

# **SR 2004 PSA TARGETS**

## **ACTION AGAINST ILLEGAL DRUGS TECHNICAL NOTES**

***29 July 2004***

The Cross Government Public Service Agreement (PSA) sets the priorities for Action Against Illegal Drugs over the Spending Review Period 2005/6 to 2007/8

The technical notes define the terms used, how progress will be measured and the success criteria for each target.

The Home Office will publish a report of progress against achieving the PSA targets, on behalf of Government. This will be set out in the Home Office's Departmental Annual Reports published at the end of April and interim reports published in the Autumn of each year.

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## **Target 1:**

### **PSA 4: Reduce the harm caused by illegal drugs including substantially increasing the number of drug misusing offenders entering treatment through the criminal justice system**

#### **Scope**

This target applies to England and Wales.

#### **Definitions & Measurement Systems**

The level of harm caused by illegal drug use is measured by a substantial basket of individual harm indicators that have been amalgamated in the Drug Harm Index. The harms are weighted according to their economic impact to allow year-on-year comparisons of the harm caused by drugs. The index currently captures the following harms:

##### Health Impacts

- ◆ New HIV cases due to intravenous drug use (Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre)
- ◆ New Hepatitis B & C cases due to intravenous drug use (Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre)
- ◆ Drug-related deaths (Office for National Statistics)
- ◆ Drug-related mental health and behavioural problems (Hospital Episode Statistics)
- ◆ Drug overdoses (Hospital Episode Statistics)
- ◆ Drug-related neonatal problems (Hospital Episode Statistics)

##### Drug Dealing

- ◆ Public perception of local availability of drugs (British Crime Survey)
- ◆ Number of drug supply offences (Crime Statistics)

##### Domestic Crime (all British Crime Survey, calibrated with Arrestee Survey)

- ◆ Burglary
- ◆ Theft of vehicle
- ◆ Theft from vehicle
- ◆ Bike theft
- ◆ Other theft
- ◆ Robbery

##### Commercial Crime (calibrated with Arrestee Survey and Crime Statistics (for trend))

- ◆ Shoplifting (Crime & Justice Survey)
- ◆ Burglary (Commercial Victimization Survey)
- ◆ Theft of vehicle (Commercial Victimization Survey)
- ◆ Theft from vehicle (Commercial Victimization Survey)

The components of the index and the weightings are under review and could change as a result before the measurement system is finalised. A detailed account of the Drug Harm Index will be published by the Home Office in December 2004.

Drug misusing offenders that enter treatment as a result of the Criminal Justice Intervention Programme (CJIP), a drug treatment and testing order (DTTO), following a referral from the Probation Service, a Youth Offending Team or whilst in correctional services are deemed to have entered through the criminal justice system. A substantial increase in the numbers entering through the criminal justice system is measured using information collated by the Home Office CJIP management information team.

### **Baseline**

The baseline year is 2002 for the Drug Harm Index.

### **Success Criteria**

*The target will have been achieved if:*

- ◆ *the Drug Harm Index is lower in 2007/8 than in 2002; and*
- ◆ *the number of drug misusing offenders entering treatment through the criminal justice system increases from a baseline of 695 in May 2004 to a target value that will be published in the Autumn of 2004.*

### **Additional Notes**

This PSA target is part of the wider Public Service Agreement on Action Against Illegal Drugs. The other targets in that Public Service Agreement and the Concerted Inter Agency Drugs Action Group (CIDA)<sup>1</sup> aim to have a sustained impact on the supply of Class A drugs to the UK and availability within its communities, contribute to the delivery of this target. In addition, delivery of this target will contribute to achieving Home Office PSA 1 to reduce crime.

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<sup>1</sup> CIDA brings together the agencies responsible for combating the supply of drugs to the UK market.

## Target 2:

**Increase the participation of problem drug users in drug treatment programmes by 100% by 2008 and increase year on year the proportion of users successfully sustaining or completing treatment programmes**

### Scope and responsibility

This target is owned by the Department of Health and applies to all those in drug treatment in England (excluding prisoners).

### Definitions

**Drug treatment programmes:** structured treatment that aims to stabilise, reduce or eliminate drug misuse and/or dependence, while also minimising the adverse criminal and health effects of drug misuse. Drug treatment programmes also aim to rehabilitate the misusers into society.

The **key measures** are defined as:

- the number of problem drug misusers in treatment programmes in a financial year
- the number (and proportion) of problem drug misusers in Tier 3 Treatment who were successfully retained in treatment at the end of the financial year (31 March)
- the number (and proportion) of problem drug misusers who had successfully completed Tier 4 treatment at the end of the year; that is, clients who had been in treatment during the year and were not in treatment at the end of the year (31 March), for whom the reason for leaving treatment was that treatment had been completed (whether drug free or not).

### Baseline:

National baseline for numbers of users in treatment in 1998/99 (excluding treatment in prisons) was estimated using a 2000/01 census and national data on numbers in treatment collected NDTMS in 2001/02, and 2003/04 NDTMS data is available at national and local level and will be used as a baseline for all future monitoring at local level. The baseline estimate of numbers in treatment in 1998/99 is 102,000

SHAs will use 2003/04 data to set baselines against which PCTs will set planned increases in line with the national target.

### Data Source:

National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS) operated by the NTA. These figures are published annually to measure progress against targets each year;

The NDTMS has a more tightly defined focus on structured treatment than the RDMD and focuses on those in treatment who are receiving on-going structured care e.g.

community based specialist drug services, specialist in-patient treatment, GP's prescribing services and residential rehabilitation. The central requirements will not include non-structural treatment services e.g. needle exchange and outreach work.

The target includes prisoners. The NDTMS does not currently gather information about clients treated in prisons, but numbers are now tracked separately by the PUMIS system operated by the Home Office. The prisoners receiving treatment will be monitored separately, with a view to a 100% increase over ten years in both and the two numbers combined.

**Target Year:**

The date that will be used for measuring whether the PSA Target for the increase in numbers in treatment by 2008 has been met is 31 March 2008. However, the data itself will not be available until later that year, probably September 2008.

**Reporting – Frequency & Timing**

ANNUAL

QUARTERLY DATA – data from PCTs will be available from November 2008 onwards.

### **Target 3:**

**Reduce the use of Class A drugs and the frequent use of any illicit drug among all young people under the age of 25, especially by the most vulnerable young people**

#### **Scope and Responsibility**

This target is shared between the Home Office and the Department for Education and Skills and applies to England and Wales.

#### **Definitions & Measurement Systems**

This target has been broken into a number of parts for measurement:

- Class A drug use among young people and frequent use of any illicit drug among young people under the age of 25 is measured by the British Crime Survey (BCS).
- Drug use by vulnerable young people is measured by the Crime and Justice Survey and the Schools Survey (Smoking, drinking and drug misuse among young people in England).

Findings are published annually

#### **Class A drug use among young people**

- 'Young people', as measured by the BCS, are those aged between 16 and 24 years; estimates of drug use are based on the proportion, of this group, who self-report Class A drug use in the previous year.
- The results from the 1998 BCS form the baseline for Class A drug use. This is derived from a sample of 1,295 16-24 year olds. The proportion of 16 to 24 year olds reporting use of Class A drugs, in BCS 1998, was 8.6%. BCS data is calibrated to take account of non-response rates. As a result, the 1998 figure presented here differs slightly to that previously published.
- The annual survey of drug use, amongst a random sample of pupils in secondary schools (11 – 15 year olds in England only), is a complementary survey to the BCS. This provides an indication of drug trends among those young people about to enter the 16-24 age band. The baseline year for the school survey is 1999. Class A drug use among 11 to 15 year olds during the last year was estimated at 2.4%.

#### **To reduce frequent use of any illicit drug by all young people**

- 'Frequent use' will be defined as being usage at least 2 times every month over the previous year. Questions seeking information about frequent drug use, have been asked in the BCS from 2002 onwards. The target age will be 16-24 years of age.

### **Reducing drug use by vulnerable young people**

- 'Vulnerable young people' are those who are at greater risk of becoming problem drug users in later life. They include such groups as truants, school excludees, young offenders and children that have ever been in care or homeless. Class A drug use and frequent use by vulnerable young people is measured using the Crime and Justice Survey for 16-24 year olds and the Schools Survey for 11-15 year olds.

### **Baseline**

The baseline year for this target is 2003/04.

### **Success Criteria**

*The target will have been achieved if:*

- *Class A drug use amongst all young people is lower in 2007/8 than in 2003/04;*
- *Frequent use of any illicit drug amongst all young people is lower 2007/8 than in 2003/04; and*
- *Class A drug use and frequent use of any illicit drug by vulnerable young people is lower in 2007/8 than in 2003/04;*

In order for the target to be judged as 'met' all three criteria should be satisfied. If one of the criteria is satisfied, then the target will be judged as 'partly met', if none are satisfied then the target will be 'not met'.