



Winter Pride Drug Management Plan

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1. Overall Aim

The ultimate aim is to reduce harm associated with drug use. To be specific - to make sure there are no deaths, reduce the number of hospitalizations, reduce the number of intoxications, and reduce the number of people who are visiting the medics due to drug-related problems.

2. Context

The things across events that is the most problematic is the sort of “coming of age” crowd - they might want to try drugs for the first time. They are excited, probably mixing alcohol and are in large crowds. That is one of the things I would flag to be aware of as it can be quite problematic. Our older crowds use drugs too, but they are likely more experienced and know more about what they are taking.

Focus on the demographics of the event. We find that dodgy drugs tend to be more common in more mainstream events, especially those aimed at a younger age group.

We consider a number of factors when looking at the risk profile of different events. The type of music attracts different crowds. The time of day and duration of the event. Looking at what’s happened recently in the community as well.

Have people there who are trained to recognize and deal with people who are having difficult experiences on drugs, who know when to escalate to medics, or when to escalate to someone else, or when the person doesn’t need formal intervention, just needs support and company till they feel better.

We will have three different areas of welfare. The first for people who just need to chill out, the second where they might need more medical support and the third where they need intensive support. There are different skills needed in each area.

3. Process

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Roles and internal communications with your team and services at your event: In terms of event roles and internal communications, let’s take the lessons and learnings from the Manchester Arena Bombing Inquiry Report which illustrated the significant importance of understanding the roles of key stakeholders, service suppliers, and emergency agencies, as well clear lines of effective communication. Get the event recipe right with transparency, clarity, and agreement.

Entry procedures: Agreeing with police what the threshold for contacting them is. This could be triggered by the amount of drugs found, or identification of someone suspected of doing illegal activity.

Site layout: Eyes on the ground is really huge...Having a really well-structured crowd care area



for people so that they get the care they need, are triaged, and there's a process for what happens to them after. One of the things that often falls over is what is done with people after they come into crowd care.

Food, water, heating and cooling: At least two litres of free drinking water per person at single day events.

At least 20 litres of water per person (4 litres for drinking), per day, at multi day events.

At least one clearly identifiable water outlet per 500 people.

Exit and re-entry procedures: Having a check out process where people who appear too intoxicated or distressed are supported on-site until they are ok to leave.

Being clear about the conditions of exit and reentry before and during the event.

Crowd monitoring and care: Roaming supporters could be vibe checkers who both provide support and help

people get into the vibe of the event.

Responding to incidents: Security Response Teams need to be fit for purpose too. They must understand their roles and functions across all different types of possible drug scenarios and incidences. Instructions and communications need to be clear and reporting needs to be timely and accurate.

Drug checking services: The Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 provides for district licensing committees to add specific conditions to alcohol licences to ensure the objects of the Act are upheld. While a condition could be imposed, for example, to require compliance with an agreed event management plan, we would not expect conditions to be imposed that links the alcohol licence to any drug checking services.

Review what you have written, and talk with your team about what some of the unintended consequences of these actions might be. Update your plan as needed: The experience of the customers is at the forefront of our minds when we are delivering our service. We ensure that interacting with security is a largely positive experience rather than something that needs to be avoided. It also means we are someone that people can go to for support.

4. Communications

Prime people for what to expect. Events who want to reduce drug harm could do this in a tailored way. Have minimizing your risk of harm from drugs' as part of your event information. Have an option for people to sign up for push notifications if drug checking finds something dodgy. Make sure people have a few clues on how to deal with problems. There is also no point in talking in a corporate language to 17- and 18-year-olds, you need to communicate on their level.

5. Data and the Development Cycle

Every event is unique and dynamic because some variables can be unpredictable. That is the excitement of the challenge that can bring event organisers euphoria and satisfaction, or absolute head aches and heart breaks. Data collection pre- during-post event is integral and contributes to being prepared, being flexible, and being robust to constant change.

For more information regarding our drug management plan please contact our [drug management team](#).