



Implementation Plan for the National Drug Rehabilitation Committee(NDRIC)¹ to

Rollout the National Drugs Rehabilitation Framework via the Treatment & Rehabilitation (T&R) Subcommittees of the Drug and Alcohol Task Forces (DATFs)

1. Project Background

State reasons for the project, what its objectives are, and what the progress has been (if any) so far.

Reasons

- Rehabilitation emerged as a key issue during the consultation phase of the Mid-term Review of the National Drugs Strategy 2001-2008. Arising from this, the **Report of the Working Group on Drugs Rehabilitation (2007)** mapped out a national integrated rehabilitation provision. This included the establishment of NDRIC, which was tasked with overseeing and monitoring the recommendations in the report. It was also given responsibility for overseeing an interagency case management and care planning processes and the ancillary competencies and training needs arising from this.
- Action 32 of the **National Drugs Strategy 2009-2016** calls for the implementation of the recommendations of the Report of the Working Group on Drugs Rehabilitation.

In **2010 NDRIC published the National Drugs Rehabilitation Framework (NDRF)** to provide “a framework through which service providers will ensure that individuals affected by drug misuse are offered a range of integrated options tailored to meet their needs and create for them an individual rehabilitation pathway”.

In **2011 NDRIC published the National Protocols and Common Assessment Guidelines** to accompany the NDRF, and approved by the OFD in November 2011. The Framework was then piloted in 10 areas. An evaluation of the process was carried out by the Department of Public Care and Primary Care, Trinity College Dublin and completed in **(Evaluation Report of the National Drugs Rehabilitation Pilot November 2013)**.

Aim of the NDRF

“To provide a framework through which service providers will ensure that individuals affected by drug misuse are offered a range of integrated options tailored to meet their needs and create for them an individual rehabilitation pathway.”

Progress to Date

The evaluation assessed the quality and effects of the Framework, and examined the perceived usefulness of the NDRF tools (protocols, minimum standards for initial, comprehensive assessments and care plans within a quality framework). The quality of the Framework tested well.

¹ NDRIC is an interagency committee established in 2009, reporting to the Oversight Forum on Drugs. It is chaired by the HSE, and established to have representation from relevant stakeholder Departments, agencies and sectors. See section 5 Stakeholder Analysis & Communication Plan for full membership.

Some of the findings from the Evaluation Report of the National Drugs Rehabilitation Framework:

- There was near universal enthusiasm for the framework and optimism that its aims could be achieved if commitments to the framework were re-iterated by all agencies.
- One of the fears expressed by many was that the momentum gained could be lost if all agencies who have an input decided to pull back from the implementation. There is already some evidence of 'missing partners'.
- When asked about their experience with their key workers and case managers, service users were generally very positive and felt supported in the process.
- Working within a quality framework was mentioned throughout the process. Participants knew that this brought accountability but it also brought structure and organisation.
- Service users spoke about the benefits of connecting with a service and the direct effect that this had on their lives.
- In terms of the benefits that were more directly attributable to the framework, care planning was the most recognisable practice for service users; the majority of service users had a clear idea of their goals and aspired to build on the current success.

NDRIC considers that the Framework has successfully brought about a mechanism by which interventions where the main focus is not drug treatment, as well as drug related interventions, are integrated into a person's care plan in a formal way e.g. the Probation Service and DSP Drugs Rehab CE schemes.

2. Scope

In Scope: What is this project going to deliver?

Deliverables	Projected Delivery Date
NDRIC will promote and invite participation nationally in the rollout of the NDRF with DATFs and relevant services.	Q1-Q2
NDRIC will invite DATFs to drive the implementation of the NDRF at local level via their T&R Subcommittees.	Ongoing during 2014
NDRIC will introduce a competency-based training on the Rehab Framework system including key working, care planning & case management (these being the core procedures of the Framework).	Ongoing during 2014
NDRIC will support the identified local Lead Drivers.	Ongoing during 2014
NDRIC will work to resolve referred gaps and blocks, and highlight to the NCC and/or the OFD where there are system/policy issues.	Ongoing during 2014

Out of Scope: What is this project specifically not going to deliver?

Deliverables not in Scope	Comments
Direct provision of Lead Drivers.	It may not be possible to identify a lead within existing resources; NDRIC will identify areas where additional resources may be required to fill the lead role and report this to the OFD.
Additional training needs may be identified through the Framework training (e.g. supervisor training, management training, psycho-social skills training).	NDRIC will link to the HSE NATP workforce development to inform of training needs.
Monitoring of individual SLAs to ensure that conditions of funding that relate to implementation of the Framework are carried out.	Monitoring of SLAs is between the funder and the organisation that holds the SLA.

3. Project Schedule

	Task	Start Date	Finish Date
1	Obtain the positive endorsement of the OFD to the national rollout of the Rehab Framework, in addition to the NCC, Depts & Agencies represented on NDRIC (incl Environment).	Q1	Start Q2
2	Hold (in conjunction with QSSP) briefing sessions with DATFs and relevant stakeholders to outline the Framework and NDRIC's implementation plan for national rollout.	End Q1	Q4
3	Develop an implementation guide for DATFs and FAQ.	Q1	End Q.2
4	Update protocols Protocols will be reviewed by FSN & SURF and referred to NDRIC (via the Rehab Stds. Group), then onto the OFD. Protocols will be reviewed again in 18 months with the inclusion of aspects of the hidden harm protocol which will be available in 2015.	Ongoing	
5	Link with the Lead Drivers Network	Ongoing	
6	Provide standard SLA statements that funders (HSE, Probation, DSP) can use with relevant services re implementation of the Framework.		End Q1
7	Standardise Framework templates and tools, including a standardised monitoring tool that will enable the Lead Drivers to feed back to their DATFs (via their T&R Subcommittees). These tools consist of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial Assessment • Comprehensive Assessment • Care Plan Template • Risk Assessments • Monitoring tool 	Q1	End Q2
8	Develop a competency framework to implement the Rehab Framework, re key working, care planning and case management.	Q1	End Q3
9	Co-ordinate the implementation of training with DATF's and relevant services.	Ongoing	
10	Create online multi media tools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant implementation training material will be placed on-line with drugs.ie to support e-learning • Update service user guide to the National Rehabilitation Framework & processes. • Update national family/concerned person guide explaining key processes of the National Rehabilitation framework. • Further develop online resource library with relevant resources in order to support services with implementation of the Framework. 	Ongoing	
11	Respond to Gaps and Blocks referred to NDRIC; NDRIC members to support in their resolution where possible and report policy issues to the NCC and OFD.	Ongoing	
12	Ensure clear referral pathways, prioritising these areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homeless services & Homeless Action Teams • Mental health services • Child & Family Agency 	Ongoing	
13	Review the Terms of Reference and membership of the NDRIC committee to ensure that it remains fit for purpose.		Q4

4. Capacity assessment

Capacity of DATFs and their T&R Subcommittees to lead out on the Framework in their areas, and identify a Lead Driver

Details:

T&R Subcommittees support the Lead Drivers of the framework at local level. It is important that they are robust and fit for purpose, specifically that:

- That they have all the relevant services as members of the T&R Subcommittee
- They have an active chair that has a good understanding of the Framework
- The Subcommittee has clear Terms of Reference

What can we do about it?

NDRIC members to link with their corresponding TF reps and specifically ensure support for T&R Subcommittees for 2014

Who needs to take the action?

NDRIC

Project Assumptions: The Project Schedule above is based on the assumption that:

1. That the DATFs are critical to drive the implementation of the NDRF at local level via their T&R Subcommittees.
2. There will be a continued close working relationship with the NATP to support the implementation of the Framework through the implementation training.
3. That a critical mass of Lead Drivers will identified through T&R Subcommittees.
4. NDRIC committee remains a strong, coherent group that will actively lead on the implementation of the Framework.

5. Stakeholder Analysis & Communication Plan

Stakeholder name	Is this Stakeholder aware of and committed to the level of responsibility / accountability they hold?	How will communication with this individual or group be best managed? E.g. Status Report; Regular Meetings etc
The following Departments, Agencies and Sectors are represented on NDRIC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Sector • Voluntary Drug Service • Family Support Network • Service Users Representatives Forum • HSE Addiction Services • Probation Service • Irish Prisons Services • Dept. Education and Skills • Dept. Social Protection • Garda National Drugs Unit • Dept. of Health • LDATF Coordinators Network • RDATF Coordinators Network 	Yes, NDRIC reps are responsible for ensuring awareness within their respective sectors/agencies/ departments	NDRIC reps give regular feedback to and from their respective sectors/agencies/ departments
The following 2 positions on NDRIC are vacant: NACDA, Dept. of Environment		Chair feed back on relevant issues
Oversight Forum on Drugs	Yes	Chair report on quarterly basis
National Coordinating Committee	Yes	Chair report through HSE rep on NCC