

# Supporting People to Move Away from Drug Misuse Through Effective Treatment

Thara Raj – Director of Public Health

Cathy Fitzgerald – Head of Service,  
Addictions

Warrington



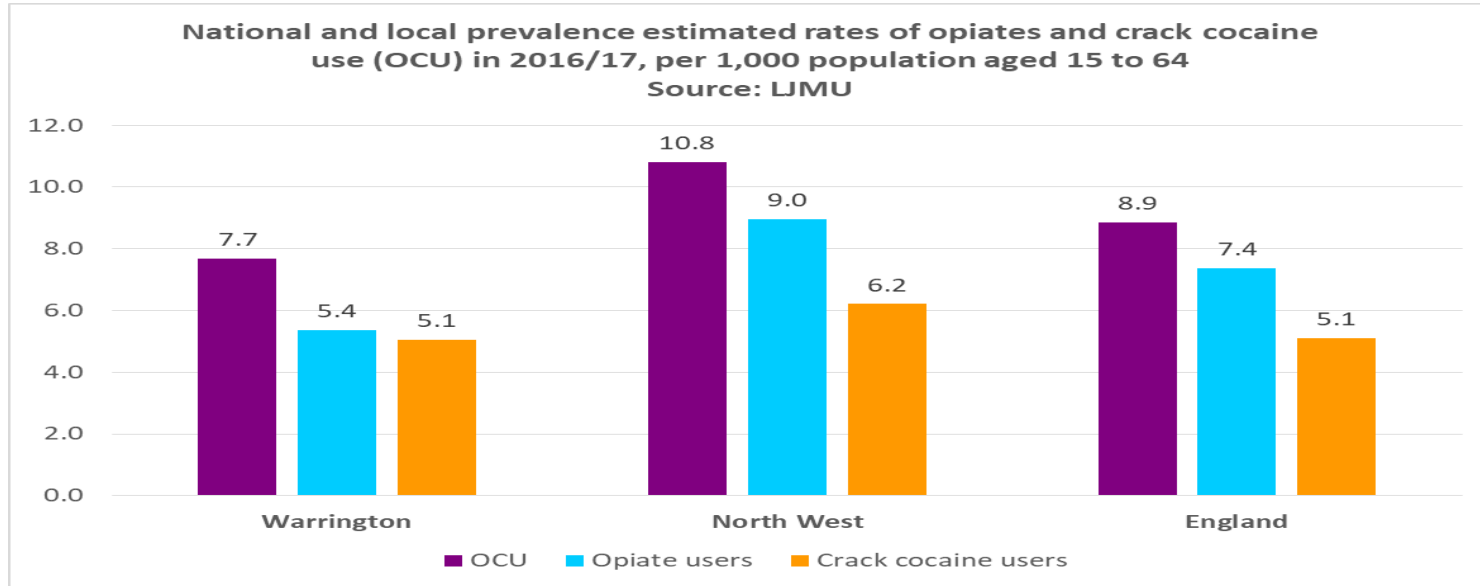
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# Who are we

- Thara – Director of Public Health. Experience with substance misuse agenda in previous roles. Senior Responsible Officer for the Combatting Drug/Alcohol Partnership for Warrington
- Cathy – Head of Service in Public Health – been strategic lead in substance misuse since 1999 across 2 Local Authorities. Been in Warrington 14 years.



# Warrington: Opiates and Crack Cocaine Use



## References:

- Office for Health Improvement & Disparities (2022): *Adult Drug Commissioning Support Pack: 2022-23: Key Data*
- Liverpool John Moores University (2019): *Estimates of the prevalence of opiate use and/or crack cocaine use (2016/17)*.

# Drug-related Crime

## Drug-related Homicide

- England and Wales: Rise over last decade: 52% of homicides (2021); 40% in 2011  
Decrease from year prior: 306 drug-related homicides (2021); 339 in 2020

Neighbourhood Crime: *“Includes robbery and selected theft offences (theft from the person, domestic burglary, and vehicle related theft.”*

- England and Wales: 03/2020: Made up 35% of total crime  
06/2022: Decreased by 18% (compared to 03/2020)

## Warrington:

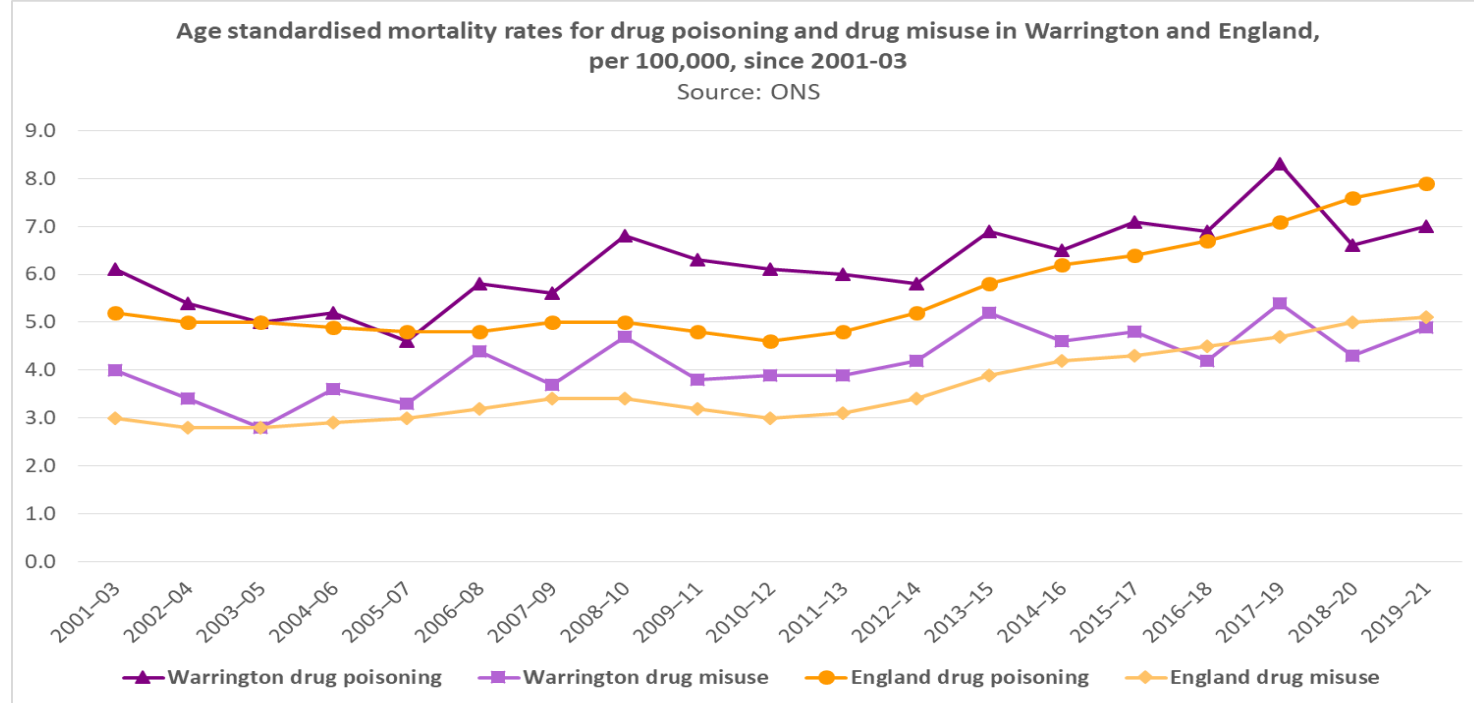
Serious acquisitive crime covers: All aspects of burglary, vehicle crime and robbery.

- 2022 (Year ending March): 1,299 incidents
- 2021: 1,112 incidents
- 2020: 1,733 incidents

### References:

- ONS (2021): Homicide in England and Wales; Year Ending March 2021
- College of Policing (2022): Neighbourhood Crime: Situational Crime Prevention Interventions Evidence
- Cheshire Constabulary: Serious and Organised Crime Local Profile (2021/22): Warrington

# Drug-Related Harm



## Reference:

- ONS (2022): Deaths related to Drug poisoning in England and Wales: 2021 Registrations



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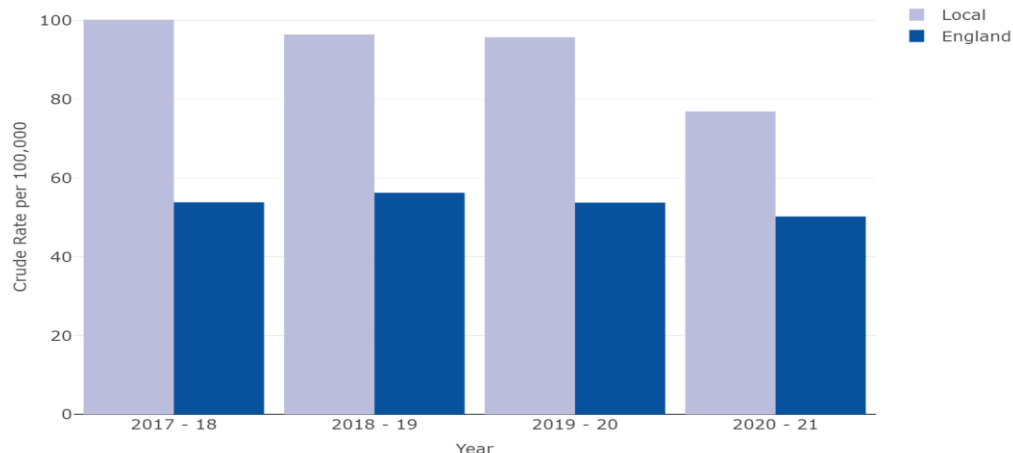
# Hospital Admissions for Drug Poisoning

## England (2020/21)

- Admissions: 28,398
- Rate: 50.22 per 100,000

## Warrington (2020/21)

- Admissions: 161
- Rate: 76.89 per 100,000



## Hospital admissions due to substance misuse (15-24 years)

| (2018/19-2020/21)  | Warrington          | North West    | England          |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Count              | 105                 | 2,770         | 16,053           |
| Rate (per 100,000) | 158.8 (129.7-192.6) | 106 (102-110) | 81.2 (79.9-82.4) |

### References:

- Office for Health Improvement & Disparities (2022): *Adult Drug Commissioning Support Pack: 2022-23: Key Data*
- OHID: Public Health Outcomes Framework: Hospital Admissions due to Substance Misuse (15-24 years)



# Organised Crime and County Lines

## Organised Crime Groups

- UK: 4,772 crime groups operating (2020)
- NW region: Most known individuals from OCGs with links to county lines.
- Cheshire: 54 OCGs actively being managed in Cheshire
- Warrington: Of these 54, 20 assessed to have an impact on Warrington.

County Line: A 'county line' is the mobile phone or 'deal' line used to take orders for drugs, and therefore involves the transportation of illegal drugs from one area to another, often crossing locality authority or police boundaries.

- Nationally: Monthly: 600 deal lines  
Annually: 4002 (2019/20); A rise from 3,464 in 2018/2019
- Cheshire: 66 County lines impacting on the region
- Warrington: Of these 66, 10 impacting on Warrington

### References:

- National County Lines Coordination Centre (NCLCC) (2021): County Lines Strategic Assessment 2020/2021
- Cheshire Constabulary: Serious and Organised Crime Local Profile (2021/22): Warrington

# Joint Strategic Needs Assessment - Recommendations

- Investigate data and trends around hospital admissions for drug poisoning in Warrington, to help inform preventative work and potentially strengthen hospital in-reach work.
- Review referral processes into treatment in order to enhance uptake and engagement.
- Ensure services are suitably equipped to accommodate those who have physical impairments and disabilities.
- Consider options for a dual diagnosis service locally.
- Consider the re-introduction of treatment staff into the custody suite.





# Joint Strategic Needs Assessment - Recommendations

- Continue to cultivate the sense of community among service users in local services and to consider and potentially further facilitate after-care among those who have completed treatment.
- To better utilise court orders to engage offenders into treatment services - such as Alcohol Treatment Requirements ('ATRs') and Drug Rehabilitation Requirements ('DRRs').
- To consider the needs of looked after children including understanding their substance misuse problem and offer appropriate robust treatment pathways for this cohort.
- For partners to comply with and develop a local outcomes framework and keep key data under regular review – e.g. drug-related deaths, organised crime group disruptions, hospital admission data, neighbourhood crime.



## Warrington Combating Drugs Partnership Delivery Plan 2023

Our aim is to reduce the harms caused by drugs and alcohol and the threat that they pose to individuals, families and communities

### CORE PRIORITY: PREVENTION

#### Outcomes

- Substance misuse prevention embedded within locally agreed PSHE delivery to all Secondary Schools
- Increased population awareness of substance misuse and where to get help
- Reduction in children and family care proceedings as a result of drugs and/or alcohol misuse
- Comprehensive workforce development programmes leading to increased numbers of front-line staff trained to deliver Identification and Brief Advice ('IBA') and with increased confidence to make every contact count
- Increased substance misuse/alcohol screening in primary and secondary care, with well-functioning and agreed pathways into substance misuse treatment
- Alignment and co-ordination of social prescribing, recovery, and social support for those in need
- Increased access and delivery of Naloxone to prevent overdose
- Reduced rates of suicide and self-harm associated with substance misuse

#### Indicators

- Number of children and young people living with alcohol misusing parents
- Fewer young people experience harms associated with substance misuse/Under 18 hospital admissions
- Number and reach of substance misuse training sessions delivered

### CORE PRIORITY: ENFORCEMENT

#### Outcomes

- Safer communities with less crime that is driven by substance misuse
- Timely and effective sharing of drug market profiles and information to enable disruption to drug supply and county lines activity
- Effective partnership data and intelligence sharing arrangements that identify and safeguard those at risk of drug/alcohol related harm and exploitation
- Adults and young people in contact with the Criminal Justice System have access to appropriate substance misuse support and treatment
- Robust and effective pathways from Prisons to community substance misuse services in place
- Effective Integrated Offender Management and use of treatment orders to ensure offenders are supported to complete treatment
- Licensing powers fully exercised to help manage and regulate the supply of alcohol
- A diverse, vibrant and safe night-time economy
- A reduction in re-offending amongst prolific offenders who are motivated by drugs

#### Indicators

- Crime and re-offending rates for those who are misusing substances
- Successful engagement in treatment following arrest and/or release from prison
- Numbers with Drug Rehabilitation and Alcohol Treatment Requirements successfully completing treatment

### CORE PRIORITY: TREATMENT AND RECOVERY

#### Outcomes

- Substance misuse treatment in Warrington has a focus on co-morbidity and social determinants (e.g. mental health and wellbeing, housing, employment) to enable sustained recovery
- Treatment and recovery providers are trained in trauma aware and trauma informed practice
- Joined-up care planning between primary, acute health and social care for vulnerable patients
- Joined-up clinical engagement between mental health and substance misuse services with opportunities to work and learn together on clinical issues
- Supervised consumption and pharmacy services are accessible and responsive to individual needs
- Reduction in the number of dependent drinkers not accessing treatment
- Increased engagement with substance misuse services for people with a housing need
- Accessible recovery communities that support those who have previously had substance misuse issues and help those leaving treatment stay drug free in the long term

#### Indicators

- Successful completion of alcohol/drug treatment
- Hospital admissions due to substance misuse and alcohol related/specific conditions
- Number of needles/syringes supplied from needle exchange provision
- Drug related deaths



# How to engage and sustain people in treatment

- Effective provider who is adaptable and responsive to the needs of the population
- Ensuring partners understand the referral pathways (with consent)



# Driving Best Practice

- Clear strategy based on Joint Strategic Needs Assessment – identifying gaps and strengths
- Being innovative in developing ways of working with those with addiction
- Understanding the needs and voice of current service users and those with lived experience and their families
- Clear performance framework, outcome driven



# Driving Best Practice - continued

- Robust communication with all partners to effect change
- Focus on those people who may “fall through the net”
- Emphasis on both those in recovery and those in treatment



# Drug/alcohol related deaths

- Quarterly reviews of drug/alcohol related deaths
- Multi partnership arrangement co-ordinated across Liverpool John Moores University
- Example of learning – introducing naloxone across all homeless accommodations in the town



# Role of Pharmacies

- Provider following up with pharmacies if someone misses a pick up/supervised provision – potential for people “falling off script” or death
- Ongoing support for distribution of needle exchange and supervised consumption – twice a year training between pharmacies, Public Health and Provider. To resume in 2023



# Role within Warrington hospital

- Provider has inreach staff attending the local hospital daily to engage with patients who are there
- Hospital has developed “alcohol care team” function and the inreach staff work in tandem with them
- Currently finalising a mutual training programme including clinical, psychosocial and recovery options for the patients





# Work with homeless people

- Provider has assertive outreach workers, linking in with street homeless on daily basis
- Named workers go to homeless accommodations twice a week to meet people where they are at
- Development of Hard to House panel – to focus on the support needed for those most difficult to house



# Young people

- Young people substance misuse different to adults – different risks and drugs taken – binge use rather than ongoing “addiction”
- New YP specialist worker based in adult treatment provider to work alongside YP case workers with more complex YP



# Prison substance misuse

- Co-commissioning prison substance misuse services in the 2 prisons in the town with NHS England since 2015 – only LA in the country to have had this arrangement – coming to an end in March 2023
- Ability to closely work with prisons on prison releases back to community and effective transfers
- Ongoing work with NHS England commissioner to ensure substance misuse is a key element of prison healthcare



# Wider criminal justice issues

- National strategy “From Harm to Hope” focussing on those drug users impacting on crime
- Warrington next to 2 major cities – implications for County Lines
- Some criminal justice partners are county/regional wide – important to focus on local Warrington outcomes



# What does the future hold

- Embed recovery, treatment and prevention and all age into one model
- Continue to “take risks” – sometimes thinking outside the box or doing something different pays off

