

Online media mentions

DrugScope in the news

DrugScope provides authoritative comment to media outlets both in the UK and abroad. Here is a selection of links to recent articles published online to which DrugScope spokespeople have contributed. Articles will open in a new window.

BBC News, 3rd September 2008

Drug users turning to Diazepam

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/7594463.stm>

Guardian, 3rd September 2008

Mother's little helper is back: heroin shortage makes Valium the street drug of choice

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2008/sep/03/drugsandalcohol.drugtrade>

Daily Mail 3rd September 2008

'Mother's little helper' returns as drug-takers use more Valium as cheap alternative to heroin

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-1051989/Mothers-little-helper-returns-drug-takers-use-Valium-cheap-alternative-heroin.html>

Metro 3rd September 2008

Heroin addicts go for 1 diazepam

http://www.metro.co.uk/news/article.html?Heroin_addicts_go_for_%A31_diazepam&in_article_id=291879&in_page_id=34

Mirror 3rd September 2008

Drug users turn to tranquilliser, diazepam

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/latest/2008/09/02/drug-users-turn-to-tranquilliser-diazepam-115875-20721821/>

In the News 3rd September 2008

Concern as drug users turning to diazepam

[http://www.inthenews.co.uk/news/health/concern-as-drug-users-turning-diazepam-\\$1238961.htm](http://www.inthenews.co.uk/news/health/concern-as-drug-users-turning-diazepam-$1238961.htm)

OnMedica, 13 May 2008

Should cannabis be reclassified? Opinion piece by Martin Barnes.

<http://www.onmedica.com/ViewsArticle.aspx?id=d0e7c131-3519-4750-b360-7d00cb418fdb>

Guardian, 8 May 2008

Scientists warn Smith over cannabis reclassification

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/politics/2008/may/08/drugspolicy.drugsandalcohol>

Independent, 8 May 2008

Smith tightens laws on cannabis

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/smith-tightens-laws-on-cannabis-822831.html>

BBC Radio 4 and Five, 8 May 2008

Interviews

DrugScope's chief executive, Martin Barnes, was interviewed (7th May) on BBC Radio 4's Today programme (7.35am) and Radio Five Live about the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs (ACMD) report on cannabis reclassification:

Today (Wednesday - 7.35am): <http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio4/today/listenagain/> Radio Five Live (interview starts at 02:16:08 ends at 02:20:44): http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio/aod/mainframe.shtml?http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio/aod/fivelive_aod.shtml?fivelive/5L_breakfast_wed

http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio/aod/fivelive_aod.shtml?fivelive/5L_breakfast_wed

Observer, 4 May 2008

Hippy dream, modern nightmare

<http://lifeandhealth.guardian.co.uk/health/story/0,,2277790,00.html>

BBC Five live interview:19 April 2008

'Addicts gifted Toon tickets', Interview

DrugScope's chief executive contributed to a discussion on BBC Five live (19th April) about tickets provided by Newcastle United football club for drug users in treatment. A replay of the programme (Weekend Breakfast) can be accessed [here](#) - starts at 02:07:56, ends 02:14:11

Guardian, 16 April 2008

Ins and outs - new appointments in the third sector

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2008/apr/16/publicsectorcareers>

Independent, 11 April 2008

MP calls for rethink on failing drugs laws

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/mp-calls-for-rethink-on-failing-drugs-laws-807796.html>

Independent, 9 March 2008

The great class A drugs sale how prices have tumbled under Labour

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/the-great-class-a-drugs-sale-ndash-how-prices-have-tumbled-under-labour-793501.html>

Times, 5 March 2008

UN condemns Britain's celebrity cocaine culture

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/crime/article3486141.ece>

Guardian, 28 February 2008

Guardian Daily Podcast

Martin Barnes, chief executive of charity DrugScope, welcomes elements of the government's new drugs strategy, announced yesterday. But he says there should be more effort to help addicts in the workplace. Interview starts at 22.02 mins (lasts 3 mins 40 secs).

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/audio/2008/feb/28/guardian.daily.podcast>

Downing Street website, 28 February 2008

PM unveils comprehensive approach to drug issues

<http://www.pm.gov.uk/output/Page14732.asp>

Guardian, 28 February 2008

Intention to free society from drug-related crime

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2008/feb/28/drugsandalcohol.children>

Independent, 28 February 2008

Teachers and families enlisted to war on drugs

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/teachers-and-families-enlisted-to-war-on-drugs-788566.html>

Telegraph, 28 February 2008

Anti-drug campaign to target children aged five

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2008/02/28/ndrugs128.xml>

Times Online, 28 February 2008

Grandparents will be given help to look after children of addicts

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/politics/article3448869.ece>

Sunday Times, 24 February 2008

Prescription drugs: legal and lethal

http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life_and_style/health/article3403941.ece

Times, 13 February 2008

Taking drugs regularly is normal

http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life_and_style/education/student/student_life/article3358175.ece

Independent, 6 February 2008

The Big Question: What is the truth about skunk? <http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/health-and-wellbeing/health-news/>

Independent, 3 January 2008

The Big Question: How dangerous is ecstasy?

<http://news.independent.co.uk/uk/legal/article3303615.ece>

BBC news online, 1 January 2008

Drugs 'legal in 10 years' claim

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/wales/7166748.stm>

Children and Young People Now, 28 November 2007

Drugs education must take heed of social influences, urges study

<http://www.cypnow.co.uk/Archive/769537/Drugs-education-heed-social-influences-urges-study/>

Guardian, 21 November 2007

Treatment and the law stem rise in users

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2007/nov/21/drugsandalcohol.homeaffairs1>

Guardian, 26 October 2007

Cannabis loses allure but cocaine continues upward trend

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2007/oct/26/drugsandalcohol.crime>

Times, 26 October 2007

Fewer young people using cannabis but more turning to cocaine

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/article2738569.ece>

Telegraph, 26 October 2007

Cocaine use 'rising among under-24s'

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2007/10/26/ncoke126.xml>

Independent, 26 October 2007

Cannabis use is 'falling fast' among young adults <http://news.independent.co.uk/uk/crime/article3098871.ece>

Mirror, 26 October 2007

Cheap cocaine sparks young user boom

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/topstories/2007/10/26/cheap-cocaine-sparks-young-user-boom-89520-20011481/>

Guardian, 18 October 2007

MPs and experts condemn drug treatment programme

<http://society.guardian.co.uk/drugsandalcohol/story/0,,2193952,00.html>

Independent, 15 October 2007

Martin Barnes, DrugScope: The key question is, how do we minimise harm from drugs?

<http://comment.independent.co.uk/commentators/article3061123.ece>

BBC news online, 13 October 2007

Parents 'ignorant about cannabis', say leading police officers

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/7042881.stm>

Guardian, 17 September 2007

Skunk strength has doubled, studies suggest

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/drugs/Story/0,,2170798,00.html>

Observer, 16 September 2007

Prisons awash with heroin substitute.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/drugs/Story/0,,2170415,00.html>

BBC news online, 13 September 2007

Cocaine users 'getting younger'

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/6992752.stm>

Guardian, 13 September 2007

Rapid rise in cocaine use aided by two-tier prices, say charities
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/drugs/Story/0,,2167907,00.html>

Guardian, 12 September 2007
Badge of honour: From undercover drug cop to anti-prohibitionist?
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/drugs/Story/0,,2166824,00.html>

Daily Telegraph, 20 August 2007
Channel 4's latest idea - drug binge TV
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2007/08/16/ndrugs116.xml>

International Herald Tribune, 15 August 2007
With Iraq pullout in full swing, Britain turns its attention to Afghanistan
<http://www.ihf.com/articles/ap/2007/08/16/asia/AS-GEN-Afghanistan-Britains-War.php>

Guardian Abroad, 10 August 2007
No prescription, no problem
<http://www.guardianabroad.co.uk/health/article/337>

Community Care, 7 August 2007
NTA reveals unacceptable youth service funding
<http://www.communitycare.co.uk/Articles/2007/08/07/105380/nta-reveals-unacceptable-youth-drugs-services-finding.html>

The Toronto Star, 1 August 2007
Britain fires up debate over tougher pot laws
<http://www.thestar.com/News/article/241945>

Daily Telegraph, 30 July 2007
Brown cuts 50m from drugs work
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2007/07/29/nbrown129.xml>

BBC news online, 24 July 2007
Inquiry into drug misuse launched
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/6913536.stm>

Observer, 22 July 2007
Comment: Grand evasions lie in trifling honesties
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/story/0,,2132046,00.html>

Press Gazette, 17 July 2007
Druglink magazine: drugs reporting is 'irresponsible'
<http://www.pressgazette.co.uk/story.asp?storyCode=38222 ioncode=1>

Guardian, 10 July 2007
Crystal meth yet to take off in Britain, police say
NB. This story was sourced (with permission) from a *Druglink* magazine article.
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/drugs/Story/0,,2122693,00.html>

Daily Mail, 16 June 2007
'I vowed not to date men who use cocaine 18 months ago - I've been single ever since.'
http://www.dailymail.co.uk/pages/live/femail/article.html?in_article_id=462075&in_page_id=1879

New Zealand Herald, 14 March 2007
UK police battle booming dope industry
NB. This story was sourced (with permission) from a *Druglink* magazine article.
http://www.nzherald.co.nz/section/2/story.cfm?c_id=2&objectid=10428672

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For more information please contact Ruth Goldsmith in the DrugScope Press Office on 020 7940 7517 (07736 895563 out of hours) or at press@drugscope.org.uk

Related Links:



[Policy](#) Please see our Policy page for a selection of articles and letters written by DrugScope staff and published in the press.

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