

Minutes of the Cross Party Group on Alcohol and Drug Misuse held on 26th October 2016

1 Present

John Finnie MSP

Monica Lennon MSP

Peter Swindon

David Liddell

2 Continuation of the Cross Party Group

It was agreed that the Cross Party Group on Alcohol and Drug Misuse should continue as there were important issues needing addressed.

3 Topics for future meetings

There was a wide ranging discussion on topics for future meetings these included:

- Concerns regarding the £15 million funding reductions to Alcohol and Drug Partnerships in 2016/17.
- The continued high levels of drug related deaths in Scotland
- The emergence of an aging cohort of older people with a drug problem(aged 35 and over) – now being half of the 61,500 people with a drug problem and predicted to increase in size over the coming years.
- The impact of inequalities on the size and scale of Scotland's substance problem
- Decriminalisation of the possession of drugs

4 Date of next meeting

To be determined