

# Social and Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee Drugs Study Review Group

## Terms of Reference

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### Review Title

Drugs Study Review Group

### The Project Team

Cllr. Barbara Driver - Chair

Cllr. Tina Franklin

Cllr. Diggory Seacome

Peter Woolley – Assistant Director Community Services

Trevor Gladding – Community Safety Manager

Geoff Sloman – Community Development Manager

Richard Gibson – Corporate Policy Manager

### Timetable for the Review

The review group will provide an initial report back of its findings at the January 2007 meeting of the Social and Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and will continue to meet regularly prior to making its final recommendations to the Committee in April 2007.

### Background

In April 2006 a study was commissioned by the Council at the request of the previous administration in order to look at drug problems and use across Cheltenham.

The study was conducted by the University of Gloucestershire and looked specifically at drug use nationally and locally and at the perceptions of drug taking with a number of agencies in Cheltenham, and focuses on the following areas:

- Setting the scene - *drug use nationally and locally*;
- Perceptions Vs reality – *the perceptions of a number of local agencies* ;
- Key issues – *lesson to be learnt from national policy and research evaluations*;
- Addressing the policy issues on drugs in Cheltenham;

Now that this study has been completed, the Social and Community O+S Committee may wish to take the opportunity to review of the issues raised in the study to better understand the context of this problem in Cheltenham and to consider what role the council might play in tackling this problem.

### Outline Terms of Reference

#### Aim ~

To review the issues that were raised in the University's Cheltenham Drugs Study, and to explore the context of this problem in Cheltenham, and to also consider possible ways in which the Council can work with partners to help address and combat this issue more effectively.

#### Objectives ~

The review will explore the following:

- to review the findings of the study and its conclusions;
- to look at potential opportunities for the Council to be more actively involved in addressing drugs issues in Cheltenham, and to work more closely with agencies involved in tackling drugs misuse;
- to look at opportunities to help prevent young people from becoming involved in drugs;
- to review existing structures and partnership that are responsible for tackling and minimising the supply of drugs in Cheltenham;

## Appendix D

Along with some of the potential areas of concern:

- why existing organisations are failing to impact on the growing rise in drugs misuse;
- what plans are in place to help minimise drugs use and supply in Cheltenham;
- to what extent the council will have/should have influence over this problem;
- whether the Council is able to deliver a more sustainable and coordinated approach to tackle drug misuse in Cheltenham;

The review group will make recommendations to the Social and Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee as to the way in which members should be involved in addressing and combating the effects of drug abuse and misuse in Cheltenham.

### **For further information, contact:**

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