

Drug and Alcohol Services Networking Breakfast

Background

The CYPSP Ards and North Down Locality Planning Group in partnership with SEDACT Connections Service, South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust, and Social Care Board hosted a **Networking Breakfast** in the Arts Centre Town Hall Newtownards .

The Networking Breakfast was the second in a series of engagement events that have been hosted by SE Connections with partners to increase awareness of drug and alcohol services available locally.

The Mayor Mr Richard Smart welcomed participants and spoke about.. “the importance of us all working collaboratively to address the needs of people with drug, alcohol and mental health difficulties, as well as the work we are doing as a Borough through the Big Plan to improve the health and wellbeing across the Borough.”.....

Find Out More:

For more information on the role of the CYPSP Ards and North Down Locality Planning Group please visit www.cypsp.org/locality-planning-groups/ards-and-north-down-locality-planning-group/

To find out more about the South Eastern Connections service and the SE Drug and Alcohol Coordination Team visit www.alcoholanddrugsni.info/south-east

Contact Us:

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CYP's Strategy for NI High Level Outcome Contributions

All Children and Young People have good physical and mental health

All Children and Young People live in safety and stability

All Children and Young People Learn and Achieve

Ards and North Down Community Plan Contributions

All people in Ards and North Down enjoy good health and wellbeing

All people in Ards and North Down fulfil their lifelong potential



How much did we do?

- Networking breakfast event hosted by SEDACT Connections and Ards and North Down Locality Planning Group
- Over 40 participants attended the event
- 23 agencies represented their services during the event including; ASCERT, CYPSP, SEHSCT, ACN, NDCN, PSNI, AA
- On average each service that was hosting an information stall engaged/networked with a minimum of 6 service providers during the event



How well did we do it?

- The event enabled the promotion of Drug and Alcohol Services. The South Eastern Connections Service provided outreach to over 40 individuals including the distribution of information booklets.
- Over 40 Policing and Community Safety (PCSP) leaflets were distributed to families to highlight the role of the community safety officers and local PSCP projects
- All returned evaluations positively highlighted the format as an effective way to engage with new and existing services.
- One application for Responders training was directly received at the event with others expressing an interest to be followed up on.



Networking between community, voluntary and statutory service providers attending the event

Is anyone better off?

- 100% of participants hosting an information stall at the event rate the event good
- 100% of participants hosting an information stall reported an increase in their knowledge of services available in the local area
- 100% of participants hosting an information stall reported that they agreed and/or strongly agreed that the event increased their connections and opportunities to link with other organisations.
- 100% of participants hosting an information stall reported that they agreed and/or strongly agreed that since attending the event they have a greater understanding of the Drug and Alcohol Services.



Is anyone better off?

A better understanding about the other Agencies, about how they work, and how we can work more effectively together to help in this common problem.

Made some valuable connections with local groups I wasn't aware of and was able to invite some groups along to an event we are running next week.

I really enjoyed this networking event more than others I have attended in the past. I liked the style of the networking. For me having a less formal approach worked really well, being able to sit down face to face in a non-rushed manner

Good use of time to actually move around the room chatting and talk at the event as usually do not get the time to talk to anyone other than the ones at your own table.

It is tough to get time for such events, so maybe a quick 2 minute pitch from all organisations attending with contact info list of attendees, would allow us to cover all groups/organisations and them follow up with them in a more targeted way

Possibly the only thing it lacked was a conclusion, ie a Q&A at the end

30 second presentations for each service in attendance, so people know exactly the best people for them to link in with as I didn't get talking to everyone