

Criminal Justice Interventions Service (CJIS) Key Messages

- Under Drug Systems Change Pilot the granting of one of our requested freedoms and flexibilities has resulted in the Essex Drug & Alcohol Partnership (EDAP) creating a new and innovative drug treatment system for those drug related offenders in the criminal justice system.
- Bringing together two separately commissioned services Drug Intervention Project (DIP) which is the responsibility of the Essex Drug & Alcohol Partnership (EDAP) and Counseling, Assessment, Referral, Advice and Through Care (CARAT) the responsibility of the National Offender Management Scheme (NOMS).
- Following a comprehensive tendering process WDP has been appointed as the chosen delivery partner; they have an established track record of delivering high quality services in Essex along with invaluable local knowledge.
- The new, innovative and fully integrated service will be the first of its kind in the UK. If successful this new approach to delivery has the potential to inform national standards and guidelines from 2012 onwards.
- In the current economic climate the commissioning of one continuous service within the criminal justice system will contribute towards more efficient use of resources.
- The new service builds on good practice, successes and lessons learnt from the Drugs Interventions Programme and is the next stage for delivery improved services to drug using offender in Essex.
- CJIS focuses on breaking the cycle of crime and reducing the victims of crime by targeting drug related offenders and tackling the causes of their offending.
- The service will proactively engage drug misusing offenders especially those prolific and priority offenders who commit the most serious offences in our community and deliver targeted and quality interventions at any point within the criminal justice system.
- For the first time in Essex the service will target and engage with drug related offenders from 16+ within a custody setting and Youth Offenders Institute in Chelmsford prison, many of whom are vulnerable and could become further involved in substance misuse and criminal activity.
- It will deliver continuity of care for all drug related offenders from engagement to reintegration including supporting those who receive conditional cautions.
- The service will improve the lives of the most problematic drug users in Essex, their family and carers and the wider community, with reducing offending, reoffending and increasing reintegration back into community at its heart.
- The new service emphasises the fact that in Essex prisons do not just offer substitute prescribing for drug using offenders, community services and interventions are now available throughout the entire criminal justice system.
- One continuous service working across the entire criminal justice system will offer better engagement and ensure less drug using offenders are falling through the gaps.
- The service will be supported by a 24 hour a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year single point of contact number (0808 1000 110) that will offer information and advice to drug using offenders and all professionals within the criminal justice system.