

DrugScope regional forums

Terms of reference

Objectives

Forum meetings and related web based resources will look towards achieving three main objectives;

1. Supporting the development of good practice through information and resource sharing;
2. Providing information and knowledge around national, regional and local policy developments- both within and beyond the drug sector;
3. Ensuring that local and regional concerns expressed by forum members are articulated to the appropriate statutory agencies (both locally and nationally).

The regional forums will aim to improve the knowledge and understanding of drug policy and practice issues amongst professionals working within the drugs field and related sectors (e.g., housing, social care). DrugScope will host meetings (at least twice yearly) within each region and will alternate the location to maximise participation. DrugScope will coordinate the development of web based regional resources which will provide ongoing support and knowledge sharing opportunities to members between forum meetings. DrugScope will work to ensure that the content and focus of each forum meeting reflects local issues and priorities. DrugScope will support the development of 'regional ambassadors' for each region.

Membership

Regional forums will be open to both DrugScope members and non members but where places are limited, DrugScope members will receive priority booking over non members. Where places at meetings are limited each agency will be allocated one person to attend.

Administration

DrugScope will provide administrative support and coordination for both the regional forums and the web based regional resources. A note of discussion and contributions will be made - comments will not be attributed to specific agencies, unless they relate to the sharing of good practice or where the individual or agency concerned wishes to be attributed.

DrugScope recognises that drugs can impact differently on individuals and communities depending on gender, sexuality, race and ethnicity, religion, experience of disability and age. We strive to reflect this diversity in all our work.

22nd December 2008