



Five Nations Health and Justice Collaborative Group

Terms of reference, 2014

Our purpose is to:

1. Provide a forum for discussion, debate and collaboration for health and justice partners in England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.
2. Provide a coherent and authoritative voice across the five nations on health and wellbeing, and health and social care for people in contact with the criminal justice system (CJS), especially those in custodial settings in the five nations.
3. Inform the work of PHE in its role as the UK Collaborating Centre for Health in Prisons (a partner of the WHO (European region) Health in Prisons programme).
4. Facilitate the sharing of best practice, mutual learning, and improved collective capability of health and justice partners in the five nations.
5. Help to prevent offending and to reduce re-offending by people in contact with the CJS, particularly by addressing the health inequalities they experience.

The scope of our work. The group will:

6. Use a public health approach to address the health and social care needs of all those in places of detention, including IRCs, secure colleges/STCs, secure children's homes and police custody. We will also be mindful of health and social care issues of those in the community in contact with the CJS.
7. Identify and co-ordinate research priorities, agree a research work programme, and work collaboratively to stimulate and support research into the health and wellbeing of people in prescribed places of detention and those in contact with the CJS in the community.
8. Develop a forward-look on the work programme and have clarity about the added value we want to see emerging in the products and outcomes.
9. Undertake specific projects as agreed by members, which we can develop in sub groups if required.
10. Arrange thematic and extraordinary meetings according to circumstances.

11. Formulate a flexible agenda that combines strategic and operational issues during this formative stage of the five nations' evolution.
12. Develop a collective statement for each topic (being mindful of local politics) that appreciates the differences in legislation across the five nations and what the group can do to support legislative change.

Group membership:

13. It comprises government officials and senior clinicians from the UK and the Republic of Ireland who have health and justice matters as a substantive part of their professional function.
14. No more than three representatives from each country at the regular meetings. However, co-option of relevant experts to support sub-group activity is to be welcomed.

Frequency, location and management of meetings:

15. Meetings will be scheduled quarterly.
16. Meetings will be held on a rotating basis in Belfast, Cardiff, Dublin, Edinburgh and London, and arranged and chaired by the host country. PHE/Health and Justice WHO Collaborating Centre staff will provide the secretariat (including maintaining a list of members, helping the host country with the agenda and drafting the minutes).
17. Whenever possible, the WHO Collaborating Centre and the five nations meetings should endeavour to meet at least three times annually.
18. Teleconference participation in the meetings is acceptable.