

Glasgow Drug Court (DTTO)

The Complex Needs of those with Addiction

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History and Context

- The Glasgow Drug Court model was adopted from the US Kansas City model.
- It was influenced by the explosion of heroin use in Scotland through the 1990s
- The level of associated drug related deaths.
- An ability to access co-ordinated treatment and care services.
- The increasing link between persistent offending (specifically acquisitive crime) and problematic drug use.
- Growing amount of research on the effectiveness of rapid access to treatment and care for problematic drug users.
- Crime and Disorder Act (1998) S89 to 95 inserted into Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995 S234b. Legislation enabled the courts to deal more effectively with drug users through a specific community disposal.

First Challenge



Clear objectives :

- To reduce the level of drug related offending behaviour.
- To reduce or eliminate an offender's dependence on or propensity to misuse drugs.
- To fast track into treatment and provide rapid access to support services.
- To maintain public confidence in the ability of the Service to deal with the causes of crime associated with drug misuse.

Distinguishing Features of the Drug Court

- Specialist bench.
- Drug Court Team to oversee its operation and development.
- Regular and random testing of service users on all orders (not just DTTOs).
- Regular reviews in court by the Bench of service users progress, with them being present .
- Fast track procedures into treatment.
- Effective actions in relation to compliance issues and inability to complete order
- Breach, interim sanction or revocation
- Ongoing evaluation and research of the work the drug court.

Complex Needs

- Co-morbidity- addiction , physical and mental health problems.
- Social issues- Homelessness, DWP Benefit issues or no benefits, housing, personal relationships, legal
- Polydrug use, alcohol, New substances i.e. designer drugs and street drugs
- Offending behaviour
- Risks to safety
- Impulsive behaviours

Diagnosis of Co-Morbidity

Service users attending the Drug Court

- Depression:
- Deliberate Self Harm:
- Depression and Anxiety:
- Post Traumatic Stress Disorder:
- Anxiety:
- Suicidality:
- Drug Induced Psychosis:
- Psychotic disorder:
- Paranoia:
- Schizophrenia:
- Agoraphobia:
- Panic disorder:
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder:

Physical health issues

- HIV
- Hepatitis C positive
- Hepatitis B Positive
- Cirrhosis
- DVT
- COPD
- Leukaemia
- Injecting complications
- Heart failure
- Drug related deaths
- Arthritis
- Brain injury
- Alcohol related liver disease
- Stroke
- Heart attack
- Chronic pain
- Leg ulcers

Innovations and next steps

- Blood borne virus clinic
- Recovery network/ peer support services
- Family support
- Holistic interventions
- Development day
- Service users story on DVD

What do we do well?

- Empathic care and committed approach
- Person centred
- Flexible approach within context of structured order
- Integrated team with effective communication
- Referral to external services
- Reactive to circumstances
- Outreach
- Effective exit strategies
- Graduation for clients

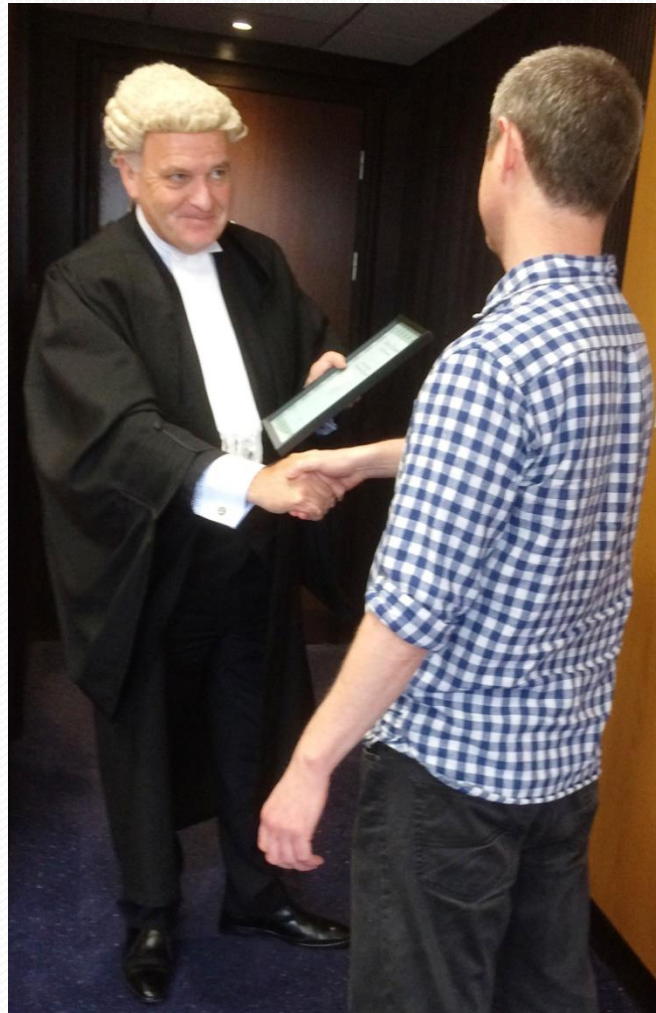
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GLASGOW



Sustaining recovery

