

# Response to Council Motion 38 – Drug Misuse Litter

## Adult's Health, Adult's Care and Housing Overview and Scrutiny

Date: 30<sup>th</sup> January 2018

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Author: Director of Public Health

Wards: All

Parishes Affected: All

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### 1. Purpose and Reasons

- 1.1 This report responds to the Council motion passed on 28<sup>th</sup> September (Motion 38) that requested that a task group be established to identify opportunities to reduce the incidence of drug related litter in Swindon (Link:

<http://sbcvpwmmgv02:9070/documents/g7985/Printed%20minutes%2028th-Sep-2017%2019.00%20Council.pdf?T=1>

- 1.2 At its meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2017, (minute 31), the Scrutiny Committee resolved - That the motion be referred to the Adults' Health, Adults' Care and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee for its consideration. (Link:

<http://sbcvpwmmgv02:9070/documents/g7791/Printed%20minutes%2023rd-Oct-2017%2018.00%20Scrutiny.pdf?T=1>

### 2. Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to:

- 2.1 Note the report.

### 3. Detail

- 3.1 At its meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2017 the Scrutiny committee noted the following Council Motion - Reducing Drugs Misuse

- 3.1.1 The Council, at its meeting held on 28th September 2017 considered the following motion from Councillor Stan Pajak, seconded by Councillor Steve Allsopp:

“This Council notes:

1. Swindon like most towns and cities in this country has seen a shockingly high rise in the number of drug users.
2. That deaths related to drug misuse in this country are at their highest levels since records began.
3. The recent successful court case where drug dealers in Swindon were convicted was accompanied by a statement by Wiltshire Police regarding how London gangs are travelling to our town to sell class A drugs bringing with them violence and blighting the lives of people living within the local communities.

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4. The dramatic rise in the highly dangerous disposal by users of needles and syringes in our public parks and open spaces exemplified by many recent cases.

3.1.2 This Council believes amid our continuing efforts with our Health partners to reduce drug misuse we must ensure that members of the public remain safe when using our open spaces and ensure our council workers remain safe when they collect sharps associated with drug usage. It therefore requests the Scrutiny Committee to consider setting up a task group to identify opportunities to reduce the incidence of drug related litter in Swindon. ”

3.2 The motion was carried at Council, and the Scrutiny Committee was asked to consider setting up a task group as detailed above.

3.3 An operational multi agency Town Centre Group has been established that specifically works to reduce the incidence of drug related litter in Swindon and meets weekly.

3.4 There is also an established multi agency Substance Misuse Group that aims to deliver on the Substance Misuse Strategy (draft previously circulated to committee members) to reduce the harms caused by substance misuse.

### **4. Alternative Options**

4.1 Not applicable.

### **5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management**

#### Financial and Procurement Implications

5.1 There are no direct financial or procurement implications relating to this report.

#### Legal and Human Rights Implications

5.2 This report has no specific legal or human rights implications.

#### All Other Implications (including Staff, Sustainability, Health, Rural, Crime and Disorder)

5.3 This report has no other implications.

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### Diversity Impact Assessment

- 5.5 No Diversity Impact Assessment (DIA) is required at this stage.

### Risk Management

- 5.4 None.

## **6. Consultees**

- 6.1 The Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.

## **7. Background Papers**

- 7.1 None.

## **8. Appendices**

- 8.1 None.