



NNEF

Birmingham 2018

Agenda and speaker
information

The 2018 NNEF meeting marks a return to our regular pattern of yearly conferences. The past few years have been marked by many changes and these, of course, also impacted the NNEF making organising our events difficult.

But 2018 is the year we return, we know our members are excited about the possibility of the first UK Drug Consumption Rooms opening in the near future and other developments that we hope signal a return of a harm reduction focus nationally.

Date: Friday 27th April 2018 from 9.00 - 17.00

Venue: Carr's Lane Church, Birmingham B4 7SX

NNEF 2018: Agenda

- 9.30 – 10.00 Registrations – tea, coffee, biscuits
- 10.00 - 10.10 Opening Speech: **David Jamieson**, West Midlands Police & Crime Commissioner
- 10.10 – 10.30 **Kirsten Horsburgh** – Glasgow Drug Consumption Rooms
- 10.30 – 10.50 **Neil Woods** – LEAP UK – Harm Reduction barriers and the Police
- 10.50 – 11.10 **Tony Mercer** - PHE– Harm Reduction v Abstinence arguments
- 11.10- 11.30 **Dr Magdalena Harris** – LSHTM – Kidney issues amongst IDUs
- 11.30 -11.50 Break - tea, coffee, biscuits
- 11.50 – 12.10 **Prof Ahmed El-Sharkawy** – Consultant Hepatologist – HCV community treatment
- 12.10 – 12.30 **Kirstie Douse** – Release – DCRs and the Law
- 12.30- 12.50 **Zoe Carre** – Release – naloxone FOI report
- 12.50 – 13.30 Lunch - networking
- 13.30 – 13.50 **Dr Loretta Ford** – West Midlands Toxicology Laboratory – street drugs changing trends
- 13.50 – 14.10 **Roger Nuttall** – Hastings Homeless Service – wound care and compassion
- 14.10 – 14.30 **Dr Prun Bijral** – Medical Director CGL – Fentanyl pilot and HAT
- 14.30 – 14.45 Break
- 14.45 – 15.05 **Kasey Elmore** – Melbourne – Australia’s 2nd DCR
- 15.05 – 15.25 **Kevin Ratcliffe** – CGL – NSP in Birmingham, the pharmacy option
- 15.25 – 15.45 Closing Speech: **Dr Judith Yates** – IDHDP – HCV, DCRs and HAT
- 15.45 **NNEF AGM**, everyone is welcome to attend

Speakers

Kasey Elmore, Operations Manager, NHCH, Melbourne, Australia

Kasey Elmore is the Operations Manager of Australia's second Medically Supervised Injecting Room, working on the design, development and implementation of the facility. She has worked in the AOD sector in inner city Melbourne for more than 12 years, predominately responding to overdoses in a community setting. Kasey has contributed to harm reduction programs internationally, including consulting on Belgium's national Naloxone program. She is proud to be part of a global community committed to harm reduction.

Presentation: Developing and Building a DCR: A practical guide

Although DCRs have existed for decades, each is unique. Navigating the political landscape, meeting the competing needs and expectations, and exploring uncharted clinical territory will pose unexpected challenges for any organisation launching a DCR.

In late October 2017, the state government announced that Australia's second DCR would open at North Richmond Community Health, by mid-2018. Developing, designing and implementing the DCR has posed a variety of issues which require practical solutions. How do you design an inclusive, accessible facility which is clinically appropriate? How does a 14-year-old, who cannot legally access your DCR, get the help they need? How do you operate within government-imposed regulations without compromising your core harm reduction values?

Kasey Elmore will share practical insights and solutions from her experience setting up a DCR in Melbourne, Australia.

Tony Mercer, Drugs and Alcohol Manager, Public Health England

Tony Mercer is a Health Improvement Programme Manager (Alcohol and other Drugs) for Public Health England, providing specialist and technical support to commissioners, public health teams and treatment services in the Midlands. He is also leading Public Health England's work in the Midlands to reduce drug related deaths and increase facilitated access to mutual aid for drug and alcohol recovery.

Tony has worked in different roles in drugs and alcohol treatment for nearly fifteen years in South Wales, the West Midlands and the North West of England, including DAAT Commissioning Manager and National Treatment Agency Deputy Regional Manager. He has post graduate qualifications in commissioning, public health and Bioethics.

Presentation: The arguments of Harm Reduction versus Abstinence

Tony got quite worried by this polarisation when he worked in Wolverhampton and the impact it could have on future funding. He was amazed how everyone using services and most people working in them knew we needed both but both sides of the debate were using moral arguments to make their case - so he went to study bioethics and looked at how both sides were using different philosophical arguments to make their case.

Dr Loretta Ford, West Midlands Toxicology Laboratory

Dr Loretta Ford has been a Consultant Clinical Scientist who worked at City Biochemistry Department for over ten years. In 2010 Loretta moved to the clinical toxicology laboratory where she is now the Consultant leading this national service.

Presentation: Changing trends in street drugs. The greatest challenge facing clinical toxicology screening services

Over the last few years there has been a dramatic change in drug use with the rise in popularity of new types of abuse including psychoactive substances (NPS), diverted prescription medications and anabolic steroids. Screening for these different types of abuse represents a particular challenge as typically these compounds are not detected by traditional clinical toxicology services which are only focused on screening for classic drugs of abuse such as markers of heroin, cocaine and cannabis use.

In 2013 the West Midlands introduced the first UK NHS clinical service toxicology service for routinely screening for these new forms abuse. In this presentation as well as overview of the current status of NPS, we will also look at these other types of abuse including example cases.

Roger Nuttall: Nurse Co-ordinator, Hastings Homeless Service

Roger Nuttall has been leading St John Ambulance Homeless Service in Hastings since 2004. In his younger days, after some life-changing events, he turned his back on his chosen itinerant, homeless lifestyle to enter a career in nursing. He is married to Janine; together they have 3 children and a dog called Gorka. He is never happier than when out and about in nature, whether walking, running, photographing butterflies or enjoying contemplative prayer.

Roger has recently published *Coming Home for Good*, a book that blends autobiography with thoughts from his life and work, on homelessness, spirituality, identity, and self-actualisation.

Presentation: The importance of therapeutic relationships
Roger will be speaking on the importance of the therapeutic relationship, and the difference that this can make to

engagement and improved mental and physical health of marginalised individuals. He will be touching on factors such as empathy, flexibility, person-centred and trauma-informed care, and the potential role of narrative in healthcare.

Kirsten Horsburgh, National Naloxone Coordinator, Scottish Drugs Forum

Kirsten has a background in mental health nursing and has been involved in the naloxone programme in Scotland since it was introduced in 2011. She is now responsible for the coordination of the programme and delivering training to a wide range of stakeholders across Scotland.

In 2015, Kirsten undertook a travel fellowship to Australia and on her return recommended, in her report, the introduction of supervised injecting facilities in Scotland. She was subsequently invited to participate in the Short Life Working Group in Glasgow that had proposed a SIF for the city centre.

Presentation: Proposals, Progress and Politics: the journey towards a safer drug consumption facility in Glasgow City Centre

In June 2016, following a HIV outbreak among people who inject drugs, a report was published on the health needs of people injecting in public places in Glasgow City Centre (Taking Away the Chaos) which made several recommendations for improved and new services. One of those was for a Safer Drug Consumption Facility, which would be the first of its kind in the UK and would also house a Heroin Assisted Treatment service. This presentation will explore the background to the proposal, the steps taken to progress it and the barriers and challenges faced going forward.

Dr Prun Bijral, Medical Director CGL

Dr. Prun Bijral is a psychiatrist and Medical Director of CGL, a health and social care charity in the UK. He is a Member of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, serves on the Technical Committee of the ACMD, and holds overall clinical responsibility for all CGL clinical services, and executive responsibility for clinical governance.

Dr. Bijral trained as a medical doctor at both St. Andrew and Manchester Universities, and then specialised in psychiatry. In 2005 he became a consultant addictions psychiatrist in Manchester and has worked in a medical leadership role for CGL since 2011, becoming Medical Director and Responsible Officer in 2015.

His main interests include reducing mortality, minimising the impact of health inequalities for people who use drugs, and cross-sector collaboration.

Presentation: Rise of the Fentanyls?

This presentation will look at one provider's experience of working with individuals who have used fentanyl, usually unwittingly. The evolution of a fentanyl outbreak will be discussed, followed by an exploration of the possible approaches that could mitigate any potential threat from fentanyl and related analogues.

Neil Woods: Chair, LEAP UK

Neil is a former Detective Sergeant and undercover operative, and is now Chairman of LEAP UK, and a board member of LEAP in the USA. LEAP is an international organisation composed of law enforcement figures, military and policy influencers who campaign for evidence based drug policy. Having spent 23

years in Derbyshire Constabulary, Neil was on the frontlines as a drugs undercover operative over fourteen years. He also developed tactics and the training for other undercover officers. He later became a Detective Sergeant with Derbyshire CID whilst acting as a board member of the Drugs Expert Witness and Valuation Association (DEWVA). Neil is a regular in the media, appearing on This Morning, Good Morning Britain, Sunday Morning Live, BBC News, and took part in the Channel 4 show 'Drugs Live - Cannabis On Trial. He travels extensively to speak at conferences and universities, and his most recent speaking appearance was in Oslo at the launch of LEAP Scandinavia.

Presentation: How Harm Reduction in its purest form can mitigate the costs of police success

Using examples from his own undercover policing career, Neil will explain how police success has increased problems for vulnerable cohorts of society. From a policing perspective he suggests that both Drug Consumption Rooms and Heroin Assisted Treatment can make a huge difference to individuals and the community as a whole.'

Dr Magdalena Harris, LSTM

Magdalena Harris is an Associate Professor at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. Her expertise lies in qualitative methods and the social sciences of hepatitis C and harm reduction. After devoting her 20's to intensive 'field work' in the New Zealand injecting scene, Magdalena returned to University graduating with a PhD from the University of New South Wales, Australia. She has been based at LSHTM since 2009, where she conducts a programme of research investigating the lived experience of care, risk, treatment and prevention among people who inject drugs in the UK.

Magdalena is a trustee for the Hepatitis C Trust; associate editor for the International Journal of Drug Policy and Journal of Hepatology, Medicine and Policy; steering committee member for the London Joint Working Group on Hepatitis C and Substance Use and the European Hepatitis C Platform; and board member for the Global Congress for Qualitative Health Research.

Presentation: Care & Prevent: Public injecting, wounds and barriers to care

A policy and research focus on blood-borne viruses among people who inject drugs (PWID) forecloses attention to other injecting related harms. Injecting-related skin and soft tissue infections (SSTI) have been described as a 'hidden epidemic of suffering'. They disproportionately impact the most marginalised: women who inject drugs, those who are unstably housed and who live with multiple morbidities. In this presentation Magdalena will introduce the London 'Care and Prevent study', which aims to improve SSTI prevention, care and treatment interventions for PWID, including through assessing the feasibility of AA amyloidosis kidney disease screening, diagnosis & treatment referral. She will explore the interplay between public injecting risk environments, SSTI-related harms and barriers to care - with the aim of provoking discussion on the role of enabling environmental interventions in reducing harm.

Kirstie Douse, Release

Kirstie is a Solicitor Advocate and Head of Legal Services at Release – the UK centre of expertise on drugs and drug laws.

Before joining Release Kirstie practiced as a solicitor specialising in criminal defence. Having become disillusioned with the way

drug users are dealt with in the criminal justice system, Kirstie joined Release with a view to tackling the problems at an earlier stage in proceedings by challenging policy and procedure. She has become increasingly involved in the organisation's policy and campaign work, and is passionate about tackling the stigma faced by people who use drugs.

In addition to managing the Legal Team, Kirstie continues to advise clients at Release's legal surgeries and via the legal helpline. Kirstie has contributed to a number of Release's publications, and authored the 2017 version of 'Sex Workers and the Law'. She also provides comment in the media on legal and policy issues relating to drugs, and has presented at numerous national and international conferences.

Presentation: Drug Consumption Rooms and the Law

Kirstie will be examining the legal aspects of opening and operation of drug consumption rooms in the UK.

Zoe Carre, Release

In her role as Policy Researcher at Release, Zoe undertakes research on public health and criminal justice issues in UK drug policy. Before joining release, Zoe campaigned with SSDP UK to soften Newcastle University's zero tolerance drug policy and to provide harm reduction to students who use drugs. Zoe has also worked in needle exchange and substance misuse services for Lifeline Project across the North East of England.

Presentation: Naloxone: Freedom of Information 2017 Findings

Release's survey of local authorities identified major issues with take-home naloxone provision in England. The amount given out was insufficient, it was not always made available to those

who needed it and there were unnecessary barriers in place to access the life-saving medication. Moving forward, how can we improve the provision of take-home naloxone in England to prevent further loss of life?

Dr Ahmed M Elsharkawy, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham

Dr Ahmed Elsharkawy was appointed as a Consultant Hepatologist in March 2012. He qualified from Southampton in 1999 before doing his core medical training in Nottingham followed by registrar training on both the Wessex and Northern Deanery schemes. His PhD was in the pathogenesis of the liver inflammation-fibrosis-cancer axis. His clinical interests include all aspects of hepatology, liver transplantation and how to improve management of patients pre and post-transplant. He leads on live related liver donation in Birmingham. He is particularly interested in the potential role of nutritional interventions in patients with liver disease. He also has an interest in acute and acute-on-chronic liver failure. He is principal investigator on a couple of trials of liver assist devices in the ACLF setting. He also has a major interest in viral hepatitis and management of this outside traditional settings. He is currently the Chairman of the British Viral Hepatitis Group and has co-edited the BTS Guidelines on the management of Hepatitis B and Hepatitis E.

Presentation: HCV treatment landscape

Ahmed will be summarise the current hepatitis C treatment landscape including how much simpler hepatitis C work up and treatment now is. He will also talk about local, national and international plans to eliminate hepatitis C.

Kevin Ratcliffe Lead NMP, CGL, Birmingham

Kevin is a Consultant Pharmacist in addictions and has extensive prescribing experience in primary and secondary care, third sector and in secure environments. He is currently the clinical lead for one of the treatment areas within Reach Out Recovery in Birmingham, and is the national Non-Medical Prescribing Lead for CGL. He is also responsible for the day to day management of the community pharmacy-based substance misuse services across the city.

Kevin is a regional tutor for the Royal College of General Practitioners' Part 2 (advanced) certificate in substance misuse. He sits on the Executive Operations Board for the national Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education (CPPE).

He has also worked within a Treatment Expert Group for NICE, as a commissioner within Birmingham DAAT, and with SMMGP, for whom he wrote the national take home naloxone e-module. He was the chair and principle author of the national substance misuse curriculum for the Faculty and is a Fellow of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society.

Presentation: NSP in Birmingham – the pharmacy option

A round up of the current services being offered through community pharmacies across the city and news of a potential new development.

Dr Judith Yates, IDHDP

Dr Judith Yates worked as a family doctor in Birmingham for thirty years and developed a special interest in working with people who use drugs and alcohol. As part of the Naloxone Action Group, NAG-England, she has been working to extend provision of naloxone across England. She is an Ambassador for

HCV Action, supporting the WHO target to eradicate hepatitis C locally and worldwide by 2030. Working with the Birmingham Coroner, is part of a recently re-formed “Drug Related Deaths local inquiry group” in the city.

A founding member of the Independent Consortium on Drug Consumption Rooms she supports harm reduction measures, which reduce morbidity and mortality associated with the use of drugs and alcohol. She represents “International Doctors for Healthier Drug Policies” (IDHDP) at the UN, believing that health should be the cornerstone of worldwide drug policy.

Presentation: “Five Ways to Save Money and Save Lives”

Judith’s presentation will cover 5 key points:

1. Reinstatement of properly funded modern OST (low threshold with HAT and retention and HR)
2. Proper NSP with HR and engagement
3. DCRs where needed
4. Test/treat Hep C Now. (not next week when too late)
5. Decriminalise drugs immediately, followed by proper regulated system.

She strongly believes every one of these steps would save both money and lives.

NEEF AGM MEETING

Following the days presentations we will have the NNEF AGM, everyone is welcome to attend this meeting. We will be deciding on the direction of the NNEF in the coming years.

The AGM agenda is as follows:

1. Welcome
2. Confirmation of minutes of the last AGM
3. Report from the Chair
4. Review of the NNEF accounts and financial report
5. Election of new officers
6. Appointment of Planning Group members
7. Any other business

NNEF

Birmingham 2018