

Devon Homelessness and Social Inclusion Reference Group
Revised 20th November 2009

Social inclusion is achieved when individuals or areas do not suffer from the negative effects of unemployment, poor skills, low income, poor housing, crime, bad health, family problems, limited access to services and rurality, e.g. remoteness, sparsity, isolation and high costs

UK Government definition

Aims:

To help socially excluded individuals and groups to become connected or re-connected with their communities by developing pathways into health, housing and housing related support, employment, training and education (ETE), volunteering and leisure activities regardless of where they live in New Devon, their faith, cultural background, race, gender, age, sexual orientation or drug use.

We will work in partnership across the County to champion Social Inclusion including Diversity and Equality. Representation from this group will ensure that these issues inform all other DAAT groups either in person (DAAT SI Lead) or by written updates/reports. It will aim to maintain and develop co-operation between key stakeholders in the Homelessness sector by linking Supporting People Commissioning to:

- District Council Homelessness Strategies
- National Probation Service accommodation strategies for Devon
- Drug & Alcohol Action Team accommodation strategies for Devon
- Local Area Agreement (Children & Young People, Safer and Stronger Communities, and Healthier Communities Blocks)
- Care Leavers, YOT, CAMHS and Connexions strategies
- Domestic Violence accommodation strategies for Devon
- National Drug Strategy
- National Offender Management System

Accountability:

The group will be accountable to the Housing Support Strategic Partnership (HSSP), the Joint Commissioning Body (JCB) and the Devon DAAT Adult Joint Commissioning Group (AJCG).

Objectives:

To work in partnership:

- to maintain a portfolio of knowledge, resources and expertise to help us implement the partnership's work on Social Inclusion
- to help those who are socially excluded, e.g. substance misusers maximise the gains made in treatment and to reintegrate into their communities

- to inform Supporting People, the DAAT and other partners of gaps in provision and unmet need
- to oversee housing related support services that fall within Devon Supporting People Homelessness Sectorial groupings, in line with the priorities in the Supporting People Strategy
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Methods:

- clear communications and links with other steering groups responsible for leading a commissioning strategies, Needs assessment and commissioning group (AJCG) to make sure that Social Inclusion issues are recognised and taken forward
- quarterly reports to partners and other groups
- developing and implementing partnership strategies and work plans and work packages around Housing Related Support and Employment, Training and Education. An example of a work package is developing clear integrated pathways for improved access through substance misuse treatment to other services
- pooling information/knowledge and resources re diversity and equality
- undertaking pilot projects and local research to map provision and unmet needs to inform the Needs Assessments, e.g. Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), DAAT Needs Assessment, and Housing Market Area Assessment (HMA) in consultation with partners, Service Users and other appropriate groups
- acting as a coordination point to establish priorities for bids for monies which become available
- align needs analysis, monitoring and performance management
- project management of consultation about and agreement of strategic priorities, oversight of implementation plans and reporting processes.
- to oversee contract monitoring for the Homelessness and DAAT sector and where appropriate to become actively engaged in review processes
- enhance opportunities for the Joint Commissioning Body (JCB) and the Adult Joint Commissioning Group (AJCG).

Chair

A chair will be nominated at the beginning of each meeting. This will not normally be a Supporting People Team member.

Membership

There will be a Core membership of representatives from:

Supporting People (SP Coordinator)	Lucie Spiers
Probation (Partnership Manager)	Simon Perkins
Devon PCT Senior Community Development Worker	Chukes Maxwell
Devon Housing Options Partnership Manager	Lisa Jennings

DAAT Social Inclusion & Prison Lead (Chair)	Gill Unstead
Devon and Cornwall Constabulary (Drugs Lead)	Becca Turner
Dept Work and Pensions or Job Centre Plus	Janet Sinclair
Learning and Skills Council	Tony Skeel?
Community Volunteer Service (CVS)
Economic strand of the LAA (Local Area Agreement)	
Devon County Council Social Inclusion Lead	Sue Craythorne?
Domestic Abuse Lead	Roy Tomlinson
Safer Devon Partnership Rep	Roy Tomlinson
Children and Young People Housing Lead	Fleur Beuchler
District reps rural	Wendy Slate/Dennis Boubier
Public Health	Tina Henry
Devon REC	
SP Provider Reps	Richard Crompton/LaurenceYeoman/Jacqui Gale
Service User and Carer reps (see below)	

Service User Representation

The group will develop an appropriate framework for service user involvement. This will build on Devon DAAT's current framework for involvement and will link with the service user involvement strategies of its partners and DCC. The work to develop the framework will be measured by an objective in the work plan.

Meeting Schedule

We will meet every six weeks initially until work packages are established and then quarterly.

These terms of reference are to be reviewed after 6 months.

Monitoring

RAG reporting on work packages.