



Why invest?

How drug treatment and recovery services
work for individuals, communities and society

What is drug addiction?



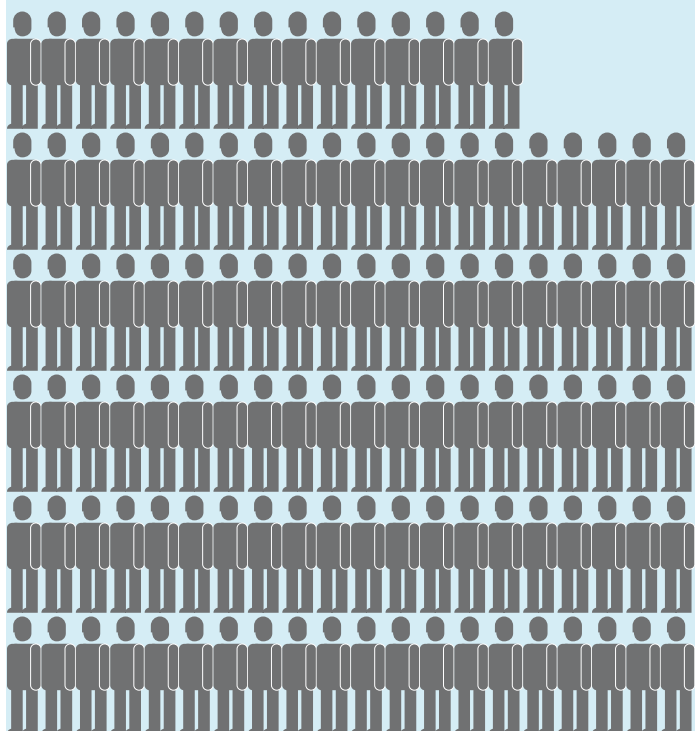
Drug addiction is a complex but treatable condition

Addicts use drugs compulsively, damaging themselves and those around them

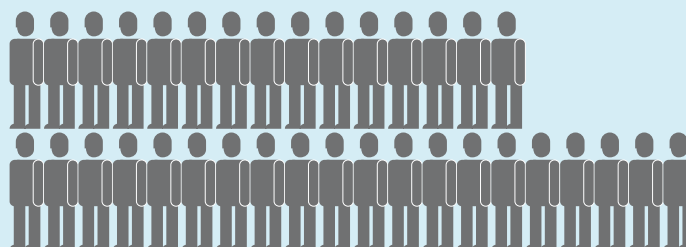
Drug addiction goes hand in hand with poor health, homelessness, family breakdown and offending

Are drug addicts an NHS priority?

Smoking causes
115,000
deaths a year



Alcohol causes
35,000
deaths a year

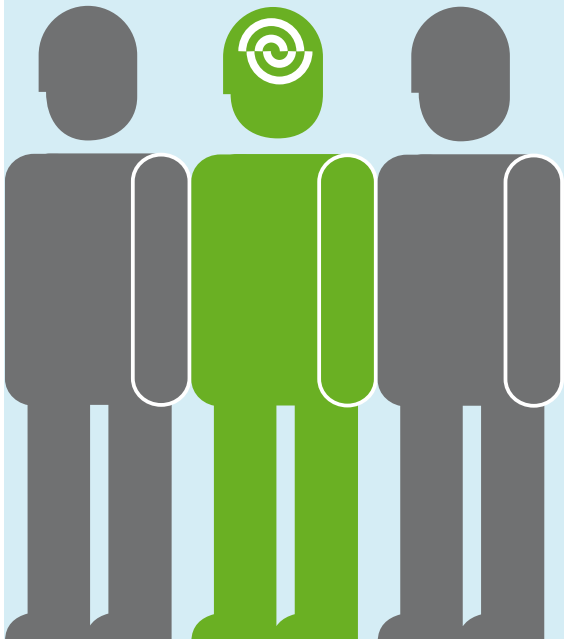


Drugs cause
1,600
deaths a year



Illegal drug use is common across society

1 in 3 adults
have taken
drugs at some
point



About 1 in 10
adults have used
drugs recently

1 in 20
adults
use drugs
frequently

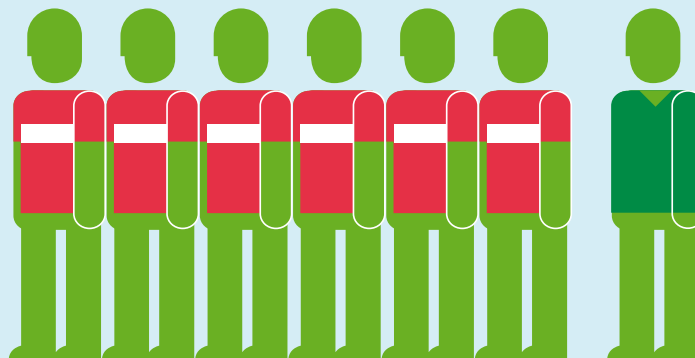


Drug addiction is rare but concentrated



306,000
heroin and
crack users
in England

The level of
heroin and crack
use in urban
Middlesborough
is **six times** that
of rural Wiltshire



1,200,000
affected by drug
addiction in their
families – mostly in
poor communities

The cost of drug addiction is huge

Every year it costs society

£15,400,000,000

Impact on crime

- Burglary, robbery, fraud and shoplifting
- The annual cost of drug-related crime is

£13,900,000,000

Impact on public health

- Drug-related deaths
- Blood-borne viruses (HIV, hepatitis C)
- The lifetime NHS bill for each drug injector is

£480,000

Impact on families and neighbourhoods

- Problem parents, troubled children
- Homelessness
- Welfare dependence
- Discarded needles

- Drug dealing
- Fear of crime

£Unknown

So why spend on drug treatment?

It makes communities safer

- reduced crime
- less drug litter and street prostitution
- troubled families stabilised

It protects public health

- prevents drug-related deaths
- restricts blood-borne viruses (HIV, hepatitis C)
- reduces the burden on the NHS

It helps drug users overcome addiction

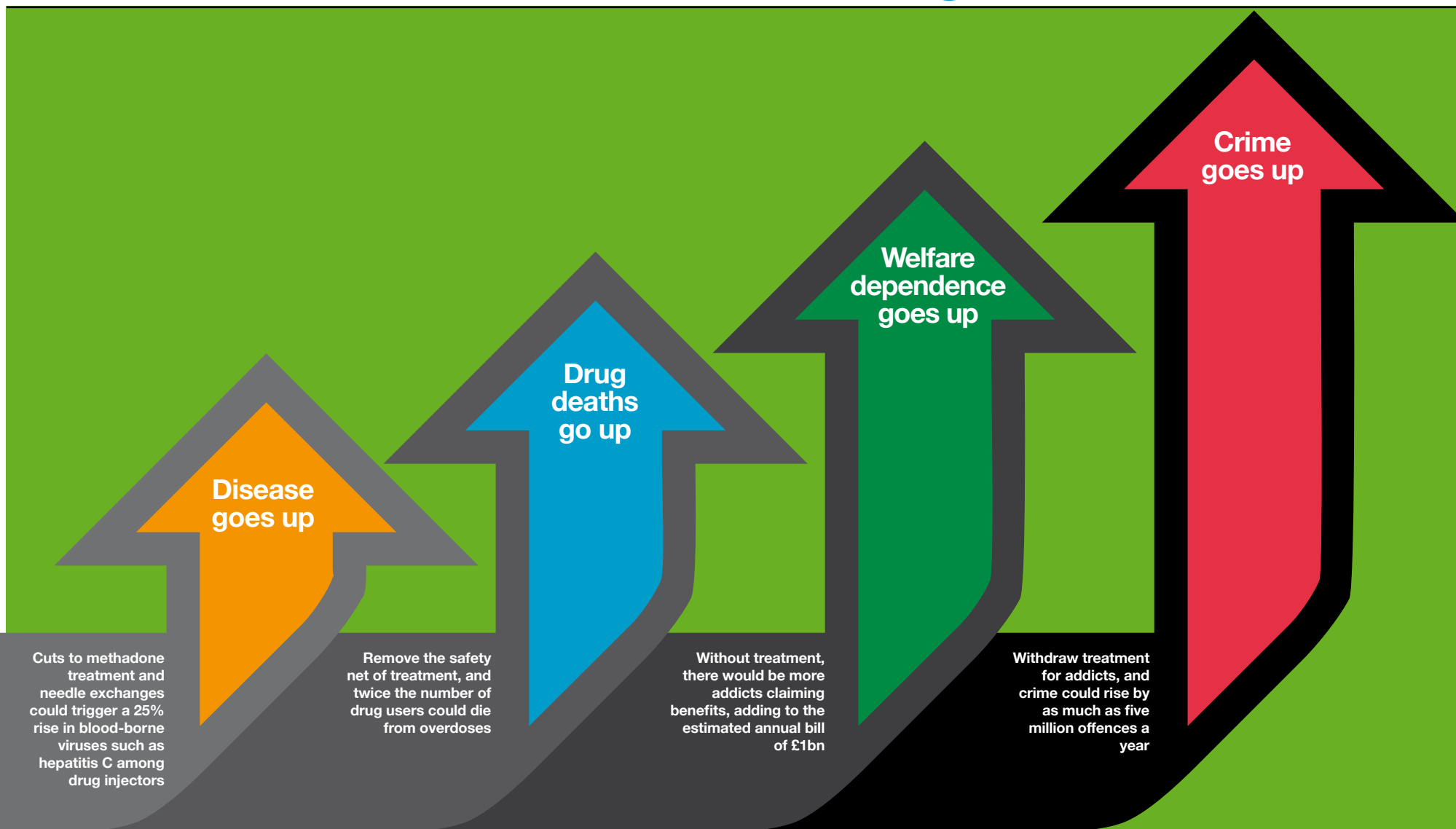
- 255,000 treated for drug addiction in England since 2006
- 72,000 (28%) left free of addiction
- 84,000 (33%) still being treated

It has public support

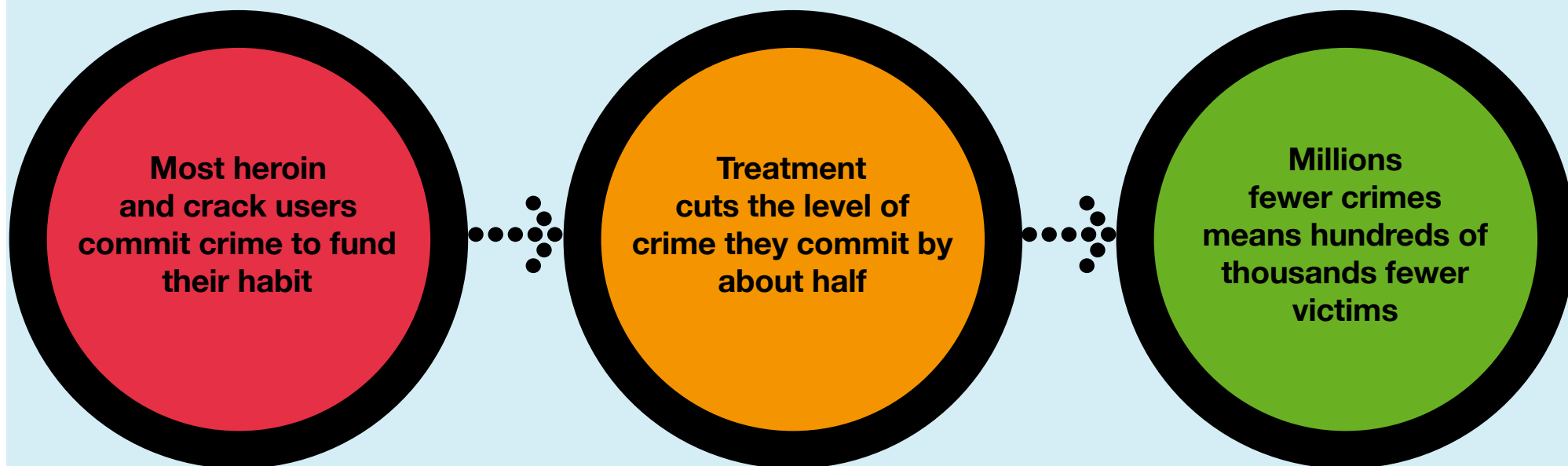
- 75% think drug treatment is a sensible use of public money
- 66% fear crime would increase without drug treatment
- 80% believe drug treatment makes society better and safer

Every
£1 spent on
drug treatment
saves £2.50
in costs to
society

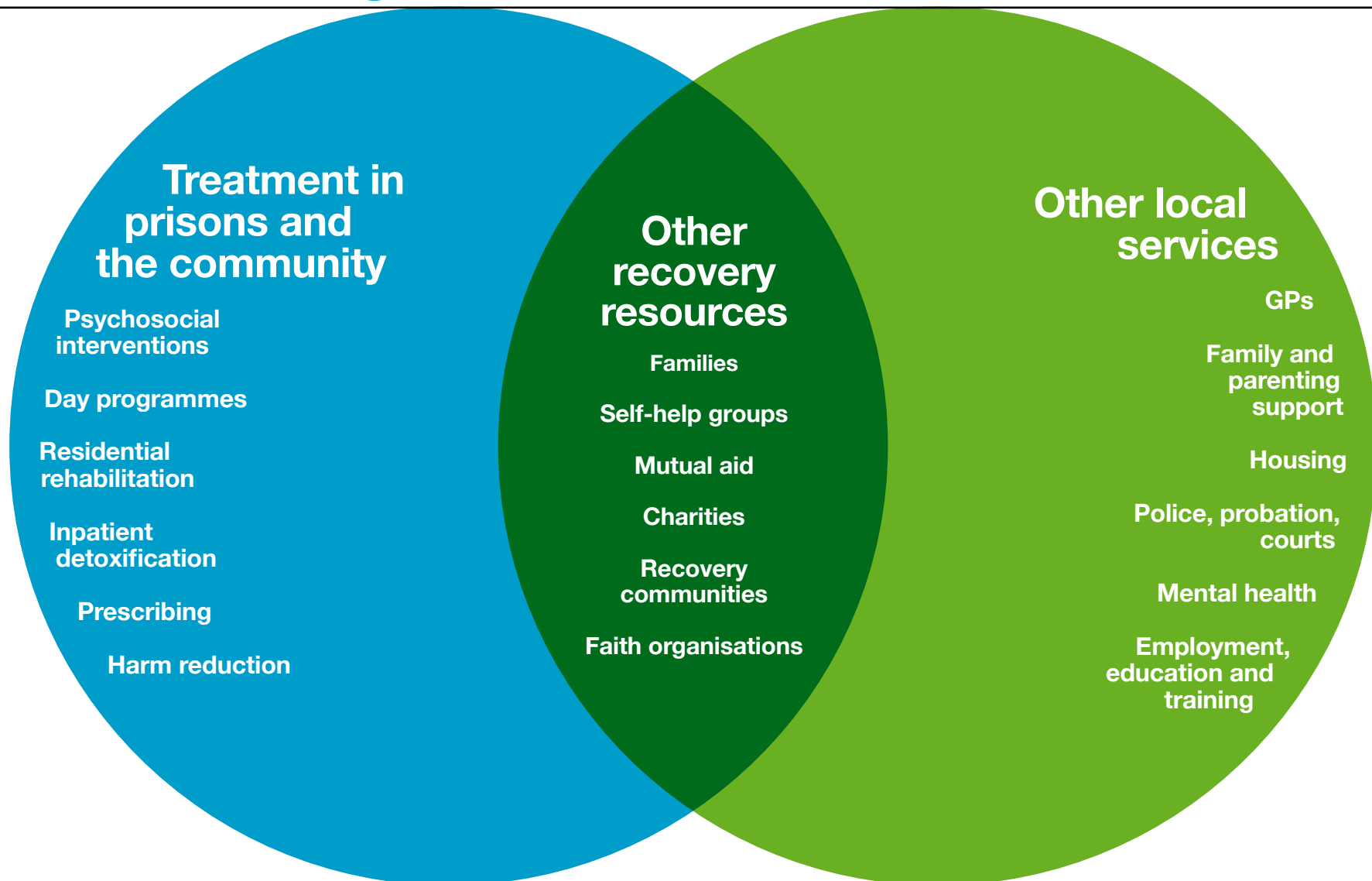
What happens without drug treatment?



Treatment cuts crime and improves safety



How an integrated treatment system works



A drug user's steps to recovery

Starts treatment

Via needle exchange, test on arrest,
self referral or GP

Assessment

Harm reduction advice

Professional and community
support begins

2 3 4

Stays in treatment

Stops treatment

Sustains recovery

A drug user's steps to recovery

1

Starts treatment

2

Stays in treatment

Engaged, motivated and with recovery plan

'Talking therapies'
(medication, if appropriate)

Drug use down, less crime and nuisance, health improves

Stable housing, family and peer support reinforce treatment gains

3 4

Stops treatment Sustains recovery

A drug user's steps to recovery



A drug user's steps to recovery

1 2 3

Starts treatment

Stays in treatment

Stops treatment

Sustains recovery

Personal and family responsibility

Role model

Active citizen

Continuing community support

4

What can you do to make a difference?

Councillors

Invest in services that work with drug treatment to support recovery and improve outcomes

Police

Promote drug treatment as a proven way to reduce crime and make communities safer

Children & family services

Work with drug treatment services to identify and support vulnerable children and families

Housing

Provide housing and support to help recovering users stay off drugs for good

Employment

Link work programme, JCP, colleges and employers to help recovering drug users find jobs

NHS

Identify drug problems early and treat all drug users' health needs in line with the NHS constitution

Mental health

Work with drug treatment services to identify and support vulnerable people

Find out more at www.nta.nhs.uk...

