

# Appendix 1

## Questionnaires

## Questionnaire to specialist drug agencies

### About your agency

1. Name of agency \_\_\_\_\_
2. Job title of the person completing the questionnaire \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_
3. What is your agency's catchment area? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What is the approximate population of the area? \_\_\_\_\_
5. How many people work in your agency? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Roughly how many clients received a service from your agency in the year to 31 March 2001? \_\_\_\_\_
7. What is the main service that your agency offers? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. What are the other services that your agency offers? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Is it your agency's policy to provide services that are specifically designed to help:
  - a) Clients who have dependent children  YES  NO
  - b) Pregnant clients  YES  NO
  - c) Children of drug-using clients  YES  NO

### Working with pregnant drug users

10. Does your agency have any service contact with pregnant drug users?  
 YES  NO (If **NO**, please go to **Question 14**)
11. If **YES**, does your agency have readily available data on the number of pregnant drug users who attended your service in the 12 months to 31 March 2001?  
 YES  NO
  - a) If **YES**, how many attended during this period? \_\_\_\_\_
12. How and by whom are pregnant drug users identified and information about the pregnancy recorded by your agency?  
\_\_\_\_\_

13. Does your agency have a written policy or protocol for addressing the needs of pregnant drug users?

YES  NO (If **YES**, can you send us a copy please)

14. Which of these agencies would your agency normally liaise with in managing pregnant drug users and when? (Please tick appropriate boxes)

		When?
a) GP and primary care	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
b) Social services	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
c) Maternity services	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
d) Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

15. Does your agency offer staff training about working with pregnant drug users?

YES  NO

If **YES**, please briefly describe \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Working with drug-using parents and their children**

16. Does your agency have readily available data on the number of clients with dependent children who attended your service in the 12 months to 31 March 2001?

YES  NO

If **YES**, how many such clients attended during this period? \_\_\_\_\_

17. Which of the following information does your agency routinely collect about your clients' dependent children?

a) Number	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	d) Living arrangements	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
b) Age	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	e) Children's needs	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
c) Gender	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	f) Parenting needs	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO

18. Does your agency offer any specific services for drug-using parents and their dependent children?

YES  NO

If **YES**, please briefly describe (write overleaf if necessary) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

19. Does your agency offer staff training about working with clients with dependent children?

YES

NO

If **YES**, please briefly describe the type of training and who receives it \_\_\_\_\_

20. In relation to addressing the needs of the dependent children of your agency's clients, how would you describe your agency's current level of liaison with the following services?

	None	Occasional	Often
Social work services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GPs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other primary care services (eg health visitors)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paediatric services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please make any further comments you wish overleaf about any aspects you would like to highlight in relation to managing parenting issues in drug services (please write overleaf if necessary).

Finally, if either you or any member of your team would be interested in being part of a network of services to examine these issues in more depth, please fill in your name and contact details below.

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Designation** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP IN COMPLETING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE**  
**Please now send it back in the stamped addressed envelope provided**

## Questionnaire to maternity units

### About your service

1. Name of service \_\_\_\_\_
2. What area(s) do you cover? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What is the rough population of the area? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Job title of the person completing this questionnaire \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Recognition and recording of problem drug use

5. Does your service routinely assess all pregnant women using your service for problem substance use (alcohol or other drugs)?

Problem alcohol use  YES  NO

Problem drug use  YES  NO

(Problem drug use = opiate, cocaine, tranquilliser or amphetamine dependence and/or drug injecting)

6. If **YES** to **Q5**, how and by whom is this done?

\_\_\_\_\_

7. If **NO** to **Q5**, how is problem alcohol or drug use identified among women attending your service?

\_\_\_\_\_

8. What was the total of all deliveries in your service in the 12 months to 31 March 2001? \_\_\_\_\_

9. How many women who delivered during this period were known by your service to be:

Problem alcohol users \_\_\_\_\_ Information unavailable \_\_\_\_\_

Problem drug users \_\_\_\_\_ Information unavailable \_\_\_\_\_

10. Over the past five years, has the number of problem drug users giving birth in your service:

Increased a lot  Increased a little  No change

Decreased a lot  Decreased a little  Information unavailable

## Staffing and clinical management

11. Does your service have:
- |   |                              |                             |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| a) A specialist service staffed to meet the particular needs of problem drug users and their babies | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| b) One or more obstetricians with a special interest/training in drug misuse and pregnancy          | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| c) One or more midwives with a special interest/training in drug misuse and pregnancy               | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
12. Does your service have a protocol or guidelines for the antenatal management of serious drug misuse?  YES  NO
13. Does this include a substitute prescribing policy for opiate dependence?  YES  NO

**If you have a protocol or guidelines, please send us a copy.**

14. Does your service have a protocol or guidelines for the management of neonatal withdrawals?  YES  NO

**If you have a protocol or guidelines, please send us a copy.**

## Liaison with other services

15. In relation to problem drug-using women attending your service, how would you describe the current level of joint working between the following agencies?

	None	Occasional	Often
Social work services (addictions)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social work (children and families)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paediatric services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GPs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other primary care services (eg health visitor)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community drug services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other specialist drug services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Police	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

16. Please make any further comments you wish about any other problems or issues you would like to highlight in relation to problem drug use and pregnancy as it affects your service (please write overleaf if necessary).

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP IN COMPLETING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE**  
**Please now send it back in the stamped addressed envelope provided**

## Questionnaire to social work services

1. Name of your agency \_\_\_\_\_
2. What area does your agency cover? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What roughly is the population of this area? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Job title of the person completing this questionnaire \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Does your agency routinely seek to identify parental substance misuse (alcohol or other drugs) in cases of children in need?

	<b>Mother</b>		<b>Father</b>	
Problem alcohol use	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
Problem drug use	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO

(Problem drug use = opiate, cocaine, tranquilliser or amphetamine dependence and/or drug injecting)

6. Does your agency have written guidelines or protocols to guide assessment and decision-making procedures for cases of children in need involving parental problem substance use?

YES  NO

**If YES, we would be very grateful if you could send us a copy.**

7. Does your agency distinguish between problem alcohol use and other problem drug use in the way in which it records information?

YES  NO

8. How many new cases of **children in need** did your agency deal with in the 12 months to 31 March 2001?

No. of cases \_\_\_\_\_

9. Of these new cases, in roughly what proportion was the following considered a feature:

a) Parental problem substance use \_\_\_\_\_% Information not available   
(all cases of either alcohol or drug misuse if not recorded separately)

b) Parental problem alcohol use \_\_\_\_\_% Information not available

c) Parental problem drug use \_\_\_\_\_% Information not available

10. What is the total number of children on your **child protection register** at the present time? \_\_\_\_\_

11. Of these, in what proportion of cases is the following considered a feature?

- a) Parental problem substance use \_\_\_\_\_% Information not available
- b) Parental problem alcohol use \_\_\_\_\_% Information not available
- c) Parental problem drug use \_\_\_\_\_% Information not available

12. How many children were placed on your **child protection register** for any reason for the first time in 2000/01?

\_\_\_\_\_

13. Over the past five years, has the annual number of children placed on the child protection register in your area for the first time in which parental **problem drug misuse** was a feature:

- Increased a lot  Increased a little  No change
- Decreased a lot  Decreased a little  Information unavailable

14. Does your agency have designated and/or specific staff to advise or support on substance misuse issues?

- YES  NO

If **YES**, how many? \_\_\_\_\_

15. Does your agency offer specialist training in the assessment and management of cases of families where there are substance misuse issues?

- YES  NO

- If **YES**, is this part of:
- |                                      |                              |                             |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Mainstream child protection training | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| DoH assessment training              | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| Other (please specify)               | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO |

\_\_\_\_\_

16. Does your agency have formal joint arrangements for working with other services in child protection cases involving parental drug use?

- YES  NO

If **YES**, please briefly describe \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



17. In relation to child protection cases involving parental problem substance use, how would you describe the current level of joint working between your agency and the following services?

	<b>None</b>	<b>Occasional</b>	<b>Often</b>
Maternity services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paediatric services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GPs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other primary care services (eg health visitors)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community drug services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other specialist drug services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Police	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

18. Does your agency offer any specific services for drug-using parents and their dependent children?  YES  NO

If **YES**, please briefly describe (write overleaf if necessary)

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19. Please write overleaf any further comments you wish to make about any other problems or issues you would like to highlight in relation to parental problem substance use.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP IN COMPLETING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE**  
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## **Appendix 2**

Non-statutory services dedicated to helping children of problem drug users

## Appendix 2 Non-statutory services dedicated to helping children of problem drug users

We briefly describe 12 services brought to our attention during the course of our Inquiry. Most are small and recently established. None would appear to have the capacity to meet the needs of more than a small proportion of the children of problem drug users in the area it serves. Typically they started as a result of a recognition of local need. Many work in close liaison with statutory services. They demonstrate the fragile new growth of this type of service. We have relied solely on the information provided by the projects and therefore their inclusion here does not represent an endorsement by the ACMD.

### **The Aberlour Childcare Trust, Glasgow, Edinburgh and Dundee**

Tel: 01786 450335

This well established agency has two residential units and an outreach project in Glasgow, a residential project in Edinburgh, and outreach projects in the Edinburgh area and Dundee. All are designed to provide services for children and their mothers who have a dependency on drugs or alcohol, either in residential services that enable women and their children to stay together during the entire rehabilitation process or by providing outreach services to families within the home.

### **ADAS West, Children's Support Counselling Service, Essex**

Tel: 01279 438716

This service was established in 1997 with the aim of supporting children whose parents misused drugs or alcohol. It is staffed by a counsellor and a play therapy supervisor. Play therapy allows children to explore their feelings. Around 10 to 15 children can be seen each week. Most referrals are made by social services. Over 300 children have been seen since the service opened. Whilst many of the children appear to have benefited, the service has yet to be formally evaluated.

### **Bethany Lodge, Mother and Child Unit, Norwich**

Tel: 01603 439905

This is a residential mother and child unit run by the Hebron Trust. It can accommodate up to three women and six children. The women receive treatment for their drug and alcohol problems whilst being encouraged in their parenting. Priority is given to children who are perceived to be at risk.

### **Harbour Project (Family Services Unit), Edinburgh**

Tel: 0131 552 0305

This service was launched in January 2002 "to respond to the needs of children whose parents' substance misuse impacts on them". It provides two distinct services: family and school liaison work with children and their families living in North Edinburgh, and outreach work

with vulnerable and transient young parents in the Leith area. It aims to identify affected children and assess their needs; explore effective and pro-active interventions with parents and children; develop and strengthen the skills and resourcefulness of families in caring for their children; support parents and children to overcome low self-esteem and achieve independence and control in their lives; and strengthen the ability of children and families to manage. The project uses parent and child play activities; parenting support; promotion of a safer family lifestyle; school and homework support; access to community services; emotional and practical support for parents; family outings; and individualised supportive work for parents. In its first year, the project has supported almost 100 children, far more than had been expected.

### **NSPCC and Hyde Drug Services, Cornwall**

### **NSPCC and Norfolk Mental Health Care Trust**

### **NSPCC and Bridgegate Drug Services, Peterborough**

Tel: 020 7825 2537

These three services aim to help children affected by their parent's or carer's substance misuse. The Cornwall project has been working closely with the Cornwall Community Drugs Team since 1998. The NSPCC team of four engages in direct work with children, with the family as a whole and with the parents to provide them with models of good parenting. The Drug Team aims to treat the parents' substance misuse. The work is intensive, restricting involvement to eight families at a time. The other teams are more recently established but also work in close partnership with a drugs service.

### **Option 2, Cardiff**

Tel: 029 2077 4600

This service works with families where there are child protection concerns related to drug or alcohol misuse. It takes referrals from social workers when there is a risk of removal or registration. A survey of social workers in the area had found that substance misuse was involved in 36% of 522 cases of childcare concern. The service aims to build parental skills and resilience and help parents create safety and security. In the first year, the project's two therapists worked with 18 families and a total of 55 children. They agree goals with the families and work with them for a four-week period. Eighty-eight per cent of the goals were said to have been met.

### **Phoenix House Family Outreach, Sheffield**

Tel: 0114 266 2519

This service works in partnership with Sheffield Social Services. It offers care and support for families, living in their own accommodation, who are experiencing problems related to substance misuse. Although the interventions are aimed at the parents, the interests of any children are paramount. There are two full-time workers. Following an

individual assessment of need, a wide range of interventions are available including advice and guidance on child welfare and pregnancy, liaison with schools, attendance at child-focused case conferences, etc.

### **The Princess Royal Trust for Carers**

Tel: 020 7480 7788

This organisation has a network of 65 Young Carers Projects attached to Carers Centres across the UK. They provide support, activities, clubs and breaks for children under 18 who take on responsibilities normally expected of an adult, providing emotional or physical care for someone with a substance misuse problem or other disability. They have often been in a caring role for years without support until frustration or stress experienced at home engenders behavioural difficulties or absenteeism at school. Projects work with schools to find 'hidden' young carers and to tackle isolation, bullying and under-achievement. They help parents access services and benefits that can make a long-term difference to the whole family and they encourage support agencies to address the parenting roles of service users. The Children's Society has a directory of all Young Carers Projects:

[www.childrenssociety.org.uk/youngcarers/projects.htm](http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/youngcarers/projects.htm)

*Making it work*, a Princess Royal Trust/Children's Society good practice guide on working with young carers has a section on substance misuse.

### **SEA – South East Alternatives (Turning Point), Glasgow**

Tel: 0141 427 8200

This project provides individual support for stable drug users, former drug users and their families. Its aims are to: assist participants to increase stability and overcome problematic drug use; support individuals who use drugs and are parents to focus on family issues; and work with a range of family members and children so that they can find solutions that meet their needs. The service includes: individual support packages; one-to-one and group work support; family support; on-site educational classes; opportunities to increase social activities; and access to other services and organisations.

### **SHED (Turning Point), Sheffield**

Tel: 0114 272 9164

This project offers group work, individual support and one-to-one counselling. It aims to identify additional support and services for families to reduce the risks, harm and negative impact of substance misuse on them. It offers the service for any child or young person under 19 years.

### **Stars Project (The Children's Society), Nottingham**

Tel: 0115 942 2974

This project was established in January 2002. The idea emerged from a consultation with local professionals who identified parental substance misuse as an increasing problem in North Nottingham. Its main aims are to break the trans-generational cycle of substance misuse, prevent the removal of children and carry out research into the wider needs of children. The project works with children aged four to 13, with the main issues being related to emotional problems and difficulties with schooling. In the first year, the project worked with 25 children and identified a large number of children in the area 'lost to the system' who were not in their parents' home but living with grandmothers and aunts.

### **WAM (What about me?), Nottingham**

Tel: 01623 658492

This project was established in 2000 as a spin-off from a project which supports adult family members affected by substance misuse (Hetty's). Its individual client group is now predominantly children of problem drug users. It takes referrals from adult family members and a range of agencies. There are now four members in the team who also work in schools and young offenders' institutions and do outreach work.

## Further reading

During or shortly before our Inquiry, a number of books have been published in the UK and Ireland which examine the impact of parental substance misuse on parenting or on the children themselves. Some also consider the professional or service response.

Cleaver, H, Unell, I and Aldgate, J.  
*Children's needs – parenting capacity. The impact of parental mental illness, problem alcohol and drug use and domestic violence on children's development.*  
London: The Stationery Office, 1999.

Harbin, F and Murphy, M.  
*Substance misuse and childcare. How to understand, assist and intervene when drugs affect parenting.*  
Lyme Regis: Russell House Publishing, 2000.

Hogan, D and Higgins, L.  
*When parents use drugs: Key findings from a study of children in the care of drug-using parents.*  
Dublin: The Children's Research Centre, Trinity College, 2001.

Klee, H, Jackson, M and Lewis, S (eds).  
*Drug misuse and motherhood.*  
London: Routledge, 2002.

Kroll, B and Taylor, A.  
*Parental substance misuse and child welfare.*  
London: Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2003.

**Copies of this publication can be made available in alternative formats on request.**

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