

**Nottingham City Health and Wellbeing Board**  
**27 July 2022**

<b>Report Title:</b>	Joint Strategic Needs Assessment – Substance Misuse (Illicit Drugs and Alcohol)
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<b>Executive Summary:</b>	
<p>This new Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) chapter considers all-age illicit drug and alcohol misuse in Nottingham. It replaces the following previous chapters: Adult Drug Users (2015), Alcohol (2015) and Children and Young People Substance Misuse (2016).</p> <p>Substance misuse can be defined as ‘the continued misuse of any mind-altering substance that severely affects a person’s physical and mental health, social situation and responsibilities’. It can have profound and negative effects on individuals and across communities. The new chapter seeks to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• outline the causes and risk factors that influence substance use and misuse across age groups;</li> <li>• describe the levels of drug and alcohol use nationally and within Nottingham;</li> <li>• outline the current service provision; and</li> <li>• present insight and evidence for future design of services for Nottingham, with a number of recommendations for consideration by commissioners identified.</li> </ul>	
<b>Does this report contain any information that is exempt from publication?</b>	
No	
<b>Recommendation(s):</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Board is asked to endorse the contents of the new Joint Strategic Needs Assessment – Substance Misuse chapter and, in particular, the recommendations for consideration by service commissioners.</li> </ol>	

<b>The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy</b>	
<b>Aims and Priorities</b>	<b>How the recommendation(s) contribute to meeting the Aims and Priorities:</b>
<b>Aim 1:</b> To increase healthy life expectancy in Nottingham through addressing the wider determinants of health and enabling people to make healthy decisions	<p>Substance misuse can have profound and negative effects on individuals and across communities. Alcohol and illicit drugs can cause a wide range of harm to physical and mental health, for example foetal alcohol syndrome affecting unborn babies, and the risk of contracting blood-borne viruses and infection from injecting drugs. The social impacts of substance use may include limiting the ability to work, to parent and to function effectively in society, and can often be associated with criminal activity as a way of getting money to buy drugs. There are significant costs associated with drug and alcohol use among health and social care and criminal justice systems.</p>
<b>Aim 2:</b> To reduce health inequalities by having a proportionately greater focus where change is most needed	
<b>Priority 1:</b> Smoking and Tobacco Control	
<b>Priority 2:</b> Eating and Moving for Good Health	
<b>Priority 3:</b> Severe Multiple Disadvantage	
<b>Priority 4:</b> Financial Wellbeing	
<p><b>How mental health and wellbeing is being championed in line with the Board's aspiration to give equal value to mental and physical health:</b></p> <p>The new chapter identifies that alcohol and illicit drugs can cause a wide range of harm to both physical and mental health. It is also noted that those with mental health problems are disproportionately likely to be affected by substance misuse. The chapter recommends that commissioners ensure that interventions are person-centred, recognising that psychosocial interventions may encourage behaviour change.</p>	
<b>List of background papers relied upon in writing this report:</b>	None
<b>Published documents referred to in this report:</b>	See Section 13 (References) of the report