



Dublin North East Local Drug & Alcohol Task Force

ANNUAL REPORT

**to The Department Of Health,
DPU. 2025**



Dublin North East
Drugs and Alcohol Task Force

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SECTION 1.

Overview of the drug problem in Dublin North East Local DATF

Introduction

The Dublin North East Local Drug & Alcohol Task Force has had a very challenging year. Its progress has been seriously impacted by a long period of illness in management and a number of changes in membership including its chairperson and location of the core offices.

Despite these challenges, the DNE LDATF led by a strong team of directors and chairperson, has begun an intensive review strategy to support important service improvements. This has included but is not limited to

- Expansion of services to provide a more targeted approach in high priority areas including Bonnybrook
- Engagement in the Integrated Alcohol Service at community level in Darndale
- Establishment of a small grants scheme for Aftercare and Recovery Initiatives
- Funding of new play therapist post to address hidden harm experienced by children.
- Establishment of Family Support Coordinator to implement evidence informed interventions for people impacted by familial substance use.
- External and independent 'listening' process commissioned to capture perceptions about the role of the DNE LDATF in the community and inform improvements to make it more effective and relevant in line with national NDS priorities.
- Engagement with the Nth Dublin RDATEF SUPPORT initiative for service user engagement and imbedding engagement strategies into local services to inform service improvements based on the lived experience of people who use them.

In this context, the DNE LDATF is in very good shape to enhance the services being provided and engage more meaningfully with the community, service providers and clients and families it services

Report prepared by

P. Duff

On behalf of DNE LDATF Coordinator

About Dublin North East Local Drug & Alcohol Task Force

Dublin North East Local Drug and Alcohol Task Force (DNELDATF) was first established in 1997 as part of the Government's response to the serious opiate drug issues that had arisen in Ireland particularly in the inner-city areas of Dublin. They were set up to facilitate a more effective response to problem drug-use in the areas most affected, to be achieved through improved co-ordination in services and through utilizing the knowledge and experience of local communities in designing and delivering those services. In 2013, alcohol was added to the responsibilities of Task Forces including DNELDATE.

The DNELDATF catchment comprises a population of 158,862 people across 43 Electoral Divisions (EDs) in Dublin North East. These EDs, in turn, comprise 574 small areas (SAs). The demographic analysis indicates that there are 5,345(3.4%) of the DNELDATF population in the ‘extremely disadvantaged’ categories of the HP Pobal Deprivation Index analysis compared to 3.3% in the HSE Dublin North City & County CHO area, 3.1% in the Dublin Region and 2.9% in the State. In the State, 14.4% of the population were classified as ‘very disadvantaged’ or ‘extremely disadvantaged’ in the Pobal Deprivation Index analysis of the CSO Census 2016. The corresponding percentage for the DNELDATF catchment is 16.0%.

The most disadvantaged 14,184 (8.9%) of the DNELDATF population are categorised as 'extremely disadvantaged' or 'very disadvantaged' and are located in specific small areas in: **Priorswood Darndale, Kilmore Catchment, Grange, Grace Park, Edenmore and Raheny-Greendale (Kilbarrack).**



*Location Map of Funded Drug & Alcohol Services
in DNELDATF Catchment Area 2019*

DRUG TRENDS IN DUBLIN NORTH EAST LOCAL DATF AREA

The central treatment list is an administrative database to regulate the dispensing of methadone treatment. The Central Treatment List (CTL) was established under Statutory Instrument No. 225 (Minister for Health and Children 1998) and is a complete register of all patients receiving methadone (as treatment for problems with pain use) in Ireland. When a person is considered suitable for methadone detoxification, stabilisation

or maintenance, a unique number is allocated to the client and a treatment card is issued for clients when dispensed in community pharmacies.

The data is not broken down into specific task force areas however it does highlight that CHO-9 (North Dublin City and County) has the highest number of people receiving OST.

LHO Area	Abbrev	CHO Area	CCA	Former Health board
Cavan / Monaghan	CM	1	0803	Dublin North Eastern Area
Donegal	DN	1	0401	West Area
Sligo / Leitrim	CL	1	0402	West Area
Galway	G	2	0601	West Area
Mayo	MO	2	0602	West Area
Roscommon	RN	2	0603	West Area
Clare	CE	3	0702	West Area
Limerick	LK	3	0701	West Area
North Tipp East /Limerick	NTEL	3	0703	West Area
Cork North Lee	CNL	4	0301	South Area
Cork South Lee	CSL	4	0302	South Area
Kerry	KY	4	0305	South Area
North Cork	NC	4	0303	South Area
West Cork	WC	4	0304	South Area
Carlow/ Kilkenny	CK	5	0901	South Area
South Tipperary	ST	5	0902	South Area
Waterford	WO	5	0904	South Area
Wexford	WX	5	0903	South Area
Dublin South	DS	6	1101	Dublin Mid Leinster Area
Dublin South East	DSE	6	1102	Dublin Mid Leinster Area
Wicklow	WW	6	1110	Dublin Mid Leinster Area
Dublin South Central	DSC	7	1203	Dublin Mid Leinster Area
Dublin South West	DSW	7	1204	Dublin Mid Leinster Area
Dublin West	DW	7	1205	Dublin Mid Leinster Area
Kildare / West Wicklow	KWW	7	1209	Dublin Mid Leinster Area
Laois / Offaly	LO	8	0502	Dublin Mid Leinster .Area
Longford & Westmeath	LW	8	0501	Dublin Mid Leinster Area
Louth	LH	8	0801	Dublin North Eastern Area
Meath	MH	8	0802	Dublin North Eastern Area
Dublin North	DN	9	1308	Dublin North Eastern Area
Dublin North Central	DNC	9	1307	Dublin North Eastern Area
Dublin North West	DNW	9	1306	Dublin North Eastern Area

HRB NATIONAL DRUG TREATMENT DATA FOR DUBLIN NORTH EAST LOCAL DATF

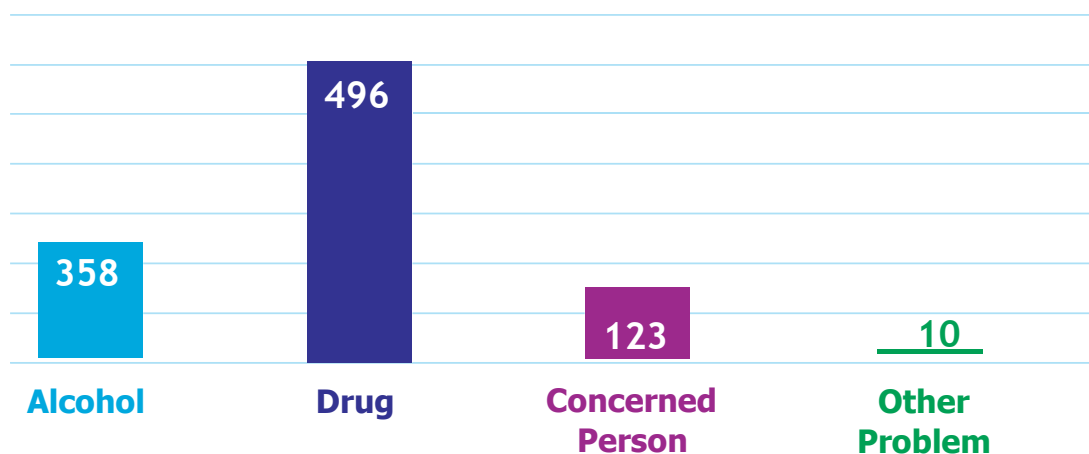
The HRB provides a central data collection system for all drug and alcohol treatment services funded by the exchequer.

When service users attend for treatment their assessment data is captured on a data collection form called the NDTRS which is submitted to the Health Research Board. The composite data is sent back to each task force coordinator in the country (10 regional and 14 local) to collate and disseminate to task force members and stakeholders to inform strategy development and service planning. The limitations of the data is that it only captures new treated cases and not prevalence however it does give a good indicator of drug trends and changes in service user profile. This section of the report captures a high level analysis of some of the trends from the analysis of the treatment data from full year 2025 for people who sought treatment and live in North East Local Drug Task Force area.

Reason for Referral new drug and alcohol treated cases living in DNE area in 2025

In total there were 800 new treated episodes in 2025. Indications are that most services are compliant with the NDTRS process however it would be expected to see higher numbers accessing treatment in the DNE area with its make up of services and high levels of disadvantage. It should be noted that this data refers to people who live in the DNE area and were treated. It is possible that the number of cases treated by services is higher based on referrals from people living outside the catchment area. There were high number of family members who received support as captured in the 'concerned person' data. Again these were not necessarily treated within services in the DNE area but were family members who live in the area. It is expected that numbers for alcohol specific treatment will rise as the area has services involved in CHO-9 integrated alcohol service.

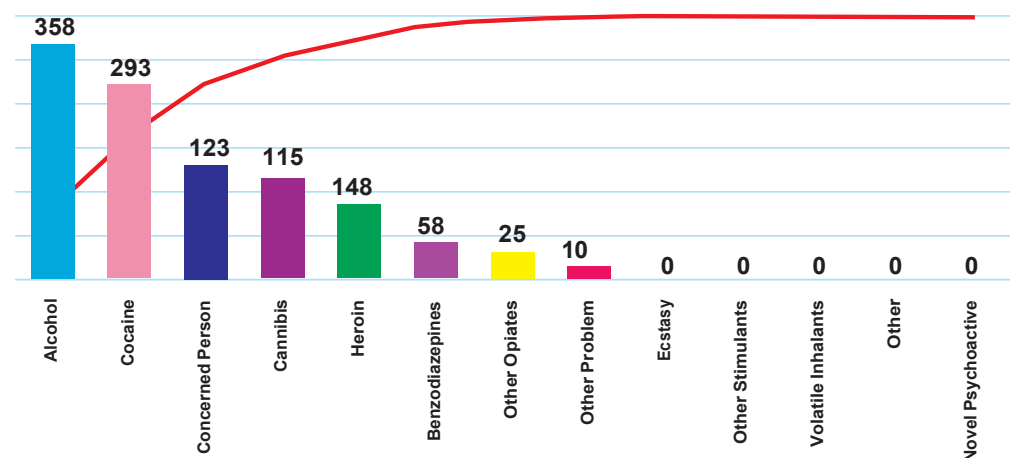
New Treatment Cases living in DNE LDATF Area by reason for referral 2025



Primary drug presentation in new treated cases living in DNE area in 2025

Similar to other DATF areas around the country, when the 'drug' category is broken down into specific drugs it is clear that cocaine is a significant problem in the area and is the most prominent primary drug presentation. To address this the DNE areas drug projects engaged in cocaine specific programmes.

Reason for Referral by Individual Drug 2025

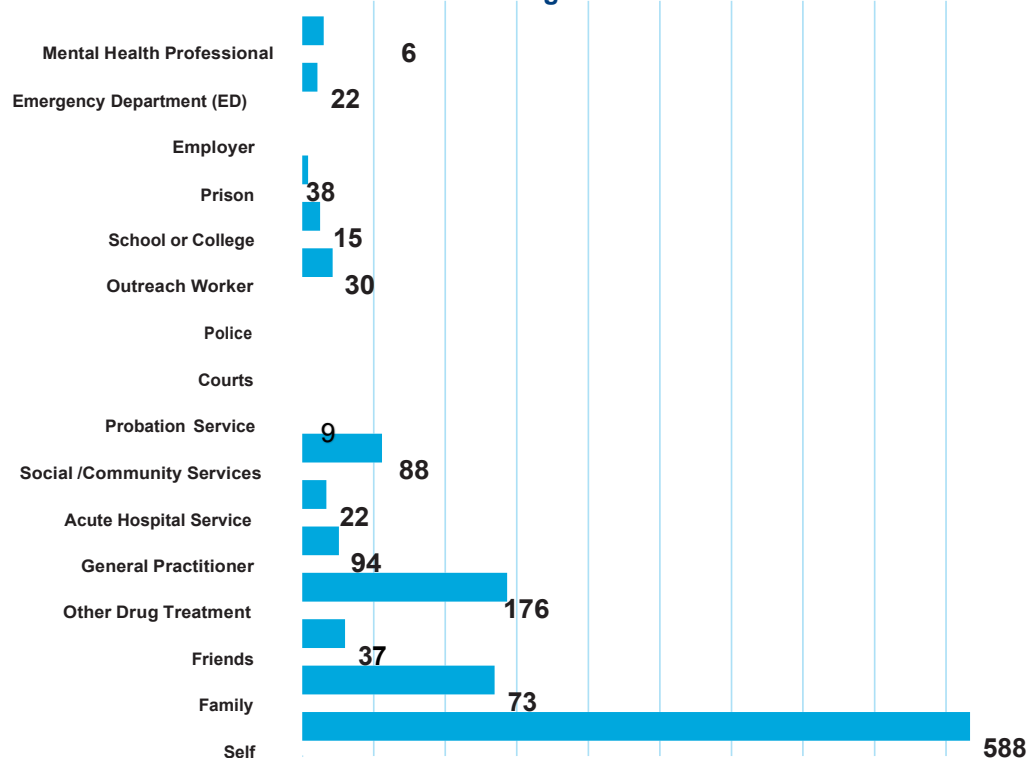


Source of referral for new treated cases residing in DNE area in 2025

It is useful to see where referrals to treatment come from. In the case of DNE there are high levels of self-referrals. This is not unusual and is often an interpretation issue. If a formal referral form has not been completed by a referring service but they have given information to a person to access a treatment service this will usually not be classed as an agency referral but as a 'self' referral.

There are some surprising stats in this data set for eg: lack of referrals from justice agencies. This was discussed in a task force meeting 7.9.23 and it was thought it may be an interpretation on the data collection form. Training the new HRB forms is being organized to address this

Referral Source New Treated Cases Living in DNE LDATF 2025

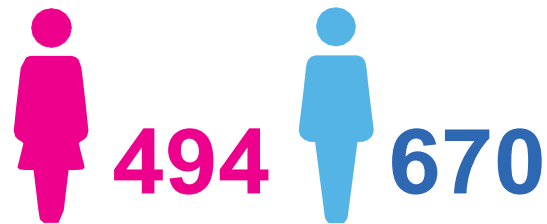


Gender breakdown for new treated cases living in the DNE area in 2025

Typically men tend to find it easier to access treatment than women and there is robust research to illustrate the barriers that cause women to delay accessing support when needed not least; stigma, fear of TUSLA involvement with children, domestic violence, trauma and other issues. The DNE data shows that while there is certainly a higher percentage of men featuring in new cases the gap for access between the genders is not as great as some areas. The NDTRS has restrictions around reporting for data protection reasons and so will not report on numbers less than 5.

Nonbinary is a category in the NDTRS but does not feature in this data set most likely due to this restriction.

New Treated Cases Living in DNE LDATF by Gender 2025

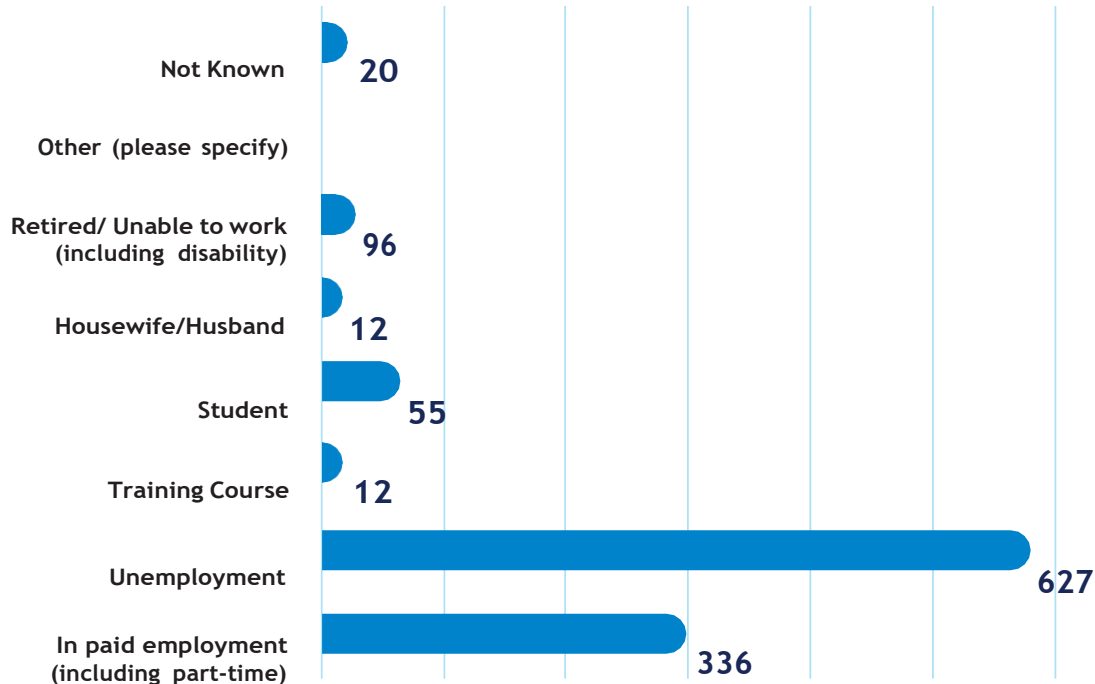


Employment status of new treated cases for drugs/alcohol living in the DNE area in 2025

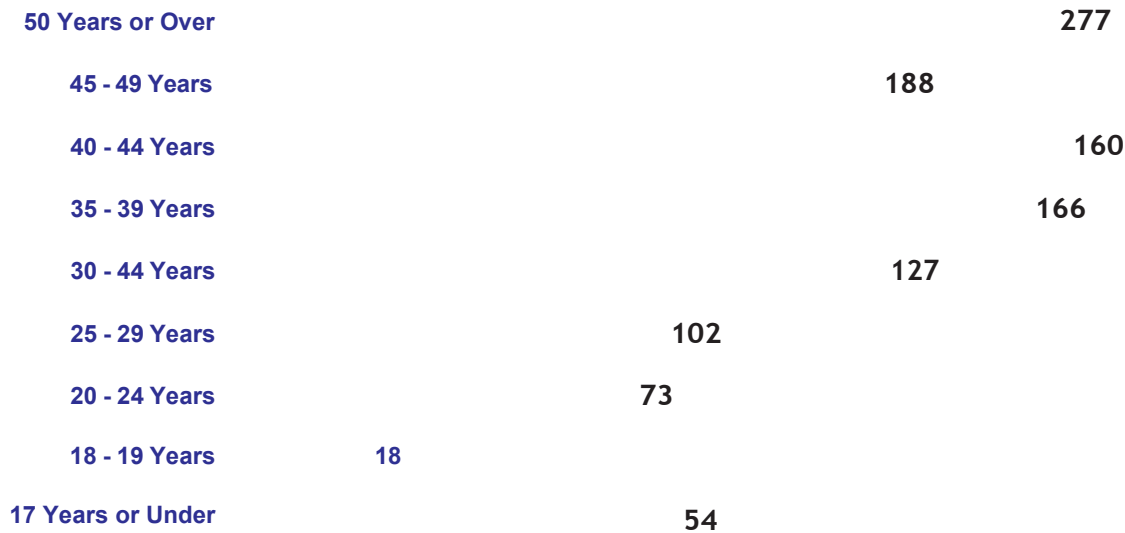
There is robust evidence that recovery capital is an essential component of sustainable recovery journeys for people who use drugs/alcohol. Structure, purpose and the opportunity to engage in life in the mainstream including employment and education is an important aspect of recovery capital.

The high levels of unemployment compared to national averages of people who sought treatment presents a rationale for engaging with adult education and labour market intervention organizations including SICAP implementers.

Employment Status New Treated Cases DNE LDATF 2025



Age Profile of New Treated Cases
Living in the DNE LDATF Area 2025



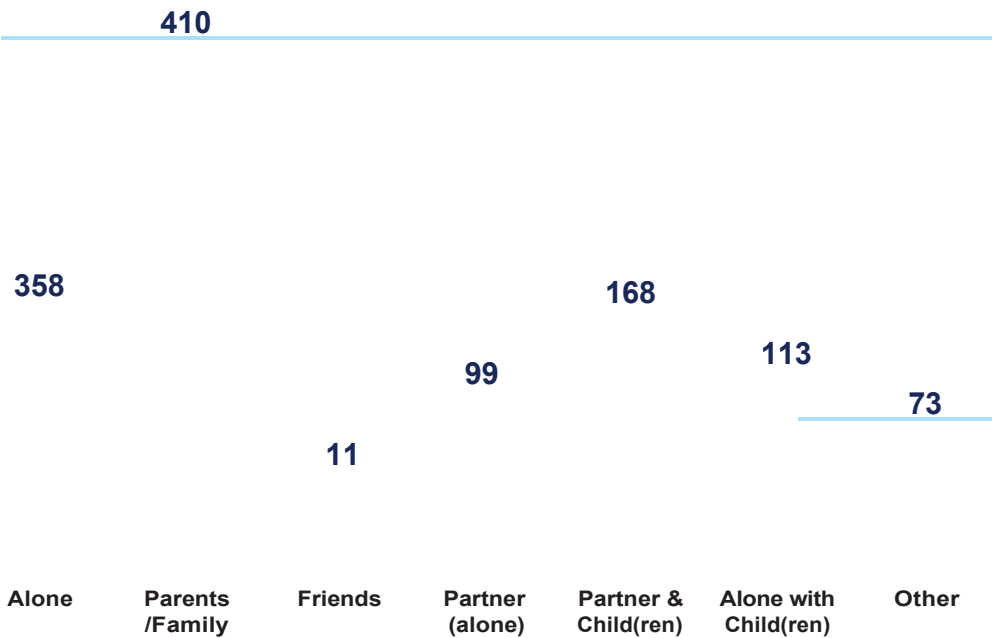
Family systems and wider support needs of new treated cases
for drugs/alcohol living in DNE area

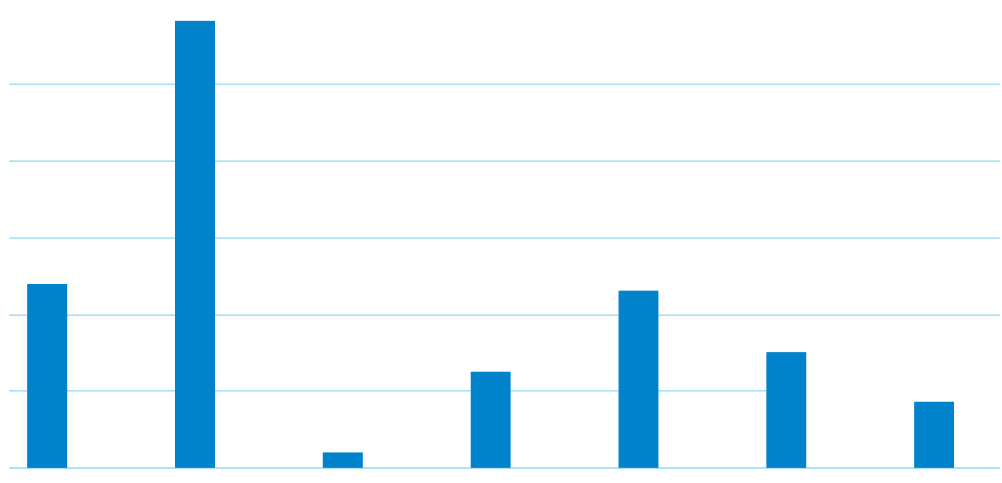
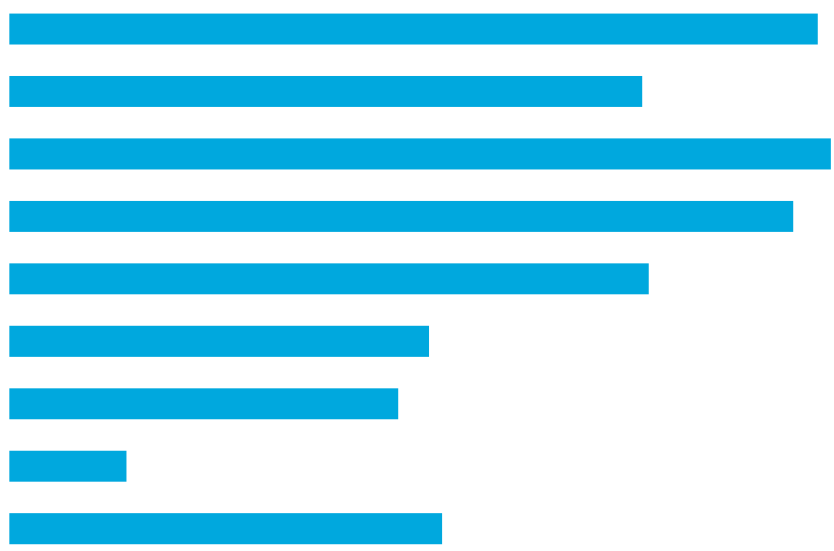
There is robust evidence regarding the wider impact of familial drug use on family members and significant others.

Examining the data on family life and living arrangements can give us some insight into service

planning needs in that regard. It is clear from the data that family support needs to be an important component of the drug and alcohol and wider service infrastructure in DNE area.

New Treated Cases Living in DNE LDATF
by Living Arrangements 2025





Hidden harm and children for treated cases living in DNE area in 2025

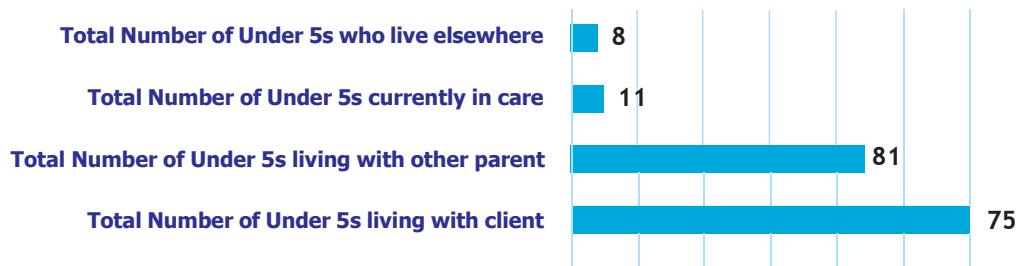
There is a longstanding recognition that problematic parental substance use can increase trauma and other hidden harm for children. The DNE has a cohort of people who sought treatment in 2025 for drug/alcohol use who have children and

some with very young children. To meet the needs of children and the family system including improving parental capacity it is important that the DNE develops a coordinated approach to family support

New Treated Cases with Children Living in DNE LDATF 2025 - Under 18

Number of Cases with No Children Under 18	492
Number of Cases with Children Under 18 who live elsewhere	36
Number of Cases with have Children Under 18 currently in care	14
Number of Cases whose Children are living with other parent	160
Number of Cases living with Children under 18	207

New Treated Cases Living in DNE LDATF with Children under 5 2025



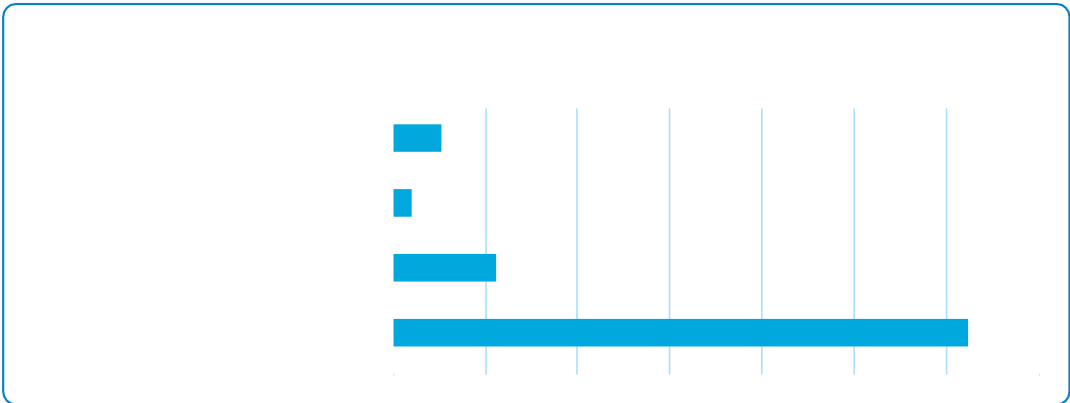
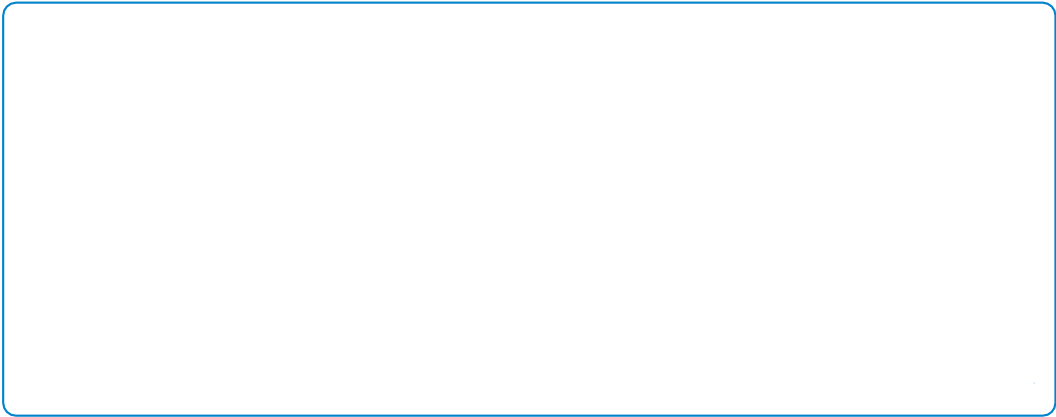
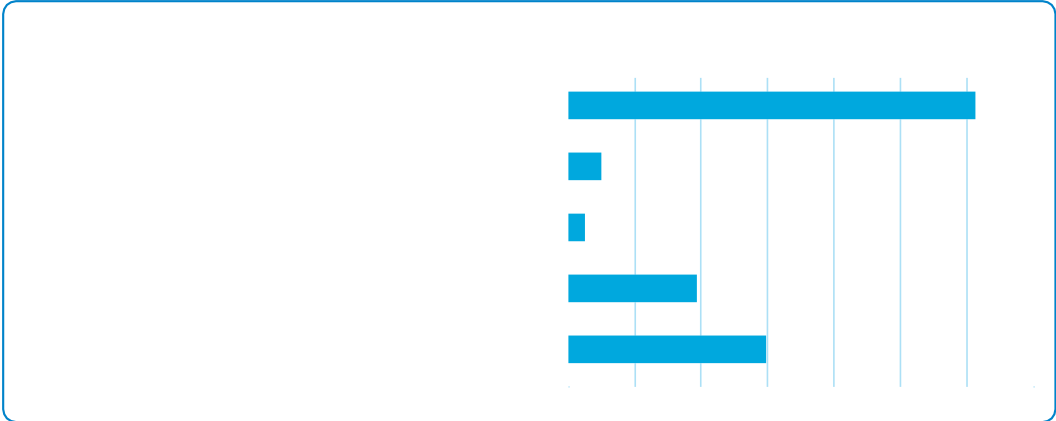
Housing status of new treated cases for people living in DNE area in 2025

In terms of recovery capital stable housing is a key element. The lack of secure accommodation is recognized as a very unstabilising when trying to access treatment and maintain recovery. The data

for DNE is encouraging in this regard with stable accommodation a feature of most peoples housing status who accessed drug and alcohol treatment in 2025.

Home Status New Treated Cases Living in the DNE LDATF Area 2025

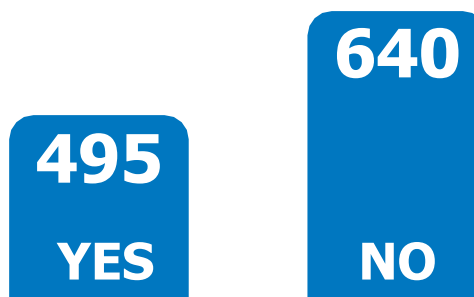
Institution (Residential Care / Halfway House)	16
Prison	2
Other Unstable Accommodation	37
Homeless	29
Stable Accommodation	1054



Poly drug use for new treated cases for people living in DNE area in 2025

Analysis of the 2025 treatment data shows that roughly a third of all treated cases had problems with more than one drug no assessment. This means people presented seeking support for specific drug and on further exploration additional drugs were identified that were also impacting negatively on their quality of life.

More than one Drug Presenting Problem New Treated Cases Living in the DNE Area 2025

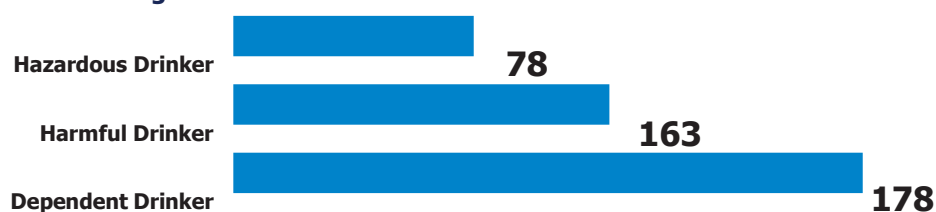


Severity of alcohol problem for treated cases for alcohol in 2025 living in DNE area

Alcohol was added to the remit of task forces in 2013. This was a particular challenge for local DATFS where most existing services had been established to provide treatment options to address opiate use which was historically prevalent. This presents issues in relation to capacity building for services and perceptions about the role of drug services in communities. Given these challenges, it is not surprising that

alcohol treatment presentations are relatively low for the area. Of those who did present, there are more people who are alcohol dependent than any other category of severity. With the rollout of SAOR training and increased focus on MECC in primary care it is hoped more people will access support sooner in line with slaintecare and Health and wellbeing priorities.

2025 Extent of Drinking Problem New Treated Cases Living in DNE Area



Hazardous Drinking

Drinking over recommended weekly limit – 17 men and 11 for women. also binge drinking (more than 6 std drinks in one go).

Harmful Drinking

Drinking over recommended weekly limited and experiencing health problems directly related to alcohol.

Dependent Drinking

Dependent means that a person feels that they are unable to function without alcohol and the consumption of alcohol becomes an important – or sometimes the most important – factor in their life. May also experience withdrawals if suddenly stopping.

The DNE is engaged in the CHO-9 Integrated Alcohol Service so it is expected that there will be an increase in referrals in this regard.

MAIN ISSUES WHICH THE DNE LDATF ADDRESSED IN 2025 ARISING FROM PATTERNS OF DRUG USE

It is clear from the treatment data that alcohol and cocaine are significant problems in the DNE area. Historically, drug services in the area have been focused on opiate use as was the case for most DATFS on foot of the 'Rabbitte report' in the nineties.

To address the changing drug landscape in the area and the increase in cocaine use, the Dept of Health, DPU funding distributed via the HSE CHO-9 was used by services in DNE to deliver cocaine specific groups. These were delivered in 10-12 week programmes and available to anyone in living in the area even if not already connected with services. The DYP and EDIT projects in the DNE area collaborated to deliver powder cocaine programmes to address this need.

Furthermore, the DALES project in the Darndale area was the named psychosocial service in the DNE area to partners with the HSE CHO-9 Integrated Alcohol Service and is an active member of the steering group. While it will take some time and capacity building to address the need for dedicated alcohol service provision in the area, there is a concerted focus on addressing this gap. The data reveals a real concern in relation to Hidden Harm and impact of substance use on children particularly.

While there are excellent projects in the area including Preparing for Life, the DNE LDATF recognized the need for further targeted supports. It funded a play therapist for children impacted by familial drug use in 2024/2025.

Furthermore, in recognition of the need for more targeted family support and a strategic approach to same it established an area wide family support role currently hosted in the KCCP project in Kilbarrack but serving the whole area. This will see 5step and other evidence informed interventions delivered in the DNE area.

The need for aftercare to support people with attaining and maintaining recovery was also identified along with the need for a very visible recovery community to reduce stigma. The DNE LDATF rolled out its Aftercare and Recovery fund to support this and invited EOIs from all projects in the area. There was a good uptake in this and plans to enhance this further in the future to ensure it is targeted at those who need it most.

To address the need for targeted supports in the DNE, the DYP was commissioned through an open tendering process to expand frontline service into the Bonnybrook area.

Section 2.

**Progress made in implementing
the drug strategy under the 5 goals of the NDS**



DATF

Dublin North East
Drugs and Alcohol Task Force

GOAL	DESCRIPTION	DNE PROGRESS
1	Promote and protect health and wellbeing	Provision of drug education in schools Health promotion activities including open days/seminars providing information and signposting to supports Delivery of drug and alcohol training for local agencies within the community working with vulnerable people such as teen counsellors, Traveller health care women, Preparing for Life, Northside Partnership and speedpak social enterprise project Delivery of age-appropriate drug awareness with Transition Year in schools including: Mount Temple, Pobal Scoil Nessans, Chanel College, Coolock Community College, Grange Community School Provided drug and alcohol awareness programmes for parents
2	Minimize the harms caused by the use and misuse of substance and promote rehabilitation and recovery	Implementation of new Aftercare/recovery fund and EOI process Expansion of community based drug services to Bonnybrook Establishment of family support coordinator Development of cocaine programmes Development of alcohol service in conjunction with HSE IAS Aftercare structured programme
3	Address the harms of drug markets and reduce access to drugs for harmful use	Hosting workshop on DRIVE
4	Support participation of individuals, families and communities	Recovery month programme of events Engagement in the SUPPORT Initiative
5	Develop sound and comprehensive evidence-informed policies and actions	Conducting a listening and review exercise Review of structures and systems of the task force Involvement of new members

Section 3.

Profile of DATF funded projects including



DATF

**Dublin North East
Drugs and Alcohol Task Force**

ANALYSIS OF IMPACT AS A GROUP IN ADDRESSING THE DRUG PROBLEM IN THE AREA AND RELEVANCE TO THE DRUG STRATEGY IN THE AREA

The Dales (Darndale Drug Project) Darndale, Dublin 17. Phone: 01-848 7733 Email dermot@thedalesscentre.ie	Baldoyle Family Resources Services, Grange road, Baldoyle, Dublin 13 Phone: 01-8326114/01-8326115 Email projectmanger@bfrs.ie
EDIT (Edenmore Drug Intervention Team) Edenmore Avenue, Dublin 5. Phone: 01-8670271 Email manager@teamedit.ie	Donnycarney Youth/Drug Project 'Le Cheile' Youth & Community Centre Dublin 5 Phone: 01-8314985/ 087 2020339 Email lstewart@dyp.ie
LIP (Labour Inclusion Programme) Phone: 01-8485630 / 087-9633220 Sarah.farrelly@nspartnership.ie	KCCP (Kilbarrack Coast Community Project) Kilbarrack, Dublin 5. Phone: 01-8324516/ 085 8066827 Email info@kccp.net
Childcare Bureau Bell Building, Darndale, Phone: 01-8771500 Email Amy.Fogarty@nspartnership.ie	

COLLECTIVE PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING RESPONSE TO DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED HARM IN DNE LOCAL DATF

The DNE area has a large population and high levels of disadvantage which creates a challenge. However, it also has a range of community-based projects and other linked social inclusion services.

The last year saw an increase in collaborative working and a refocusing of the DNE Task Force on coordinated care.

Notable collaborations between services included (1)Integrated Alcohol Service with CHO-9HSE addiction service and DALES project in Darndale (2)DYP and EDIT partnership to deliver cocaine programmes (3)KCCP hosting the Family Support Coordinator (4)establishment of play therapist to support referrals from all services (4)Establishment of Aftercare & recovery activities programme which was accessed by multiple partners (5)calendar of events and activities for Recovery Month across services.

Furthermore, the DNE through an independent consultation process has plans to establish a continuum of care network to bring all relevant frontline services in the area together to agree a seamless continuum of care for people who use drugs/alcohol and their families.

The focus will be on coordinated transition from early engagement to aftercare and recovery including family support. Membership will include but not be limited to: frontline treatment & rehabilitation services, Family Support, Probation, Preparing for Life, HSE addiction services and others.

Form A**– categorization of funded projects in line with the goals of the NDS**

DRUGS TASK FORCE: NORTH DUBLIN EAST		
Goal * :1	Promote & protect health and wellbeing. Minimize the harm caused by the use and misuse of substances and promote rehabilitation and recovery Address the harms of drug markets and reduce access to drugs for harmful use Support participation of individuals, families and communities Develop sound and comprehensive evidence-informed policies and actions	
DATF objective:	- To educate and work with individuals and families on the promotion of health and wellbeing on an individual basis and for the entire family. Note: Some projects are cross pillar services, so they have been listed under their primary function. - Working with individuals and families to educate them on the harmful use and misuse of substances and in turn promote recovery with those who have misused them and their families. - To educate individuals on the harms of drugs and their misuse and through education reduce the access to drugs. - To facilitate drug misusers and those in recovery access services by providing childcare places and an aftercare group. - To use current research and develop our own evidence-based policies. Note: Some projects are cross-pillar services, so they have been listed under their primary function. - In 2025, work was undertaken to re-focus the Task Force and examine best practice which will feed into the local and national strategy and better help us meet the needs of community	
Outcomes:		
Category **	Project Code	Project Name
€126,234	NE2-10-1	Prevention Education
€24,000	NE2-13	Education Addiction Studies & Bursary
€115,000	NE2-12	Dublin North East Administration Projects
€10,116	NE2-17	Project Cohesion Aftercare (Client Forum)
€9,999.96	STRAND 1	Emerging Needs
€59,946	NE2-10	Labour Inclusion Programme

Category **	Project Code	Project Name & Reason

Section 4.

Summary report on the Dublin North East Local DATF progress in relation to actions of the NDS that are attributed to the DATFS

DATF

Dublin North East
Drugs and Alcohol Task Force

SUMMARY REPORT ON THE DUBLIN NTH EAST LOCAL DATF PROGRESS IN RELATION TO ACTIONS OF THE NDS THAT ARE ATTRIBUTED TO THE DATFS

NO.	STRATEGIC ACTION	DNE LDATF PROGRESS
1.1.1	Ensure that the commitment to an integrated public health approach to drugs and alcohol is delivered as a key priority.	The DNE LDATF has 2 prevention practitioners engaging in the national GAA Drug and Alcohol prevention and education training and will be in a position to deliver the modules to GAA and other sports clubs in the region as in mportant health promotion intervention to support people to make informed decisions about drugs and alcohol. The DNE met with the national community alcohol lead and has agreed to promote ICAAN I-mark across its area as part of its wider alcohol health promotion brief.
1.2.3	Support the SPHE programme.	The DNE LDATF prevention worker and funded family support worker deliver drug education in schools.
1.2.8	Improve services for young people at risk of substance misuse in socially and economically disadvantaged communities.	The D17Act. put in place outreach service Mondays to Saturdays from 10.00 am to 8.00 pm from the age 13 upwards. 24 active cases with over 30 with Case Manager from D17 ACT.
2.1.13	Expand the availability and geographical spread of relevant quality drug and alcohol services and improve the range of services available, based on identified need.	The DNE LDATF has focussed new services in the Darndale area with the engagement of the DALES project as the named psychosocial service in the DNE area for the HSE Integrated Alcohol Service. The DNE LDATF commissioned the expansion of community based services into the Bonny brook area. The DYP won this contract and is delivering Case Work and family support services in the area. The DNE LDATF has established a play therapist in the region. The DNE LDATF has funded the establishment of a dedicated Family Support Coordianator for the region working out of KCCP. This will ensure the provision of 5 step, Triple P and a range of other evidence informed family support interventions. EDIT and DYP collaborated to delivery cocaine powder programmes in the DNE region.
2.1.21	Respond to the needs of women who are using drugs and/or alcohol in a harmful manner.	The establishment of the play therapist and the new family support services will be important in providing PUP for eg for mothers who are finding parenting challenging and will link closely with preparing for life programme.

NO.	STRATEGIC ACTION	DNE LDATF PROGRESS
2.1.22	Expand the range, availability and geographical spread of problem drug and alcohol services for those under the age of 18.	IN 2025 the DNE LDATF put out a tender for the expansion of services into bonnybrook. This was awarded to DYP and will include a range of new services The DNE funded a play therapist for children impacted by familial substance use. D17 ACT have new outreach case management team in place for 13yrs and upwards,
2.1.23	Improve the response to the needs of older people with long term substance use issues.	DNE LDATF is re establishing its T&R group to examine the needs of all service users across the ageas from cradle to grave
2.2.30	Continue to target a reduction in drug-related deaths and non-fatal overdoses.	The DNE LDATF has commissioned training WRAP in the region. DNE LDATF circulated information on Naloxone training.
4.1.39	Support and promote community participation in all local, regional and national structures	The DNE LDATF has reviewed its processes through a listening exercise which it commissioned in 2025 the findings of which include recommendations for more inclusion of community members in structures. It also increased its membership to include more community members in 2025
4.2.44	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.	The DNE LDATF invited the Nth Dublin RDATE SUPPORT coordinator to meet with members to highlight the role of service user engagement and outline the processes for implementation in its area. a number of projects are engaging in this process and in 2025 the LDATF agreed to implement the SUPPORT model at DATF level for all services in a coordinated way to ensure a consistent and tandardised approach. The DNE LDATF set up an aftercare and recovery fund to promote recovery pathways for people in the area who wish to attain and /or sustain their recovery journey.

Section 5.

Progress report in relation to Action 4.2.44 of the National Drug Strategy in relation to Service user engagement

DATE

**Dublin North East
Drugs and Alcohol Task Force**

PROGRESS REPORT IN RELATION TO ACTION 4.2.44 OF THE NATIONAL DRUG STRATEGY IN RELATION TO SERVICE USER ENGAGEMENT

The DNE LDATF has a long history of service user engagement and in particular service user for a development. This has been difficult to maintain with staff changes and no standardised framework in place. The DNE LDATF recently engaged with the SUPPORT initiative of the North Dublin RDATF within CHO-9.

Following an information presentation to the management committee of the DNE Ldatf, the DNE LDATF continues to engage with the SUPPORT initiative and has plans to develop a taskforce wide coordinated strategy which will include the following

- Establishment of service user reps in each of the funded services
- Using the SUPPORT service user guidelines for a guide
- Delivery of a number of surveys with users of drug and family support services
- Coproduction groups with users of drug and family support services to inform service improvements
- Establishment of an expert by experience network

Section 6.

GOVERNANCE OF THE DNE LDATE



DATE

**Dublin North East
Drugs and Alcohol Task Force**

GOVERNANCE OF THE DNE LDATF

The DNE LDATF has a team of very committed directors who have taken responsibility for a range of operational responsibilities during a leadership gap within the Task force. This has been an onerous task but their action has been instrumental in bringing about positive change and also an opportunity for review. In 2025 the task force undertook a listening and review exercise which included an external exploration of governance challenges. a number of recommendations were made on foot of this exercise which will inform future improvements.

John McCusker	Chairperson	DNEDA Task Force	chair@dnetaskforce.ie
Paul Duff	HSE Coordinator	DNEDA Task Force	coordinator@dnetaskforce.ie
COMMUNITY REPS			
Bernie McDonnell	Vol /Community (D/S/T)	Independant	
Lorraine Stewart	Vol /Community	Donnycarney DP	Funded by DNE LDATF
Arthur O Donnell	Vol /Community (D)	Belcamp	Community Rep
Marian Clarke	Vol /Community (F)	Kilbarrack	Funded by DNE LDATF
Aileen Malone	Vol /Community		
Colm Healy	Vol /Community		
Javier De Las Heras (Project Leader)	Vol /Community		
John Paul Collins	Vol /Community		
Julie Ryan	Vol /Community		
Lorraine Stewart	Vol /Community		
Tiarnan Willians	Vol /Community		
Pamela Meates	Vol /Community		
Rosemary A Cronin	Vol /Community		
Thomas Broughan	Vol /Community		
PUBLIC REP'S	Vol /Community		
John Lyons	D.C.C.	D.C.C.	
STATUTORY REPS	Vol /Community		
Karen Reid	Volunteer (F)	HSE	
Richard Byrne	Volunteer	GARDA	
Ronan Barry	Volunteer	GARDA	
Helen Nolan	NGO Volunteer (F)	PACE	
Leah Skipton	Vol /Community		

SUBSTRUCTURES OF THE DNE LOCAL DATF DIRECTORS SUBGROUP

John McCusker	Chairperson		
Bernie McDonnell	Director	Independant	HSE Talbot Centre
Columba Patrick	Director		
Helen Nolan	Director	PACE	Compliance Coordinator PACE
Cllr John Lyons	Director		Public Rep
Pamela Meates	Director		

FINANCE SUBGROUP

Cllr John Lyons	Chairperson		
John McCusker	Vice Chairperson & Director		
Arthur O Donnell	Director	Belcamp	Community
Bernie McDonnell	Director	Independant	HSE Talbot Centre
Cllr John Lyons			
Nuala Shelly			
Karen Reid	Stat Volunteer (F)	HSE	HSE representative
Helen Nolan	NGO Volunteer (F)	PACE	Quality Standards & Policy Officer
Pamela Meates	Director		

CORPORATE STRUCTURE OF THE TASK FORCE

The DNE LDATF IS company limited by guarantee and is a registered charity

Meetings:

There were 8 Task Force members meetings and 1 AGM. There were no EGM's in 2025

24/01/2025, 07/03/2025, 25/04/2025, 13/06/2025, AGM 25/07/2025, 05/09/2025, 17/10/2025, 28/11/2025.

Any change to membership of the task force in 2025:

Nuala Shelly (Resigned 25 July 2025)

DNE LDATF STAFF COMPLIMENT IN 2025

Administrator: Pay scale: HSE Grade V Source of funding: DPU via HSE

Interim Coordinator: Pay scale: HSE Grande VII Source of funding: DPU via HSE

Prevention Education officer: Pay scale: CDYSB Grade Source of funding: DPU via CDYSB

Receptionist: X 1 P/time Pay scale: HSE Grade III /Source of funding: DPU via HSE

[illegible]





**Dublin North East
Local Drug & Alcohol Task Force**

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