



**ANA LIFFEY**  
DRUG PROJECT

Ana Liffey Drug Project  
**Annual Report**  
**2018**





**ANA LIFFEY**  
DRUG PROJECT

*Thank you to all those who make the choice to access our services, trust us to help with their challenges and welcome us into their lives.*

# Chairperson's Report

Welcome to the Ana Liffey Drug Project's Annual Report for 2018. As always, it was a busy year, with lots of activity. During 2018, the organisation progressed a number of items under our current strategic plan – Safer From Harm – and this work will continue over the next two years. The strategic plan is available for download from our website [aldp.ie](http://aldp.ie).

In 2018, we delivered direct services in the Midwest and Dublin Regions, where we have a number of teams operating. Aside from service delivery, we continued to advocate for drug policies that will make a difference in the lives of people who access our services, collaborating with partners at home and abroad. The CEO's report covers key numbers in relation to service delivery.

September 2018 saw the winding down of the 'Online and Digital Services' Team at Ana Liffey. The team managed the Drugs.ie website which had 1,754,779 visits to September 2018. During this period, the team also received 809 calls through the Live Helper chat service. We are very proud of this work over the many years we delivered the service, and all during a period of significant innovation in the online environment when, for example, social media was in its infancy and online tools were being developed. I am happy that Ana Liffey played a leading role in this regard.

As always, I'd like to take this opportunity to express a few words of thanks. First, to all those who make the choice to access our services, trust us to help with their challenges and welcome us into their lives. Thank you. You make the Ana Liffey what it is. Second, to all our staff, volunteers, interns, and students. You all work hard to provide and support services that make a difference in people's lives – I know that it is not always an easy thing to do, but I can tell you that it is always an important thing to do. Third, to all our funders – you make it possible for us to do what we do, and we are very grateful for your ongoing support. To my fellow volunteer

board members – it takes significant commitment to be a board member of a civil society organisation like Ana Liffey – many thanks for giving your time and expertise. It's much appreciated. Finally, I'd also like to extend both my personal thanks and the thanks of the organisation to Dr. Austin O'Carroll who stepped down from the board in 2018 – thank you. Austin has been (and still is) a great advocate for the Ana Liffey Drug Project and the work we do; over the years his insight and understanding contributed greatly to the board's work over his time with us.

At Ana Liffey, our vision is for a society where all people affected by problem substance use are treated with dignity and respect and have access to quality services. Our mission is to work with people affected by problem substance use and the organisations that support them. We do this to reduce harm to individuals and society and to provide opportunities for development of those individuals and organisations. In recent years, we have seen positive steps towards our vision, but unfortunately people who use drugs still experience significant stigma and judgment which can impact negatively on their lives and the lives of those around them, but does nothing to help address drug use and the harm it can cause our citizens and communities. We are committed to changing this narrative, working towards a world in which we focus on reducing harm, not on punishing people who use drugs.

**Eddie Matthews**  
Chairperson



**ANA LIFFEY**  
DRUG PROJECT



# Treasurer's Report

In 2018, Ana Liffey Drug Project had an income of €2,020,117 (2017 - €1,986,139). It had expenditure of €1,979,786 (2017 - €1,997,865 excl. exceptional expenses).

At the end of the year the company had fixed assets of €846,042 (2017: €849,108), current assets of €775,314 (2017 €597,773) and current liabilities of €386,686 (2017: €252,542). The net funds of the company amounted to €1,234,670 (2017: €1,194,339) and the directors are satisfied with the level of retained reserves at the year end.

As we had done in 2017, our 2018 company financial statements were prepared in accordance with the FRS 102 Charities SORP, which we have adopted voluntarily as a matter of good practice. In addition to reporting in compliance with the charities SORP, the board keep a view on financial matters with a financial update at every board meeting as well as quarterly meetings of the Finance Sub-Committee.

The Ana Liffey Drug Project receives funding throughout the year from a

number of statutory and non-statutory funders, as well as from public donations. We're very grateful to everyone who contributes to the running of the organisation.

I'd also like to express my thanks to the management team of the organisation, and in particular to Leonie Blyth, and also to our auditors, Donal Ryan and Associates, and in particular to Donal and Paula for their work during the year in ensuring the company monitors and reports accurately on financial matters.

Finally, the company's full financial statements are publicly available on our website at [aldp.ie](http://aldp.ie).

Greg Ward  
Treasurer





**ANA LIFFEY**  
DRUG PROJECT

# CEO's Report

A year is a long time in the life of an organisation, something which is always apparent when we pause to look back at the previous year's work.

Our new strategic plan – Safer From Harm – covers the period 2018-2020, so 2018 saw the first year of activity under the strategy. Working for the benefit of people who use drugs and who have complex and multiple needs - we trained our team and further developed our systems, across our Midwest Region and Dublin Services, to increase our capacity to deliver care planning. In Dublin, we further developed our frontline service provision in partnership with An Garda Síochána, Dublin City Council and the Health Service Executive. With the support of the festival promoter, Ana Liffey expanded our team of volunteers to provide Festival Welfare service at Electric Picnic. Separately, we also worked in partnership with the HSE to develop a cocaine harm reduction campaign.

In relation to our work on policy and participation, working in partnership we got the #saferfromharm campaign up and running – raising awareness of the issue of the criminalisation of people who use drugs, and publishing a paper with the London School of Economics. We also continued our work with partners in Europe, working to ensure civil society organisations have a voice in the policy arena.

Of course, all of these strategic developments were archived whilst delivering our frontline services. The following highlights our significant day-to-day frontline operations:

## **Dublin Services**

In 2018, the open access provided services to 982 individuals the majority of people were homeless and many of whom were poly drug users with mental and physical

health problems; 151 individuals received key working and case management; 437 people attended treatment groups; 538 individuals used the needle and syringe programme. We also provided in-reach services to Mountjoy Prison and 54 individuals attended groups run in this setting.

## **Mid-West Services**

In the Midwest we served a similar cohort of people, 281 people were registered with the service in 2018. Of these, 75 individuals accessed our case management service and 129 people accessed our needle and syringe programme.

## **North East Needle and Syringe Programme**

From July 2018, we provided an NSP service on an action research basis in the North East region. From July 2018 to the end of 2018, 57 individuals accessed this service.

## **Volunteerism**

81 people volunteered their time with the organisation in 2018 across all front line services, central office and festival welfare services.

Finally, I'd like to thank everyone who contributes to making the Ana Liffey what it is – our funders, our staff, our board and other volunteers, our interns and students, and, most importantly, the people for whom we provides services – thank you all. Together we are all much more than the sum of our parts, and it is a great pleasure to know and work with you all.

**Tony Duffin**  
CEO





**ANA LIFFEY**  
DRUG PROJECT







# Who We Are

## Board

The Board (as at 31st December 2018) was:

- Alice O’Flynn
- Brian Dalton
- Catherine Comiskey
- Edward Matthews
- Greg Ward
- Jack Nolan
- Mark Mitchell
- Paul Downes
- Roderick Maguire

The Board met 6 times in 2018. The Board has three subgroups – on Finance; Clinical Governance; and Governance and Human Resources – all of which meet quarterly, and are supported by the management team. The membership of each group is set out below:

## Finance

- Greg Ward (Chair)
- Edward Matthews

## Clinical Governance

- Alice O’Flynn (Chair)
- Austin O’Carroll
- Mike Scully (External)

## Governance and HR

- Roderick Maguire (Chair)
- Brian Dalton





**ANA LIFFEY**  
DRUG PROJECT

# Staff

The staff team (as at 31st December 2018) was:

Tony Duffin	Chief Executive Officer
Dawn Russell	Head of Services
Marcus Keane	Head of Policy
Leonie Blyth	Head of Finance
Jacqueline Kenny	Office Administrator
Jennifer McCusker	Administrative Assistant
Rachel O'Donoghue	Team Leader
Aoife Marshall	Project Worker
Pat Galligan	Project Worker
Lynn Collopy	Project Worker
Tris O'Loughlin	Project Worker
Martina Bergin	Team Leader
Natasha Gannon	Project Worker
Alison Harte	Project Worker
Shawneen Doonan	Project Worker
JM Burr	Team Leader
Ross McNulty	Team Leader
Jade McGroarty-Barry	RGN
Lena Kattendick	Project Worker
Evonne Mushonga	Project Worker
Rory More-O'Ferrall	Project Worker
Rebecca Doyle	Project Worker
Miranda O'Sullivan	Project Worker
John Burke	Project Worker
Rachel Fayne	Project Worker
Peter Bennewith	Project Worker
John O'Meara	Project Worker
Damien Gagnevin	Project Worker
Niamh Foley	Project Worker



**ANA LIFFEY**  
DRUG PROJECT

*Thank you to everyone who contributes to making the Ana Liffey what it is – our funders, our staff, our board and other volunteers, our interns and students, and, most importantly, the people for whom we provides services – thank you all.*



**ANA LIFFEY**  
DRUG PROJECT

Ana Liffey Drug Project  
48 Middle Abbey Street  
Dublin 1  
D01 TY74  
01-8786899  
info@aldp.ie  
www.aldp.ie

CHY (Revenue) No: 6775  
Registered Charity No: 20013301  
Company No.: 109034

Sole Patron: Michael D. Higgins, President of Ireland