti-social behaviour, intimidation and violence from drug debt and feuds is accelerating and fuelling fear across some communities in the East Coast Region.

Identified Risk Factors

Acceptable patterns and levels of drug use was identified as a key risk factor particularly surrounding cannabis, and alcohol misuse.

The absence of positive role models, deficits in resilience and the perceived lack of opportunities makes it very difficult for a young person raised in poverty to resist the lure of the drugs economy.

The home and family environment were identified as key risk factors. Parents or other family members misusing drugs or living with addiction resulted in a normalisation of drugs for children.

Negative attitudes to education and progression shaped by intergenerational unemployment and low education attainment among parents was identified as a strong attitudinal risk factor for children and young people.

The lack of available services targeted for early intervention in mental health coupled with the length of mental health waiting lists presented as a risk factor for drug and alcohol misuse.

Priorities

The set-up, establishment and monitoring of a Tier 2 U18 service that connects with the YoDA East Coast Tier 3 service with key working and inter agency case management is integral to its delivery.



A continuing need to provide holistic support services that focus on prevention of substance misuse among under 18s.

Increased access to and uptake of Harm reduction services should be a priority in the strategic plan.

ECRDATF fund five beds in Tiglin, however a shortage of residential treatment beds locally and nationally was a recurring theme throughout the consultations.

Increasing ECRDATF's profile locally and its influence at the policy and strategic level. Strengthening recovery capital in the community through education, training, peer support and employment opportunities in partnership with funded services.

There are few therapeutic interventions available for Alcohol only in the region and yet it is consistently the most problematic drug presenting to services.

Service users, because of their direct experiences of services, have unique insights which are a valuable resource to those involved in developing services and interventions. Facilitating their involvement in the development and design of services is essential.

Working collaboratively with Local Drug and Alcohol Task Forces (LDATFs) that border the East Coast region can more effectively highlight issues of common interest.

ECRDATF has the lowest funding allocation of all 24 DATFs and to address this must apply for all funding available. They must maximise their influence through representation on committees, groups, and forums.

SCOT Analysis

All the inclusions in the Strengths, Challenges, Opportunities and Threats (SCOT) analysis below emerged from and are evidenced from the consultation and desk review.

STRENGTHS

- Local knowledge and experience
- Full-time coordinator, recently recruited Development Worker
- Growth of the MQI service
- Bases in Wicklow, Arklow & Greystones, and outreach centres
- Numbers accessing treatment have increased
- Over 50% of those exiting treatment are drug/alcohol free or have reduced use
- Passionate and committed
- Good cross referrals between projects
- Collaboration with YoDA
- Tier 2,3,4 services

CHALLENGES

- Delays with the U18 service
- Administrative burden relating to funding
- Communication with some funded services
- Lack of profile & visibility of the Task Force
- Community representation & attendance at Task Force meetings
- Reporting processes from projects to Task Force/HSE
- Effectiveness of the subcommittees
- Collaboration, networking and sharing of resources
- Tendering process has hindered relationships with some services

OPPORTUNITIES

- For growth and development of the MQI service
- Through collaboration with Bray & DLR task forces
- The development worker role
- Improve visibility of task force
- Registration as a CLG and become a stronger entity
- Use the Charitable Governance Code
- Attract new funding from CSEF, Dormont Accounts, Sláintecare, Healthy Ireland
- For a regional wide Tier-2 U18 drug/alcohol service
- Increase, strengthen and reenergise task force representation and sub committees

THREATS

- U18 service not getting established
- Less national prominence of drugs & alcohol compared with homelessness and mental health
- Increased need, complexity, and demand for services despite net reduction in resources
- Geographic area covered by ECRDATF
- Not getting the resources, new members, skills energy required to lead the strategic plan
- Services being resistant to change
- Challenges such as anti-social behaviour and normalisation of drug use
- Increasing rent and utility costs
- Difficulties recruiting and retaining staff

ECRDATAF Strategic Plan 2023-27

Our Purpose

Drugs and Alcohol are harming our communities and we want to make a difference

Vision

People in the East Coast region are healthier, safer, and resilient to the impact of Drugs and Alcohol

Taskforce guiding principles and values:

PROPRIETARY:

ECRDATAF will carry out its terms of reference (functions) with integrity and fairness and without self-interest or favouritism.

RESPONSIVENESS:

ECRDATAF will be responsive to stakeholders' views and will consult with them in carrying out their functions.

TRANSPARENCY:

ECRDATAF will keep their stakeholders informed about their policies and actions.

ACCOUNTABILITY:

ECRDATAF will be accountable for the use of public monies provided to them.

EFFICIENCY & EFFECTIVENESS:

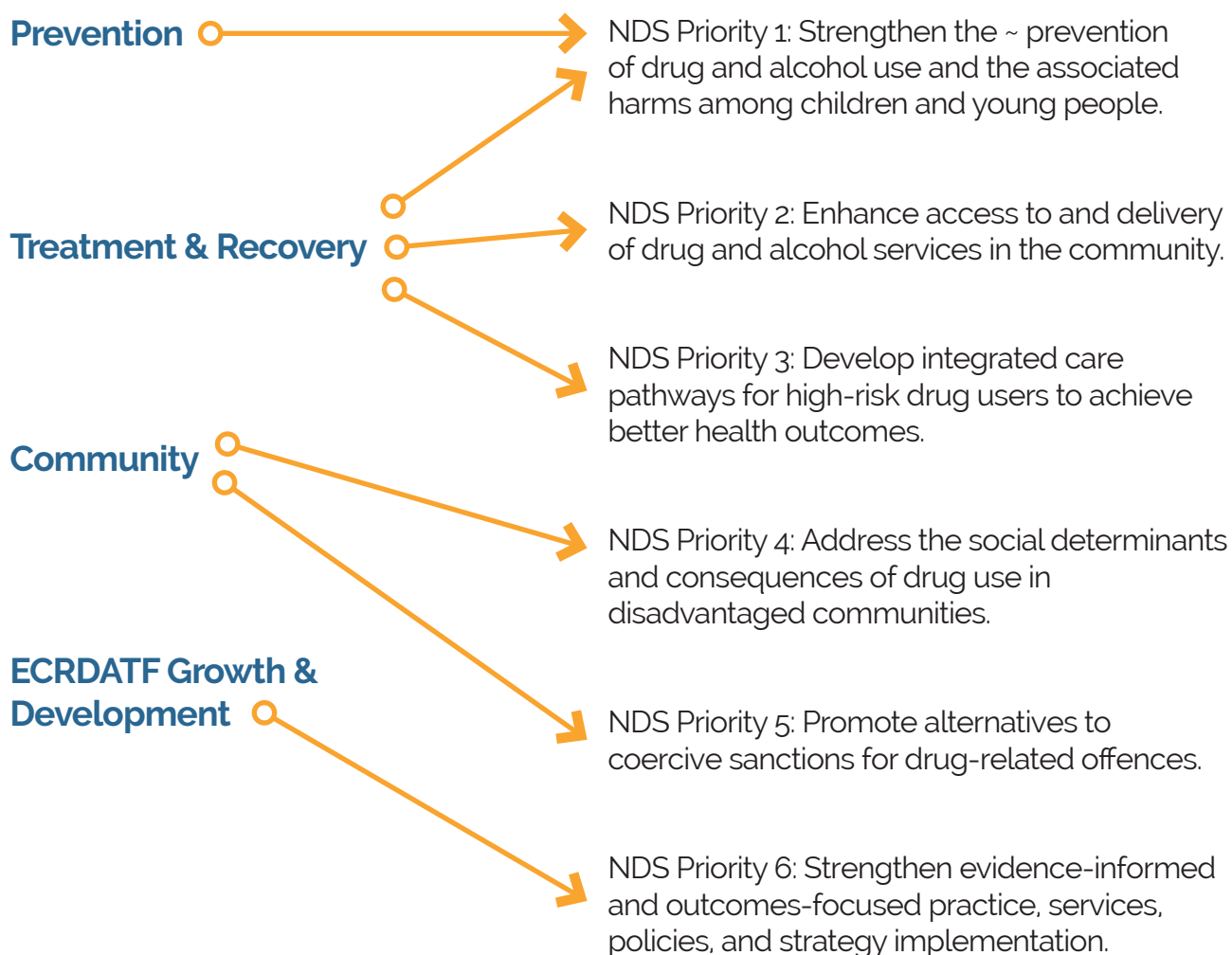
ECRDATAF will have regard to the need for effectiveness and efficiency in carrying out their terms of reference (functions).

PARTNERSHIP:

ECRDATAF work in a spirit of partnership between the statutory, voluntary and community sectors.

Our Strategic Priorities

Following a midterm review of the National Drug Strategy, six strategic priorities were identified to strengthen the implementation of strategy for the period 2021-2025. The strategic priorities reflect the lessons learned and the stakeholder feedback from the midterm review and capture the commitments in the Programme for Government. The six priorities and the alignment of the ECRDATF strategic plan themes are set out below. The strategic themes also reflect the 10 actions within the National Drug Strategy where Drug and Alcohol Task Forces are assigned a role.



ECRDATF's work over the life course of this strategic plan will be focussed on four strategic themes supported by future statements and a total of 23 actions. These collectively reflect ECRDATF ambition to be an inclusive, influential, and resilient East Coast regional wide organisation.

Theme 1 - Prevention

Future Statement: ECRDATF have acknowledged and actioned the importance of Prevention in their work.

Actions	Measures of Success	By
1. Explore the Planet Youth model and its implementation in other areas with a view to integrating in the ECRDATF region through inter agency working (NDS Action 1.2.3)	Decision made in respect of implementation of the Planet Youth model	End of 2023
2. Collaborate on CHE initiatives to assist children impacted by substance misuse issues (NDS Action 1.2.8)	Collaboration documented and reported	Annually
3. Contribute to the roll out of national and regional campaigns to enhance drug prevention and education and ensure that insights from the East Coast Region are reflected	No. of awareness campaigns contributed to, and audience reached	Ongoing as and when campaigns are designed and launched
4. Review the allocation of resources to Prevention in the overall ECRDATF budget	Resources allocated for Prevention reviewed	Annually

Theme 2 – Treatment & Recovery

Future Statement: - People in need are aware of and have accessed high quality, evidenced based treatment and recovery services.

Actions	Measures of Success	By
5. Monitor the U18 pilots, identify KPIs by which they will be evaluated and the options beyond the pilot stage (Mainstreaming, out to tender) (NDS Action 2.1.22)	-Establishment of U18 pilots, -No. of referrals, case load, reach, referral agents. -Evaluation of U18 pilots	-Pilots in place by end of 2023 -KPIs being monitored by Q1 2024 -Evaluations complete by end of 2024 to include recommendations on next steps.
6. Fund effective drug and alcohol services aligned to emerging need (NDS Actions 1.1.1, 2.1.13, 2.2.30)	-Increased proportion of service users achieving positive treatment outcomes (stabilisation, reduced use, drug free) -Increased numbers accessing ECRDATF funded services and achieving care plan goals	-Data to evidence measures of success accessed from HRB and funded services and reported on in the ECRDATF annual report
7. Support the development of dual diagnosis services and champion a culture of dual recovery across the ECRDATF region (NDS Action 2.1.13)	-Dual diagnosis protocols in place	-End of 2024
8. Develop pathways to services for hard to reach groups (NDS Actions 2.1.21, 2.1.23)	-Pathways for women and older people with long term substance misuse issues in place -Pathways for those living in rural areas into services established	-End of 2024
9. Continually review the allocation to Treatment and Recovery in the overall ECRDATF budget.	-Allocation to Treatment & Recovery reviewed	-Annually
10. Identify gaps in provision and work with services to address blocks and challenges through the treatment and recovery group	-Better insight into need presenting in the ECRDATF area	-Ongoing through Treatment & Recovery Group and annually through SLA meetings

Theme 3 - Community

Future Statement: We have heard and represented the needs of the ECRDATF community and service users at local, regional, and national level.

Actions	Measures of Success	By
<p>11. Strengthen the voice of the community through (i) ensuring East Coast wide representation of community reps on ECRDATF committees and (ii) the hosting of events and conferences (NDS Action 4.1.39)</p>	<p>-Community wide representation on the ECRDATF providing a voice on issues and consequences of substance misuse in the community -One conference/community event held per year</p>	<p>-Ongoing and reviewed annually</p>
<p>12. Support the roll out of the Data Driven Intervention Model on Drug Related Intimidation and Violence Engagement (DRIVE) in the ECRDATF area in partnership with An Garda Síochána, Department of Justice, Local Authorities, and the Community (NDS Action 4.1.39)</p>	<p>-ECRDATF liaison person for DRIVE in place</p>	<p>-Ongoing and reviewed annually</p>
<p>13. Facilitate service user (SU) involvement through a service user forum led by the ECRDATF Development Worker (NDS Action 4.2.44)</p>	<p>-Service users forum established to ensure SU involvement in the development of services</p>	<p>-By end of 2024</p>
<p>14. Reflect on the final report from the Citizens Assembly on Drug Use and map where findings and recommendations can be applied across the East Coast Region (NDS Action 1.1.1)</p>	<p>-Citizens Assembly Report on Drug Use recommendations where relevant are actioned in ECRDATF</p>	<p>-Commencing in 2024 and then ongoing</p>

Theme 4 – ECRDATF Growth & Development

Future Statement: ECRDATF is an inclusive, professional, and effective organisation.

Actions	Measures of Success	By
15. Develop terms of reference (ToR) for TF committee and subcommittee membership with clear role descriptions and responsibilities	-ToR for TF committee and subcommittee membership in place	-Mid 2024
16. Undertake an option appraisal of ECRDATF registration as a CLG	-Option appraisal of ECRDATF registration as a CLG completed	-Mid 2024
17. Work with funded services and HSE to agree a reporting template and associated data collection tools to monitor the effectiveness of funded services and inform an ECRDATF annual report to the HSE/DoH	-Impact reporting template in place	-New template to be used in 2024 ECRDATF annual report
18. Develop an annual ECRDATF training plan incorporating the training needs of TF staff, members, and those of funded services	-ECRDATF training plan in place and reviewed annually	-2024
19. Seek opportunities to engage with the Minister of State for Drugs Policy, the HSE and the DoH, for an increase in ECRDATF funding	-Engagements with Minister of State for Drugs Policy, the HSE and the DoH, -Additional funding secured	-Ongoing
20. Embed a culture of collaboration and inclusivity with funded services	-Regular presentations by funded services at TF meetings	-Ongoing
21. Incorporate data on drug use in the ECRDATF region from the NDTRS data into a reporting template to be updated annually upon release of statistics from HRB	-NDTRS data included in ECRDATF annual report	-End of 2023 based on NDTRS 2022 data
22. Ensure ECRDATF representation on/links with, local regional and national structures to garner influence and currency of knowledge on relevant policy and strategy (NDS Action 4.1.39)	-ECRDATF representation on local, regional and national forums (SIGs, TF Coordinators and Chairs National Group, Healthy Ireland, Sláintecare, Healthy Communities, Community Safety Partnerships, CYPSC),	-Ongoing
23. Use the ECRDATF website and digital and social media as platforms to increase awareness of ECRDATF and the harms of drugs and alcohol	-Live website and digital and social media platforms in place -Increased online traffic on ECRDATF platforms	-Ongoing

Acronyms

TCHE	Community Healthcare East
CLG	Company Limited by Guarantee
CRIS	Community Recovery & Integration Supports
CSEF	Community Services Enhancement Fund
CYPSC	Children & Young Person's Services Committee
DATF	Drug & Alcohol Task Force
DoH	Department of Health
DRIVE	Drug Related Intimidation and Violence Engagement
ECRDATF	East Coast Regional Drugs and Alcohol Task Force
HSE	Health Service Executive
KPIs	Key Performance Indicators
LECP	Local Economic and Community Plan
MQI	Merchants Quay Ireland
NDS	National Drugs Strategy
NDTRS	National Drug Treatment Reporting System
SA	Small Area
SCOT	Strengths, Challenges, Opportunities and Threats
SIGs	Strategic Implementation Groups
SLA	Service Level Agreement



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