



## **Merseyside Inter Agency Drug Misuse Database**

**1<sup>st</sup> October – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2004**

### **Wirral D(A)AT Quarterly Report**

**1<sup>st</sup> October – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2004**

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## Introduction

The Inter Agency Drug Misuse Database (IAD), which was established by Merseyside Drug (and Alcohol) Action Teams, Merseyside Police and the Public Health Sector (now Centre for Public Health) in 1997, supports the need for local information on drug misuse. In particular the IAD aims to:

- Provide comprehensive reporting of problem drug users (PDUs) characteristics including a range of demographics and the types of drugs used.
- Reflect levels of service and intervention activity.
- Assist in D(A)AT's (and other responsible bodies) performance management.
- Facilitate the planning and development of services and interventions for PDUs.
- Identify gaps in service provision and delivery, as well as under-served groups as specified by the National Treatment Agency and Department of Health and by the Centre for Public Health, through interrogation of available data.
- Demonstrate client care pathways and crossover of clients between services by cross matching datasets.
- Highlight changes in levels, demographics and characteristics of drug users and drug use.
- Perform comparisons between geographical areas.
- Report back to both individual DATs and service providers in the form of audits and quarterly reports as well as responding to ad hoc requests.
- Provide Pan Merseyside reporting on an annual basis.

To enable the above the IAD collects data from as many agencies in contact with drug users as possible and is continually seeking to expand the range and scope of data providers. Data are currently collected from criminal justice services, needle exchange schemes (both pharmacy and agency-based) and the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS) and now includes Connexions (young people). It is anticipated that data will also soon be available from Big Life (homeless).

Efforts are continually being made to expand the range of service providers that report to the IAD.

### Attributable Data

Analysis of data depends on the provision of attributable information. Each service provider records first and last initials, date of birth and gender, for each individual they record a contact with. The combination of these details provides an identifier (attributor) for each individual (e.g.: HF07/12/1974M) This is a nationally recognised system and allows individuals to be tracked through different service providers and across time whilst retaining an acceptable degree of anonymity.

## ARRESTS UNDER MISUSE OF DRUGS ACT (1971)

### Introduction

Data are provided by Management Information Analysis (MIA), on behalf of Merseyside Police, relating to arrests for Class A drug offences under the Misuse of Drugs Act (1971). (Possession of, Supply of, or Possession with intent to Supply, Class A drugs) Data are collated and analysed to enable the monitoring of problem drug users whose drug use has led to legal problems, but may not lead them into contact with treatment services.

**Table 1: No. arrested for Class A drug offences, by gender within Wirral D(A)AT**

Gender	Wirral	
	n	%
Male	117	92.1
Female	10	7.9
<b>Age</b>		
Under 25	67	52.8
25+	60	47.2
<i>Totals</i>	<i>127</i>	<i>100</i>

Of all clients, 63 (53.8%) males and 4 (40.0) females were under 25 years.

**Table 2: Drug and drug offence of arrest within Wirral D(A)AT**

Drug of Arrest	Wirral	
	n	%
Cocaine	8	6.3
Crack	10	7.9
MDMA	12	9.4
Heroin	8	6.3
Other Class A	3	2.4
Unknown	86	67.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>127</i>	<i>100</i>
<b>Drug Offences*</b>		
Possession of Class A	36	67.9
Supply of Class A	3	5.7
Possession W/I to Supply Class A drugs	14	26.4
<i>Totals*</i>	<i>53</i>	<i>100</i>

\*Figures here may differ from totals reported above in the same table as some people were reported as being charged with other offences besides those specified here.

Arrests for Possession of Class A were predominantly for MDMA with 9 people being arrested for that offence (25% of arrests for Possession of Class A) followed equally by heroin and cocaine with 5 people each (13.8%) being arrested for Possession of that drug.

Arrests for Possession with Intent to Supply were primarily for Crack, with 5 people being arrested for that (35.7% of those arrested for Possession with Intent). Arrests for Supply of Class A were equally split between MDMA, heroin and crack, with one person each arrested for that offence.

## ARREST REFERRAL (AR)

### Introduction

Data are provided by ARCH Initiatives for the Wirral and Merseyside Drug Council (now the Lighthouse Project) for all other Merseyside D(A)ATs, on assessments made at custody suites.

The total number of assessments figure is based on one person per location per date; this is to ensure duplicate data are not included. Duplicate records may appear for the same individual twice on the same day. In these circumstances data are aggregated to a single record. The same individual may however, be counted twice within the reporting period.

For this reporting period, there were in fact a total of 54 assessments completed but consent to share information was only obtained for 27 assessments. Data pertaining to the remaining 27 cases were therefore not available to The Centre for Public Health.

**Table 3: Individuals assessed by gender and age group within Wirral D(A)AT**

Gender	Wirral	
	n	%
Male	22	81.5
Female	5	18.5
Age		
Under 25	3	11.1
25+	24	88.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>100</i>

Of all clients, 3 (13.6% of males) males and no females were under 25.

**Table 4: Total assessments by drug of use within Wirral D(A)AT**

Drug	Wirral	
	n	%
Cannabis	4	14.8
Cocaine	1	3.7
Crack	4	14.8
Heroin	15	55.6
Methadone	1	3.7

Alcohol is not included in analyses.

The original data allows for more than one drug to be recorded per individual. Consequently, the percentages given in Table 4 are as a proportion of the total number of individuals, as detailed in Table 3.

## SYRINGE EXCHANGE SERVICES

### Introduction

Data are collected directly from syringe exchange providers. Analysis of syringe exchange data allows performance monitoring of harm reduction services at both D(A)AT and service provider level. This also facilitates geographical analysis of both distribution and movement of injecting drug users.

The tables refer to attributable data only, unless otherwise specified.

The D(A)AT referred to is the D(A)AT of the syringe exchange where the client was seen. Ages are calculated based on the last day of the month in which they were last seen.

### AGENCY SYRINGE EXCHANGE

**Table 5: Individuals by gender, within Wirral D(A)AT**

New Clients	Wirral	
	n	%
Male	36	83.7
Female	7	16.3
<i>Totals</i>	43	100
All Clients		
Male	247	87.3
Female	36	12.7
<i>Totals</i>	283	100

**Table 6: Individuals by age group, within Wirral D(A)AT**

New Clients	Wirral	
	n	%
Under 25	13	30.2
25+	30	69.8
<i>Totals</i>	43	100
All Clients		
Under 25	27	9.5
25+	256	90.5
<i>Totals</i>	283	100

Twenty-three male clients and 4 female clients were under 25 years old.

**Table 7: Exchanges within Wirral D(A)AT**

Attributable Exchanges	Wirral
	n
Syringes provided	30978
Returns	44375
Non-Attributable Exchanges	
Syringes	2752
Returns	4740

**Table 8: Main drug of use for Agency syringe exchange clients within Wirral D(A)AT**

Drug	Wirral			
	All		New	
	n	%	n	%
Heroin	142	50.2	17	39.5
Methadone	22	7.8	0	0.0
Amphetamines	10	3.5	2	4.7
Steroids	80	28.3	22	51.2
Cocaine*	9	2.8	2	4.7
Other	3	1.4	0	0.0
Unknown/Missing	17	6.0	0	0.0
<i>Totals</i>	<i>283</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>100</i>

Drug of use is not available for Pharmacy datasets at this time

\*Including Crack

**Table 9: Total visits within Wirral D(A)AT**

	Wirral	
	n	%
Attributable	810	89.0
Non Attributable	100	10.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>910</i>	<i>100</i>

## PHARMACY SYRINGE EXCHANGE

### Pharmacy syringe monitoring

Due to transitional problems with the Pharmacy based syringe exchange monitoring process, the analyses presented here under the Pharmacy section should not be taken as indicative of actual service activity. There has been a significant downturn in reporting of Pharmacy based syringe exchange in the six months from July 2004 to March 2005, as well as a rise in the proportion of non-attributable data.

Those involved in the provision and monitoring of this service are working to resolve these problems and it is anticipated that the IAD annual report for the year 2004/05 will provide a more accurate reflection of service activity in this area.

The analyses presented here for Pharmacy based syringe exchange should therefore only be taken as reflecting the data available.

**Table 10: Individuals, by gender, Wirral D(A)AT**

New Clients	Wirral	
	n	%
Male	65	83.3
Female	13	16.7
<i>Totals</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>100</i>
All Clients		
Male	195	82.6
Female	41	17.4
<i>Totals</i>	<i>236</i>	<i>100</i>

**Table 11: Individuals, by age group, within Wirral D(A)AT**

New Clients	Wirral	
	n	%
Under 25	6	7.7
25+	72	92.3
<i>Totals</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>100</i>
All Clients		
Under 25	10	4.2
25+	226	95.8
<i>Totals</i>	<i>236</i>	<i>100</i>

Of all clients, 6 males (3.1% of males) and 4 females (9.8% of females) were under 25 years.

**Table 12: Total visits within Wirral D(A)AT**

	Wirral	
	n	%
Attributable	416	92.9
Non Attributable	32	7.1
<i>Total</i>	<i>448</i>	<i>100</i>

**COMBINED PHARMACY AND AGENCY-BASED SYRINGE EXCHANGE**

**Table 13: Individuals in syringe exchange in Wirral D(A)AT**

	Wirral	
	n	%
<b>Gender</b>		
<b>New Clients</b>	n	%
Male	88	81.5
Female	20	18.5
<i>Totals</i>	<i>108</i>	<i>100</i>
<b>All Clients</b>		
Male	410	85.4
Female	70	14.6
<i>Totals</i>	<i>480</i>	<i>100</i>
<b>Age Group</b>		
<b>New Clients</b>	n	%
Under 25	19	17.6
25+	89	82.4
<i>Totals</i>	<i>108</i>	<i>100</i>
<b>All Clients</b>		
Under 25	37	7.7
25+	443	92.3
<i>Totals</i>	<i>480</i>	<i>100</i>

**Table 14: Total visits within Wirral D(A)AT**

	Wirral	
	n	%
Attributable	519	79.7
Non Attributable	132	20.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>651</i>	<i>100</i>

## National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS)

### Background

The NDTMS is the official method for measuring the extent and nature of structured drug treatment in England and Wales. The system is commissioned by the NTA and is operated through nine regional centres – corresponding to the nine government offices for the regions.

Data here are aggregated to one individual, per year, per D(A)AT. Individuals presenting in more than one D(A)AT within the time period will therefore be represented more than once in the data. The D(A)AT referred to is D(A)AT of treatment unless otherwise specified. Figures provided are provisional.

**Table 15: Individuals in contact with treatment services in the Wirral by gender and D(A)AT of residence**

New Clients	Wirral	
	No.	%
Male	217	74.3
Female	74	25.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>292</i>	<i>100</i>
All Clients		
Male	1398	71.1
Female	569	28.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>1967</i>	<i>100</i>

**Table 16: Individuals in contact with treatment services in the Wirral, by age group and D(A)AT of residence**

New Clients	Wirral	
	No.	%
Under 25	54	18.5
25+	238	81.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>292</i>	<i>100</i>
All Clients		
Under 25	304	15.5
25+	1663	84.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>1967</i>	<i>100</i>

**Table 17: Individuals in contact with treatment services in the Wirral, by gender and D(A)AT of treatment**

New Clients	Wirral	
	No.	%
Male	232	74.4
Female	80	25.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>312</i>	<i>100</i>
All Clients		
Male	1509	71.6
Female	599	28.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>2108</i>	<i>100</i>

**Table 18: Individuals in contact with treatment services in the Wirral, by age group and D(A)AT of treatment**

New Clients	Wirral	
	No.	%
Under 25	54	17.3
25+	258	82.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>312</i>	<i>100</i>
All Clients		
Under 25	327	15.5
25+	1781	84.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>2108</i>	<i>100</i>

Of all clients (by D(A)AT of treatment), 210 males (13.9% of males) and 117 females (19.5% of females), were under 25 years.

**Table 19: Ethnicity of people in structured drug treatment by D(A)AT of Treatment**

Ethnicity	Wirral			
	New Clients		All Clients	
	n	%	n	%
African	0	0.0	2	0.1
Caribbean	0	0.0	2	0.1
Chinese	0	0.0	1	0.1
Other Asian	2	0.6	4	0.2
Other Mixed	1	0.3	5	0.2
White & Black African	0	0.0	1	0.1
White & Black Caribbean	0	0.0	4	0.2
White British	297	95.2	2019	95.8
White Irish	0	0.0	5	0.2
Unknown	12	3.8	65	3.1
<i>Totals</i>	<i>312</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>2108</i>	<i>100</i>

## CONNEXIONS

Connexions provide a support service for young people, aged 13-19. The Greater Merseyside Connexions Partnership provides data presented here. There was no data available for September 2004 in time for publication of this report.

**Table 20: Clients by gender within Wirral D(A)AT**

	Wirral	
	n	%
Male	28	77.8
Female	8	22.2
<i>Totals</i>	36	100

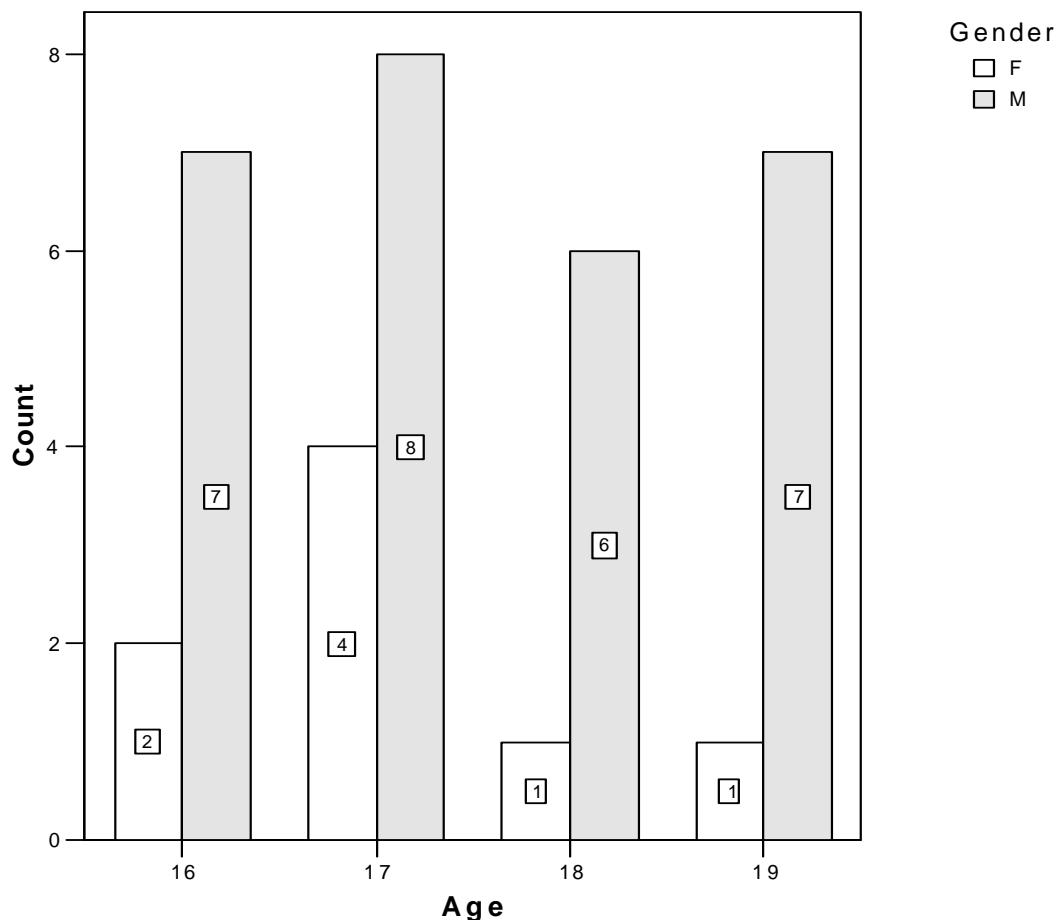
**Table 21: Clients by age within Wirral D(A)AT**

	Wirral	
	n	%
16	9	25.0
17	12	33.3
18	7	19.4
19	8	22.2
<i>Totals</i>	36	100

**Table 22: Number of Connexions clients with drug or alcohol problems within Wirral D(A)AT**

	Wirral	
	n	%
Alcohol/Other	15	41.7
Drugs	21	58.3
<i>Totals</i>	36	100

**Fig 1: Distribution of clients by age and gender**



## Combined Datasets

### Introduction

Data presented here is drawn from a combination of datasets relating to Arrests under Misuse of Drugs Act (1971), Arrest Referrals, Syringe Exchange (Agency and Pharmacy), NDTMS and Connexions. The combined data are aggregated on attributer and D(A)AT area to produce overall figures for numbers of individuals presenting to any service reporting to the IAD. Figures presented here will therefore not necessarily reflect the combined totals of data presented earlier as the method of aggregating is somewhat different. Further information is available from the IAD Manager if required.

**Table 21: Total problem drug users (PDUs) reported to the IAD in Wirral D(A)AT, by gender and age**

Gender	Wirral	
	n	%
Male	1880	74.4
Female	648	25.6
Age		
Under 25	454	18.0
25+	2074	82.0
<i>Totals</i>	<i>2528</i>	<i>100</i>

Of all males reported to the IAD for the third quarter of 2004/05, 321 (17.1%) were under 25. For female clients 133 (20.5%) were under 25.

**Fig 2: Distribution of PDUs by age group and gender**

