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Ms. Margaret Kenneally, Community Representative.	
Mr. Bill Murphy, Community Representative.	
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Mr. Declan O'Leary, Ogra Chorcaí.	
Mr. John Beausang, Cork Local Voluntary Youth Council.	
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Mr. Ray Henry, National Drugs Strategy Team.	
Ms. Marianne Naughton, Young People's Facilities and Services Fund.	

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In particular we wish to acknowledge the support given by the staff of the Community Development Unit in Cork City Partnership, and the staff in the Community Work Unit of the Southern Health Board.

We wish to thank Ms. Marwin Jagoe who provided the administrative support for this plan.

We also wish to thank members of the public and representatives of community, voluntary and statutory organisations, who took the time to get involved in the development of this plan and all those who made submissions.

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force.

In 1997, following recommendations from the Ministerial Task Force on Measures to Reduce the Demand for Drugs the Cork Local Drugs Task Force was formed and its brief was to develop a strategic, locally based response to the drug problem in Cork.

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force combines members from statutory, voluntary and community sectors and is made up of representatives from the Southern Health Board, representatives from the community who are nominated by Cork City Partnership, FÁS, Probation and Welfare Services, Public Representatives, the Garda Síochána, the Prison Service, the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs, Ógra Chorcaí and Cork Corporation. The Task Force has recently expanded its membership to include the City of Cork VEC and the Manager of the Young People's Facilities and Services Fund.

In 1997, the Cork Local Drugs Task Force prepared its first integrated action plan. The focus of this plan was on the development of community-based initiatives to link in with and add volume to the programmes and services already being delivered or planned by the statutory agencies.

On the recommendation of the National Drugs Strategy Team, funding was received to support the development of the Cork Local Drugs Task Force Plan.

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force currently supports and funds twenty-one projects in Cork City. Thirteen of these projects have now been evaluated and are expected to be mainstreamed in the autumn. The remaining projects are awaiting evaluation.

The revised terms of reference for the Cork Local Drugs Task Force are:

- To oversee and monitor the implementation of projects approved under their existing action plans;
- To ensure the formal evaluation of these projects with a view to their “mainstreaming”, i.e. their continued funding through State Agencies in accordance with agreed procedures;
- In accordance with agreed guidelines to prepare updated action plans which:
 - Update the area profile and take into account any changes in the drug problem since the preparation of their original plans;
 - Ensure the emerging strategic issues are identified and policies or actions are proposed to address them; and
 - Provide for the implementation of a local drugs strategy, in consultation with appropriate State Agencies and voluntary, community and residents groups;
- To ensure appropriate representation by the voluntary and community sectors on the Task Force;
- To identify any barriers to the efficient working of the Task Force;
- To develop networking arrangements for the exchange of information and experience with other Task Forces as well as for the dissemination of best practice;
- To identify the training needs of Task Force members and take the necessary steps to meet such needs through appropriate training courses etc.;
- To take account of and contribute to other initiatives aimed at tackling social disadvantage under the aegis of the Cabinet Committee on Social Inclusion, including the Integrated Services Process, the Area Partnership, the Young People's Facilities and Services Fund and the Report on the Task Force on the Integration of the Local Government and Local Development systems;
- To provide such information, reports and proposals to the National Drugs Strategy Team as may be requested from time to time.

Introduction to the second Cork Local Drugs Task Force Plan.

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force has undergone considerable development since its formation. The group has developed into a cohesive unit, and our work has become both strategic and focused. The Task Force is very satisfied with this plan and has been meticulous in ensuring that the process of both plan development and application assessment was transparent and fair. This plan develops on the strategies implemented in the original Drugs Task Force Plan, and responds effectively to the gaps identified in existing service provision.

It is important to highlight a number of features of this plan:

Approach.

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force has agreed that its approach will be a combination of 'Harm Reduction' and 'abstinence based'. Our focus will be on harm reduction leading to abstinence where appropriate. This approach has informed the content of this plan.

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force feels that it now has an opportunity to become more proactive in our approach and also to develop its advocacy role. The Task Force aims to be more pro-active and more vocal on issues of concern.

Cork Local Drugs Task Force Catchment Area.

The official geographical remit of the Cork Local Drugs Task Force is the Northside of Cork City. One of the clear recommendations that came from the consultation process was the need for the Cork Local Drugs Task Force to focus on some areas of particular need outside of the original catchment area. In the initial plan, the Task Force did extend to two areas of particular need outside of the target area, and we have used the same strategy in this plan.

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force feels that its brief should be extended to Cork City and surrounding areas. It needs to be acknowledged that the drug problem extends across all areas, there is no geographical divide. The recent study on Smoking, Alcohol and Drug Misuse in the region emphasised that the problem in Cork is spread throughout the City rather than just concentrated in the Northside, and is also high in satellite towns. It should be emphasised, however, that the Task Force is not advocating the placement of a second Task Force in the city as it is felt, that this would cause too much confusion, overlap and duplication.

It was the intention of the Cork Local Drugs Task Force that this plan be as strategic and as focused as possible. This intention is reflected in the process through which the plan was developed. The process of development included:

- Internal Task Force Review.
- Pre Plan Development Work.
- Consultation.
- Application Development and Assessment.
- Compilation of Plan.

Internal Review.

As part of the plan development process, the Cork Local Drugs Task Force has undertaken an internal review, which examined our ethos and methods of work as well as progress to date. This review consisted of two full day facilitated sessions out of which developed the new structures of operation for the Cork Local Drugs Task Force.

Following the review days, it was agreed that the Task Force would develop a Working Group structure. The Task Force developed guidelines and groundrules for the Working Groups, which promote openness and flexibility, equality, and inclusiveness. The guidelines also give clear instructions in relation to decision making and participation. A list of these guidelines is contained in the Appendix.

Consultation Process.

As an important part of the development of this plan the Cork Local Drugs Task Force has undertaken a comprehensive and wide-ranging consultation process, the results of which have informed the focus of this plan. In this regard we consulted as widely and as thoroughly as possible. The Task Force was also anxious to ensure that people whose voices are not normally heard during such processes would get a chance to have an input into the plan. In this regard we have met with or received an input from groups who would be considered to be particularly marginalised. The culmination of the consultation process was the organisation of a community consultation day in May, which was attended by over one hundred different groups. A list of these groups is contained in the Appendix.

The Consultation process included:

1. General Information Gathering.

- An audit of existing services and provisions both at local community level and on a citywide basis.
- Identification of relevant networks, individuals, groups, compilation of mailing lists.
- Identify and establish links with existing initiatives.
- Compilation of existing statistical information, relevant resource material etc.

2. Initial Consultation Phase.

- Notification letter sent to members of the Task Force and all projects funded by the Task Force.
- Introductory letter/mailshot sent to all relevant groups and organisations, to inform them of the consultative process and give them advance notice of the process, request information/input.
- Publicity campaign initiated to raise awareness of consultation process and invite input. Advertisement placed in newspapers inviting input/suggestions regarding new plan. (not applications for funding at this stage)

3. Locally Based Community Consultation.

- Community consultations – focus on local needs and also on citywide needs.

4. Focused Consultation.

- Focused consultation undertaken to ensure we are including the most relevant people. For example, ‘unclubable’ young people, addicts, people in treatment etc.
- Consultation undertaken with other relevant groups. This includes State Agencies and statutory bodies, Gardai, etc.

5. Community Consultation Day Organised.

The groups we consulted with included: Home School Liaison Teachers, Community Gardai, existing funded projects under the Cork Local Drugs Task Force, Outreach Workers funded under the Cork Local Drugs Task Force, Youth Work Organisations including – Foroige, Ogra Chorcaí, The Young People’s Facilities and Services Fund, The Department of Social Community and Family Affairs, Y.M.C.A., Tabor Lodge, Matt Talbot Services, Arbour House, I.N.T.O., Health Promotion Unit from the Southern Health Board, Cork City Partnership, Glen Neighbourhood Youth Project, Mayfield Neighbourhood Youth Project, Community Workers Southern Health Board and Ex Prisoners.

We also met a number of local network groups including: The Mahon Youth Network, The North West City Network Group, Farranree Network Group, and Special Projects CE Scheme Supervisors. We met twice with a number of groups dealing with the issue of homelessness including Cork Simon, Bruac, Hearth, The Good Shepherd Services, Edel House, Cuanlee and Wellsprings.

We also met with: a group in Dublin Hill consisting of parents, teachers, community activists, local Gardai, the Diploma in Community Guidance and Support Group, NICHE Project, Lotamore Residents Group in Mayfield, Special Projects CE Scheme Participants in Cork Prison, and a group from The Glen including local youth workers, Gardai and local residents.

We received a number of submissions in response to an advertisement that was placed in the paper requesting submissions around initiatives to be considered for the New Cork Local Drugs Task Force Plan.

The mailing list that was developed included: the Cork Local Drugs Task Force mailing list, the mailing list of the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs Voluntary Grants Section, the Cork City Partnership Community Forum mailing list. We had access to the C.C.D.I. mailing list and the Young People’s Facilities and Services Fund mailing list. All local politicians both T.D.s and local Councillors were also circulated with information.

As a conclusion to the consultation process the Cork Local Drugs Task Force intends to present both the findings of the consultation and the details of the new plan to all who have participated in the process. This will take place once the plan is approved.

Assessment of Applications:

Following the initial consultation we invited applications for funding under the new plan. Advertisements were placed in the Echo; the Irish Examiner and Inside Cork and all groups on the mailing list received a copy of the advertisement. A comprehensive application process was developed which included:

Application Form.

A detailed Application Form was structured. (See Appendix). When potential applicants requested an application form, they also received an Information Pack which contained: the results of the consultation process which highlighted gaps in existing services and provisions, (applicants were encouraged to take heed of this feedback when developing applications), details of supports available for applicants, criteria for funding as developed by the Cork Local Drugs Task Force. Also all applicants were offered copies of relevant resource material which included:

Dr. T.M.R. Jackson, "Smoking Alcohol and Drug Use in Cork and Kerry". "Drugs Unplugged - Facing the reality of drug abuse in Cork City." and Ms. Elizabeth Kiely and Ms. Elizabeth Egan "Harm Reduction – An Information and Resource Booklet for Agencies Engaged in Drug Education". All applicants were encouraged to contact the Drugs Task Force to discuss applications further.

The criteria for funding that was developed included:

- The Cork Local Drugs Task Force particularly encouraged applications from projects that have a specific focus on 'at risk' groups for example: early school leavers, homeless drug users, people in recovery from drug dependency, young people that are not engaged in existing youth provisions, communities of disadvantage etc.
- Applicants had to demonstrate that they are not duplicating or overlapping with the work of another group. When developing an application, project promoters were requested to take into account existing services and also aim to link in with such services.
- Where a proposal involved the recruitment of staff, applicants had to demonstrate that a comprehensive support structure would be developed for staff including: contracts, organisation based supervision, external support, administrative support, travel expenses etc.
- Where a proposal involved the development or involvement of a voluntary board of management, applicants had to demonstrate that a comprehensive support structure exists for volunteers including management training, travel and childcare costs etc.

Support for Applicant Groups.

A support structure was put in place for all applicants. Groups were offered appointments at Support Clinics, or they were met by one the Support Team that was developed (The Support Team included: the Technical Assistance worker in the Cork City Partnership whose post is funded by the Cork Local Drugs Task Force, members of the Community Development Unit in the Cork City Partnership, the Co-ordinator of the Cork Local Drugs Task Force, members of the Task Force or members of the Community Work Team in the Southern Health Board.).

Decision-Making.

The Task Force felt that there was a need to ensure that responsibility for the allocation of funding was seen to lie with the committee as a whole and that the decision making should be as transparent as possible.

The structure for assessing applications included:

1. On receipt of application, an acknowledgement slip was sent to the applicant.
2. The application was then classified and allotted to a Working Group. (This was done in consultation with Task Force members if the theme of the application was unclear, or fitted the remit of more than one Working Group.)
3. A brief synopsis was then written of each application and circulated to the full Task Force.
4. A full copy of each application was then sent to each member of the relevant Working Group.
5. The application was then assessed using the points system that was developed. The points assessment was used to give an initial indication regarding the relevance of the project to the Drugs Task Force Plan.
6. Each Working Group then assessed the applications relevance to the theme of the working group. This assessment took place over three-four meetings.
7. Some applicant groups were contacted for further information.
8. Each Working Group then made a recommendation on each application to the full Drugs Task Force.
9. The Cork Local Drugs Task Force discussed all applications and then agreed on the final recommendation in relation to each applicant group.
10. Approved applications were then included in the Cork Local Drugs Task Force Plan.

It was ensured that the entire assessment process was carried out with due regard for the guidelines laid down by the Freedom of Information Act.

In assessing applications the Task Force also considered the following:

- The potential to refer applicants to other sources of funding, if the Task Force is not the most appropriate source of funding.
- The need to encourage agencies to address some of the gaps that have been identified which fall within their remit.

This section has outlined the principles and process with which the plan was developed. The next section will review the progress in implementing the existing Drugs Task Force Plan.

Part 1.

Review of progress in implementing the existing plan.

Introduction.

In order to review the progress of the Cork Local Drugs Task Force in the implementation of the first plan, the Task Force participated in two facilitated review days. During the review the members of the Task Force evaluated the progress to date.

The original aims and objectives of the Cork Local Drugs Task Force were to:

- (1) Compile a profile of all existing or planned services and resources available in the relevant area to combat drugs.
- (2) Prepare a development strategy to deal with the local drugs problem, which would-
 - * establish the extent, pattern and dynamic of drugs problem in the area
 - * maximise the use of existing resources
 - * ensure effective co-ordination of the services and agencies concerned
 - * identify strategic priorities for the achievement of objectives of the strategy
 - * ensure that the strategy is consistent with the Area Action Plan of the relevant Area Partnership Company
 - * include proposals for the commitment of such development funds as may be provided
 - * provide for the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the Strategy.
- (3) To oversee the implementation of the local drug strategy.
- (4) To provide information, reports and proposals to the National Drugs Strategy Team as may be appropriate.

During the facilitated review members of the Cork Local Drugs Task Force developed the objectives further to include:

- Identification of those groups/individuals who are most at risk and then prioritise initiatives to meet the needs.
- Identify the problem at both a macro and a micro level and identify the existing gaps in provision.
- Work with communities to address the issues and provide easily accessed support and resources within communities.
- Identify the role of each agency and identify areas where agencies can work together. The Task Force should also determine the role of responsibility of agencies and professionals to those of the target group and inform communities of the areas of responsibility of all bodies and agencies.

The extent to which the objectives have been achieved

In relation to the following objective: ‘Compile a profile of all existing or planned services and resources available in the relevant area to combat drugs.’ The Task Force has made the following progress:

The Task Force is satisfied that we now have a comprehensive and thorough knowledge of all existing or planned services and resources available in Cork in relation to combating drugs. This knowledge has been built up over time, both from the development of the initial plan, through the knowledge of Task Force members, and information from Task Force funded projects. This information has also been developed through our process of information gathering both for the ongoing resourcing of the work of the Task Force, and for the development of the new Drugs Task Force Plan. This profile will be used throughout this plan.

In relation to the preparation of a development strategy to deal with the local drugs problem, which will “*establish the extent, pattern and dynamic of drugs problem in the area*” the following progress has been made: In terms of research, the Cork Local Drugs Task Force is fortunate to have access to ongoing statistics from Dr. Tim Jackson who provides us with regular updates on the original study “Smoking, Alcohol and Drug Use in Cork and Kerry”. This research informed the development of the first plan and continues to inform the work of the Task Force. The Task Force also funded a research project entitled ‘Drugs Unplugged’ which assessed young people’s attitudes to drugs and the results of this were also valuable in detailing the extent, pattern and dynamic of the drug problem. As well as utilizing research results, the Task Force has now developed our information gathering process further. As a group we receive information from the Drug Squad, and also from projects that we fund. This ensures that

we are up to date on issues in the city and it also serves to inform our work. We attempted to identify the problem also at a micro level, and the projects were an invaluable method of doing so. Through the work of the locally based projects, groups were able to identify those groups, and individuals, who are most at risk and then prioritise initiatives to meet their needs.

In relation to: “*maximising the use of existing resources*” and “*ensuring effective co-ordination of the services and agencies concerned*” the Task Force attempted to achieve these objectives through the first plan. However, this is a challenging piece of work and one that could not be undertaken over a short period of time. We feel that the first plan initiated this process and that the current plan will bring a lot of the initial work to fruition. In the development of this plan the Task Force has ensured that it does not overlap with any other initiative or service and also attempted to make services as co-ordinated and strategic as possible.

The Task Force was also mandated to “*identify strategic priorities for the achievement of objectives of the strategy*”. The Task Force funded twenty-one projects in order to work towards achieving its aims and objectives. We are generally satisfied with the progress made by the projects, and naturally there were some challenges encountered in the development of the first round of projects. (See details below). It is evident from the results of the consultation process for this plan, that the work undertaken by the projects formed the basis of an initial response to the drug problem in Cork. This plan will build on that response, increasing our ability to be strategic and focused. This also highlights the necessity and importance of working with communities to address the issues and provide easily accessed support and resources within communities. We plan to replicate such services in other communities as part of this plan.

The Task Force also worked to ensure that the strategy was consistent with the Area Action Plan of Cork City Partnership, and we have developed a good working relationship with the Partnership. The Drugs Task Force Plan fits in and compliments the Cork City Partnership Plan and the two groups have worked together in the development of both new plans to ensure that there is no duplication or overlap, and that both plans are complimentary.

The Task Force supported and monitored the implementation of the projects funded under the initial plan, and this involved considerable work. Due to the pilot nature of the initiative, it did take time to develop the most appropriate procedures and mechanisms and we are now satisfied with the ones we have put in place. The Task Force also oversaw the implementation and administration of the Developmental Fund. Full details of this are given below.

As the Task Force was a new initiative, the work has developed beyond the original Terms of Reference, by responding to new issues and by developing methods of work practice. These are detailed in the review of the projects.

The Task Force’s views on the factors which impacted on progress in achieving its objectives.

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force has identified a number of factors, which impacted on progress in achieving objectives. In reviewing these, the Task Force used the opportunity to evaluate the learning from the initial Task Force process and use this learning to develop new ways of working and to promote models of good practice. In this section, we highlight both the issues that were identified and we also detail measures that have been undertaken to improve and further develop the work of the Task Force.

The factors impacting on the progress of the Cork Local Drugs Task Force can be classified under the following headings:

1. Internal Task Force Development:

- The initial development process of the Cork Local Drugs Task Force.
- The development and formation of the Cork Local Drugs Task Force as a cohesive working group.
- Organisational issues.
- Information.
- General issues.

Initial development process of the Cork Local Drugs Task Force.

The initial development of the Cork Local Drugs Task Force was challenging and it is generally acknowledged that the Task Force started out “on the wrong foot” which resulted in some distrust and antagonism amongst members. As a result of the limited time-scale, there was little opportunity to undertake comprehensive groundwork during the initial development of the Cork Local Drugs Task Force and this resulted in the Task Force becoming initially re-active to funding rather than pro-active.

The development and formation of the Cork Local Drugs Task Force as a cohesive working group.

Some of the factors that impeded the progress of the Cork Local Drugs Task Force came as a result of normal group formation behaviour. Any group that is created will experience initial challenges and much of the early difficulties experienced by the Cork Local Drugs Task Force were a natural result of such a variety of individuals, organisations and agencies attempting to work together. This was a time of 'storming' within the Task Force. It is generally felt that there was a poor working dynamic at this time, for many reasons including: certain power bases developing, individual agendas being pursued, lack of trust, tension between public representatives, community representatives and statutory representatives, lack of group cohesion and group focus and difficulty in establishing a 'macro' vision. We feel that this resulted in a lack of commitment and draining of energy from the Task Force and also effected our ability to work together as a team.

The Task Force has undertaken much work in order to address these issues. The two review days were seen as very positive experiences for all involved not only because of the work carried out, but also because of the development of informal contacts. These working days allowed people to get to know each other and this has had a positive effect on the workings of the group. The Task Force has also committed itself to continuing these regular Working Days outside of the monthly meetings in order to develop the group further. The Task Force has also developed a new working structure, which was implemented for the development of this plan and this worked very well. As a group, the Task Force were also challenged regarding effective decision-making. The group have now put structures in place to ensure that all decision making is informed, open and democratic, and that the decision making process is as participatory as possible.

The Task Force feels that it has now moved on from past positions and that the learning gained from past events serves to inform the ongoing development of the group.

Organisational Issues.

There were a number of organisational issues which impeded the progress of the Task Force and many of these have now been addressed. These included the lack of forum for discussing micro issues (this has now developed through the Working Group structure), the venue and timing of meetings, the amount of work on the agenda for each monthly meeting etc. It also became necessary to establish groundrules and meeting procedures to enable the group to work together effectively.

Information.

As a result of the variety of people involved in the Cork Local Drugs Task Force, it is felt that there were varying degrees of knowledge, awareness and perceptions of the drug problem in Cork. We feel that these gaps in information were a disadvantage to the group initially and served to disturb the equilibrium of the group. In order to address this issue we undertook to inform ourselves about both the current situation in relation to drugs in Cork and also other models of good practice that could be applied to the Cork Local Drugs Task Force. We invited a number of speakers to address the Task Force including the Drug Squad, Dr. Tim Jackson, Liz Kiely, and Fiachra McGuirk and Michael Bowe from Finglas / Cabra Drugs Task Force (regarding structures). We also feel that there is still a need to give opportunities to members to make presentations regarding the group/agency they represent in order to appraise other members of the work of that agency/group. This will be undertaken as part of the new plan.

There was also an information gap in relation to the development of the projects funded by the Cork Local Drugs Task Force. This was mainly due to the fact that we were without a Co-ordinator for a time and this situation has since been addressed. We have implemented a regular reporting structure to ensure we are informed of the project developments, and we also plan to develop a newssheet. A reporting and information process regarding the drugs problem needs to be developed.

General Issues.

There are some additional general issues, which we felt may have impeded the work undertaken by the group.

It is important to acknowledge the challenges faced by some community representatives on the Drugs Task Force, some have experienced fear and intimidation and there is a need to highlight this issue and develop a support mechanism for community representatives.

The Drugs Task Force was generally satisfied with the allocation of funds under the Developmental Fund. However the group feels it needs to take a more proactive role in the allocation of the Developmental Fund, and perhaps encourage applications to address themes that are prioritised. The new application assessment structure that the Task Force has developed will also facilitate a more comprehensive decision making and assessment of applications.

2. General Task Force Development Issues.

Co-ordination:

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force has had three co-ordinators to date. There were gaps between co-ordinators and this effected the progress made by the Task Force. The Task Force wishes to highlight the importance of having a full time Co-ordinator in order to facilitate and support the work of the group.

Project Development:

Project progress - projects that were developed specifically in relation to Drugs Task Force funding were generally slower in start up than projects that were either attached to an existing organisation or projects that contracted an organisation to assist in staff recruitment, management and general administration. This difference in pace was because of the amount of start up work that had to be undertaken by newly formed projects.

Representation:

The nature of the membership of the Cork Local Drugs Task Force has changed. Initially there were a number of representatives from different state agencies but currently we have an average of one person representing each agency. While this is acceptable to the Task Force it is very important that the person chosen to represent the agency is of a sufficiently senior position and should be a decision-maker. The Task Force work should become part of the individuals job description and should not be additional to their existing workload. We will be discussing this with all agencies currently involved in the Task Force.

We are concerned that some of the local Councillors are experiencing difficulty in attending meetings. This is due mainly to the fact that they are not credited for attendance at Task Force Meetings. The Task Force is currently working with Cork Corporation to try and address this issue.

The Task Force also felt that it could be more representative. We have plans to invite a representative from the Voluntary Treatment Organisations to take up membership on the Task Force but we are also concerned that no young people or drug users are represented on the Task Force. This is an issue we hope to address as part of the new plan.

Attendance:

It is important that those taking part in the decision making process have been informed by participation and attendance at meetings. The Cork Local Drugs Task Force has developed groundrules for decision making and this has ensured that decision-makers must be informed through their attendance at meetings.

Young People's Facilities and Services Fund:

There were initial difficulties in Cork regarding the relationship between the Young People's Facilities and Services Fund and the Cork Local Drugs Task Force. There is a need to formalise the relationship between the two groups. We have taken steps to address the separation of these two groups but we feel that it is important that a directive come from Government level on the necessity of the two groups working together.

Review of progress of the projects funded by the Cork Local Drugs Task Force:

The following section contains an overview of each project funded by the Cork Local Drugs Task Force. The progress of the project will be reviewed and the recommendations from the evaluations will also be highlighted.

Project Name: C1 - Community Forum (Technical Assistance)

(Please note this project has been evaluated)

Financial Details:

Funding Channel: **Cork City Partnership**

Original Allocation: **£10,000**

Description:

Funding was granted to employ a worker, to assist community and voluntary groups in organising themselves and developing proposals to tackle the drug problem.

Review of project progress to date:

The original funding for a Technical Assistant was transferred to C20 to extend the contract for the part-time Researcher. The researcher played an integral part in the organisation, development and implementation of the 'Drugs Unplugged' research and the extension of his contract was crucial to the success of the project. At this time it was agreed that in order to meet the need that the project was originally funded to address, the Community Development Worker (funded under C20) would undertake the Technical Assistance role as part of her workload. The Researcher whose post this funding was used for, finished in December 1999 and the funding was then transferred back to C1. A dedicated full-time Technical Assistance Worker has been employed since March 2000.

Project Work:

Technical assistance has been given to community groups that are involved in applying for funding. The worker is involved in several committees that are preparing plans for allocated funds. The worker also provided support and advice for a number of applicant groups for the Drugs Task Force Plan. While the technical assistance operates within a cyclical calendar, ongoing work is undertaken with local groups to facilitate them in establishing priorities and identify sources of funding that match their needs.

The evaluation highlighted the following issues:

"In re-routing the funding from this project to the peer-research component of C20, the Partnership made a decision that reflected priorities."

"According to the people that spoke to the evaluation, groups that accessed the service were happy with the outcome even if they did not receive the grant they sought and according to one, 'the value of the process and the learning potential enables groups reflect on who they are and what their objectives are and what is their target group' "

Final comment:

The Task Force is relatively satisfied with the progress made in the implementation of this project. Since the full time worker has started with the project the work is progressing well. While valuable work was undertaken prior to her recruitment, due to workload and funding constraints the project was unable to develop to its full potential. This worker played an important role in the development of this Drugs Task Force Plan and provided an invaluable support to both applicant groups and to the work of the Co-ordinator of the Cork Local Drugs Task Force.

We have some concerns that the focus of some of the work undertaken has developed outside of the drug related remit, and while this is valuable for community and voluntary groups it extends beyond the brief of the Drugs Task Force.

The Task Force is satisfied that this project will be mainstreamed with some changes.

Project Name: C2 - Community Forum (Networking)

(Please note this project has been evaluated)

Financial Details:

Funding Channel: **Cork City Partnership**

Original Allocation: **£3,000**

Description:

Funding was granted to facilitate the development of networks around specific themes in Cork, and to allow community personnel study visits to Dublin to examine how similar problems are being addressed there.

Review of project progress to date:

The project has undertaken two distinct activities, firstly, establishing a local network and secondly establishing contact and organising visits to agencies outside of Cork. A part-time community worker shared with C20 and C1 was employed to facilitate the Network. The project funds the Reach-Out Networking Group whose membership comes from volunteers and workers from various community groups in the city.

Project Work:

Since the group started a total of four planning meetings and eight network meetings were held. Visits were organised to a variety of organisations and communities. As a consequence of these visits, ongoing networking by community representatives resulted in a series of follow-on meetings and further network events. This group is experiencing some difficulties and is in the process of evaluating the work of the group to date and its current functioning.

The evaluation highlighted the following issues:

The reaction to the networking visits were very positive and they were generally seen as beneficial to all involved: *“the community representatives felt encouraged and highly motivated by the strength of community spirit and solidarity, which they witnessed with everyone they met over the two days.”*

However regarding the Reach Out Networking Group:

“The minutes of the local network reflect a greater hesitancy and difficulty with the concept, structure and membership of a local network” Example: *“However, some members saw the group as a group with informal working roles and an informal structure. Some of the members felt frustrated at attending meetings constantly and achieving very little.”*

“The open-ended democratic decision making processes which the local Network used seem to have resulted in a kind of paralysis and was a source of frustration for some members.”

Final comment:

The networking visits appear to have been very valuable for all concerned and considerable learning took place. It is important that this element of the project should continue. It was also suggested during the evaluation that the budget may need to be reviewed. However the Reach Out Networking Group has experienced some difficulties in its operation and these need to be addressed. It would appear that an entire restructuring and review of the group is needed perhaps based on the questions raised during the evaluation.

Project Name: C3 - Travellers Visibility Group

(Please note that this project has not been evaluated, it is planned to do so in the future.)

Financial Details:

Funding Channel: **Cork City Partnership**

Original Allocation: **£5,000**

Description:

Funding was granted to conduct research on the experiences and attitudes of young travellers and their families in relation to drug misuse.

Review of project progress to date:

There were considerable delays in the start-up of this project. These delays were mainly due to internal staff changes and a delay in the recruitment of the Youth Worker whose role was to implement the work of the project. The project then requested that they change the direction of the project, and implement pre-development work with young travellers (in the form of developing three youth clubs) prior to undertaking research with them. The Cork Local Drugs Task Force felt that this was a fundamental change, which did not comply with the original funding recommendation. At this stage both parties agreed that as it was unfeasible to proceed with the research, the money would be transferred back to the funding channel. Following a discussion with the National Drugs Strategy Team regarding the situation the Co-ordinator met again with the project to see if progress could be made. Developments had taken place within the project and the three youth groups had been established. Following discussion it was agreed that the group would use the funding to develop focus groups amongst the young people and through these groups to assess drug experiences amongst the Traveller community.

Project Work:

This project has now restarted and is expected to submit a report to the Cork Local Drugs Task Force in October.

Final Comment:

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force is satisfied that this project is restarting and we expect that the work will be successful. In relation to meeting the need identified in the original proposal, we feel that this project will address the initial need through the pre research work and that a comprehensive research project may develop following evaluation.

Project Name: C4 - Community Women's Education Initiative

(Please note that this project has not been evaluated, it is planned to do so in the autumn of 2000.)

Financial Details:

Funding Channel: **Cork City Partnership**

Original Allocation: **£2,000**

Description:

Funding was granted to cover administration and child care expenses for women who are drug dependent and who wish to access services, such as those provided by the Community Drugs Team and Cork City Partnership Ltd.

Review of project progress to date:

This project received considerably less funding than they had originally applied for and this effected the nature of the work undertaken. There was initial confusion within the group about what exactly the money allocated to this group was for. It was then clarified that the Cork Local Drugs Task Force funding was granted to this group for administrative and child care only. However, C.W.E.I. had the facility to apply to the Cork City Partnership fund to cover the costs of speakers at their workshops.

Project Work:

This project has run a service of information workshops on approaches to women's physical, mental health and well being. Childcare and travel were provided to allow women to access this programme. This project has also provided childcare, travel and subsistence on costs for women attending seminars and workshops organised by the Cork City Partnership and for women participating in the Reach Out Networking Group.

Final comment:

This project is currently awaiting evaluation.

Project Name: C5 - Cork Youth Information Centre

(Please note that this project has not been evaluated.)

Financial Details:

Funding Channel: **Cork City Partnership**

Original Allocation: **£1,500**

Description:

Funding was granted to produce a further 15,000 copies of "No! You Are Not Alone"; a credit card sized guide to useful addresses, including those of the drugs services, for young people.

Review of project progress to date:

This group have now produced 25,000 copies of "No! You Are Not Alone" Booklet and received interim funding to allow them to produce an updated edition of the booklet. The demand for the booklet is very high and it has been distributed to schools, colleges and youth organisations. They are currently exploring the possible development of alternative methods of distributing the booklet.

Final comment:

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force is very satisfied with the work undertaken by this project. It is a simple yet effective piece of work. We are encouraging the group to explore additional methods of distribution, and are also interested in the possibility of developing a website to support the project. This would fit in to the overall recommendation to develop websites for all Drugs Task Force projects.

Project Name: C6 - Cork Y.M.C.A.**Financial Details:**

Funding Channel: **Cork City Partnership**

Original Allocation: **£5,500**

Description:

Funding was granted to enable Y.M.C.A. to provide free counselling and personal support service to young people who are either at risk or misusing drugs in the Cork area.

Review of project progress to date:

A Counsellor who is employed by the Y.M.C.A. and seconded on a part time basis to this project provides this counselling service. This project is providing counselling for four people per week, which is their full capacity. It did envisage that there would be a turnover of young people and that it would be in a position to accommodate those who may be waiting to see a Counsellor within a reasonable timeframe.

Project Work:

To date the project has provided one-to-one counselling service to fourteen young people at risk of falling into misuse of drugs/alcohol. Of the fourteen who presented to the Counsellor one could be described as an addict. However ten of the fourteen had some / substantial contact with drugs / alcohol.

The project has established links with a number of local organisations, including the Simon Community. Many of the people who access the Simon Community services have addiction problems and the counselling service will in the near future provide youth counselling services to Simon residents between the ages of 15 and 28.

The evaluation highlighted the following issues:

"The project has established a counselling service as it outlined in its proposal to the NDTF. It has after an initial slow start-up met its capacity. The project sees its decision to confine its work to four people at any one time as a good decision. This enabled the project to monitor the effectiveness and quality of its counselling service."

"The project has been funded by the NDTF but only 71% of those who presented for counselling had some experience of drugs / alcohol. However despite this level a substance use /misuse, the counselling service sees itself as part of a preventative strategy and therefore in addressing the more general personal difficulties of young people, the project comes within that preventative framework."

Final comment:

The Task Force is satisfied with the progress of this project.

The Task Force also feels that the counselling room does need some renovation and we plan to address this issue through the development of this plan. (The project has applied for funding for this, and this is detailed below).

In relation to the issue highlighted in the Evaluation regarding the fact that only 71% of the client group presented with experience of drug / alcohol, the Task Force feels that this project is providing a valuable service. There is a lack of counselling facilities in the city. We are recommending that the nature of this project change slightly to link in with a wider project that we intend to fund through the YMCA. This will involve this project developing further links with another YMCA group 'DION', who the Task Force intends funding to provide a lifeskills programme for young people who are out of home. It is envisaged that the combination of these two projects will act as a valuable resource for organisations in the city dealing with young people who are out of home, and will address a serious gap in current service provision.

Project Name: C7 - H.E.A.D.S. Project

(Please note that this project has not been evaluated.)

Financial Details:

Funding Channel: **Southern Health Board**

Original Allocation: **£3,000**

Description:

Funding was granted to develop a comprehensive drugs education, prevention and harm reduction programme for lesbians, gay men and bisexuals who use or may come to use drugs on the gay scene.

Review of project progress to date:

This project experienced difficulties and required a lot of support. The two key workers involved left the organisation and this effected the progress of the project. Attempts made by the Task Force to work with the group have not been successful to date and the project has come to a stand still.

Final comment:

The Task Force wish to highlight that the need identified by this proposal originally, is still perceived to be an important issue. We aim to attempt to restart this project in some form as part of the new plan. This will not have additional funding implications, as the project has not yet spent the original allocation.

Project Name: C8 - School Support Programme

(Please note that this project will be evaluated in the autumn 2000.)

Financial Details:

Funding Channel: **Southern Health Board**

Original Allocation: **£25,000 – C.L.D.T.F./£40,000 – S.H.B.**

Description:

This project received funding to set-up a Schools Support Programme to assist schools in dealing with effective drug prevention in the school setting, as well as providing back up support in dealing with drug related incidents in schools. This project is co-funded by the Southern Health Board.

Review of project progress to date:

The “Guidelines for School’s” were launched in April 1999 and a Health Education Officer has been appointed to promote this programme in schools in the Cork Local Drugs Task Force area.

Project Work.

This project provides support for schools in developing an Alcohol, Tobacco and Drug Use Policy to enable them to effectively deal with drug issues in the school setting. In 1999, guidelines for secondary schools on “Developing Policy on Alcohol, Tobacco and Drug Use” were published. The project has now launched the guidelines for primary schools and work on the implementation of this programme has already begun.

In relation to the “School Support Programme” the Guidelines for Schools were distributed to all post-primary schools, a half-day workshop is given to each school interested in developing the plan and there is training for staff around managing incidents and around drug awareness. In the schools the project establishes working groups with parents, teachers, Board of Management and pupils. They work on giving skills to develop the policy. Fifty percent of the schools circulated replied. The next stage is to move the project to the primary schools.

Final comment:

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force is satisfied with the progress made by this project. The project will be evaluated in the autumn 2000 and the Task Force is hopeful that it will be mainstreamed. It is felt that the evaluation may highlight the need for an additional worker on the project. The Task Force is recommending funding a School Assistance Programme, which will link in with and complement the work of this project.

Project Name: C9 - Community Drugs Team

Financial Details:

Funding Channel: **Southern Health Board**

Original Allocation: **£100,000 – C.L.D.T.F./£100,000 – S.H.B.**

Description:

This project received funding to establish a Community Drugs Team in the north side of the city. This project is co-funded by the Southern Health Board.

Project Update:

In collaboration with the Southern Health Board, the Community Drugs Team in the Northside of Cork City was developed. This is an outreach office of Arbour House and it has developed community services for concerned persons and clients with alcohol and drug problems. An Outreach Programme is also operated as part of this service. This project employs two Counsellors and an Outreach Worker.

Final Comment:

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force is satisfied with the progress made by this project. The project will be evaluated in the autumn 2000 and the Task Force is hopeful that it will be mainstreamed. The location of this service in the Northside of the city is proving invaluable.

This project has increased the numbers of addiction counsellors available in the city and as a result waiting lists are now almost non-existent.

The Task Force has recommended that this service link in with all Drugs Task Force initiatives and that effective networking take place. It is also important that some awareness raising take place in relation to the service.

Project Name: C10 - Community Policing/J.L.O. Garda Initiative

Financial Details:

Funding Channel: **Department of Justice**

Original Allocation: **£10,000**

Description:

Funding was granted to establish a fund to be used to run Garda/ Community based activities in all areas of the city. The aim of the project is to divert young people away from the drug scene into healthy activities. These Gardaí are involved in a range of youth activities that focus on improving Gardaí “young people at risk” relationships through the provision of activities. The funding is thinly spread throughout the Neighbourhood Policing areas. Submissions are received from the JLOs and / or the Community Gardaí and money is allocated on the basis of meeting the criteria of the project. Small grants ranging from £50 - £600 are made.

Review of project progress to date:

The project has part-funded forty-five different activities both within and outside of the LDTF area. This project runs flexible small-scale interventions. It operates without dedicated staff, overheads or administrative costs, apart from the purchase of a computer. The project operates in designated Neighbourhood Policing areas which:

“are characterised by chronic levels of unemployment, often poor living conditions, high rates of early school leaving, high levels of family breakdown and a general lack of recreational facilities and supports. These areas are also mainly local authority housing areas with a high youth population and a strong correlation between crime, drug abuse and social, economic and physical marginalisation of working class communities.”

Project Work:

This project has organised a number of events for young people “at risk”. These have included: road bowling tournament, schools football competitions, field trips, drug awareness projects, orienteering activities, snooker tournament and summer schemes. The Gardaí involved feel that this fund has been very beneficial and has enabled them to develop additional community based activities – and has contributed to community relations.

The evaluation highlighted the following issues:

“The need to address structural inequalities rather than individualisation of drug use / and crime levels characterises this project. In response, the Gardaí recognise the need for a multi-agency approach and the need for collaboration with other statutory and voluntary agencies if it is to meet its aim, which is to divert young people away from the drug scene into healthy activities.”

“The project has an infrastructure in place for the disbursement of its funding. It has a simple non-bureaucratic system in place whereby Community Gardaí / JLOs can apply and receive funding very quickly. A three-person committee decided on the destination of the funding and this small group can meet easily and decide quickly.”

Final Comment:

The Task Force is satisfied with the progress of this project. The project will remain small scale following the evaluation apart from a cost of living increase. Also the project should consider the questions posed by the evaluation and may wish to develop the service further based on the feedback, particularly in relation to gender proofing, focus on process etc.

Project Name: C12 - Youthlinks Development Centre

(This project has not been evaluated)

Financial Details:

Funding Channel: **Cork City V.E.C.**

Original Allocation: **£3,700**

Description:

Funding was granted to develop an educational programme for a community based youth project, in conjunction with the Development Education for Youth and Summerhill Youth Projects.

Progress of Project to date:

This group had initial difficulties in drawing down their funding and this resulted in a delay in implementing the project.

Project Work:

This group has completed their project, which involved photography classes for young people from the target group. There were approximately 60 young people involved. The group also implemented a pilot information project on drugs for primary school students in Gurrabraher.

Final Comment:

This project has now concluded and did not receive interim funding. This was a once off project, which appears to have been successful. There have been many internal changes within the organisation including staff changes, and this is partly the reason why interim funding was never allocated.

Project Name: C13 - The Glen Neighbourhood Youth Project**Financial Details:**

Funding Channel: **Southern Health Board**

Original Allocation: **£30,000**

Description:

Funding was granted to develop and run a broad based, life skills programme which includes drug education, but has a wider brief, i.e., facilitating and developing imagination, creativity and confidence and thus life skills and interests which counteract the draw and attraction of drugs. The project is located within the Glen Neighbourhood Youth Project. The Glen is located in the north side of Cork City and is characterised by structural neglect, social marginalisation, environmental decay and economic disadvantage. Given the extent of the social problems and given the presence of drugs in the area, the project sees all the young people and their families as its potential target group.

Progress of Project to date:

The project employs one worker. In developing the work, the project adopted a number of different strategies. Foremost amongst these was the need to build good and fair relationships between the worker and the local community. The project was also concerned about developing skills within the area particularly through its youth leadership programme that would enable people living locally to provide services locally. Underpinning all the work initiated by the worker was voluntary participation. Since the project's inception, 151 people have had some form of contact with the project worker. The original project worker finished with the project in April and a new worker has recently started.

Project Work:

This project employs a worker who has developed the following groups: an Intensive Support Group for young people at risk, Homework Support Group, Leadership Course, Special Interest Group, a self-help group focused on the issues of violence. In School Groups, Family Work Individual Work / Crisis Intervention, Prison Work Community Based / Outreach Strategies and Summer Programmes.

The evaluation highlighted the following issues:

"The project recognises the strong co-relation between addiction, drug use / misuse and educational disadvantage. Consequently, the purpose of this intervention is to address educational needs in an integrated formal and non-formal way".

"The main constraining factor identified by this evaluator is the size of the target group and the demands on the time of the worker".

"This project has undertaken substantial work in an area of great need".

Final Comment:

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force is very satisfied with the work undertaken by this project. The amount of work is a matter of concern given the fact that there is only one worker, and this needs to be discussed. Also there is a need for additional programme costs for the project and this will be provided through this plan.

The project should review its work with reference to the questions asked by the evaluator.

There are some examples of good practice that could be replicated in other areas.

Project Name: C14 - Knocknaheeny/Hollyhill Youth Centre**Financial Details:**

Funding Channel: **Department of Justice**

Original Allocation: **£35,000**

Description:

The Knocknaheeny / Hollyhill Drug Awareness Project was established in October 1998, with a view to changing attitudes to drugs and consequently reducing their acceptability

Progress of Project to date:

This project was funded to employ a Drug Addiction Counsellor to work with young people (age 15-18) who may be either currently experimenting / addicted to drug use or who may be at risk of experimenting or becoming addicts. The project aims to:

- Change attitudes to drug use / misuse.
- Make referrals to treatment centres where necessary.
- Reduce the acceptability of drugs.
- Provide alternative to drug use.

The project is located in the Knocknaheeny / Hollyhill area in the north-western part of Cork City.

Project Work:

The project worker undertook a consultative process at the outset of the project and from this the project worker identified a number of needs in the area.

This project runs a number of Drug Prevention and Education Groups and has three Harm Reduction Groups. They also provide a counselling and referral service for young people. They have produced a guide for parents entitled "Know Drugs" as well as organising a variety of activities.

The evaluation highlighted the following issues:

"These objectives are somewhat different from those submitted to the NDTF at the time of applying for funding. In the original application, no reference was made to the provision of a counselling or referral service, or the provision of alternative activities for young people. These needs became more obvious over the life of the project".

"This appears to be a very impressive project, which is making significant in-roads on the drug issue in the area. The take-up of services, particularly the numbers presenting for counselling is striking. The project has also applied a good cross-section of approaches to dealing with the issues and is consciously addressing needs outside of a narrow interpretation of a drugs worker role".

"According to the project worker, there is a big waiting list for personal counselling as well as for organised activities. The lack of time and the lack of staff are perceived by the project worker to be the only constraining factor in the project".

"The project worker felt that the current referral system is too bureaucratic and that once a young person has been referred, the treatment centre should accept that referral without subjecting the young person to a third assessment. How feasible is this expectation given the limited resources that treatment centres have at their disposal?"

Final Comment:

The Task Force is satisfied with the work undertaken by this project. The feedback from the community has been very positive and considerable work has been undertaken.

This project has been approved for mainstreaming and we are recommending a cost of living increase. We are not recommending an additional worker for the project, as there are a large number of youth workers and resources in the area, many of who already have links with the project and could be developed as supports for the project.

It is felt that some of the work undertaken could be duplicating the work of existing service provision, although this was not the case during the start up of the project. The existence of the Community Drugs Team in Church Street and additional Counsellors in Arbour House now means that there is not a significant lack of Addiction Counsellors in Cork. We feel that the workload of the project may be eased by referral to these services where necessary. Also this may reduce the amount of assessment required to enable a young person to attend a treatment centre.

Also the issues raised by the evaluation should be taken on board by the project.

Project Name: C15 - Mayfield Youth 2000**Financial Details:**

Funding Channel: **Department of Justice**

Original Allocation: **£30,000**

Description:

The Mayfield Youth 2000 project is a Department of Justice sponsored intervention in collaboration with Ógra Chorcaí to develop an overall picture of the drugs issue in the Mayfield area especially for the under 15 age category.

Progress of Project to date:

This project has progressed in a positive way. This project received funding to employ a worker to work directly with “at risk” young people and those already involved in drug misuse in the Mayfield area, and also to work with young people referred by the Gardai.

The project did experience problems as a result of the local youth centre being vandalised; consequently it was not possible to establish the one-stop-shop drug information centre. It also meant that the worker was forced to ‘operate out of his car’ or from the Ógra offices in the city, far away from his natural base. The project adopted a ‘youth worker strategy’ in their approach.

Project Work:

This project works with local young people both in schools and out of the school setting. They were involved in a summer programme and with young people in small groups. A series of information / consultative sessions with local groups people and organisations. A “listening survey” was carried out in Mayfield Community School. A group of eleven young people six boys and five girls, developed from this activity and this became known as the Monday Club. Information sessions were organised in two local primary schools and work was also undertaken with the secondary schools.

The evaluation highlighted the following issues:

“The absence of a centre was a crucial factor in terms of hindering the advancement of the project’s objectives”.

Final Comment:

The Task Force is satisfied with the work undertaken by this project and welcomes its mainstreaming. The work of the project was focused on one particular part of Mayfield, and we are recommending an additional worker to enable the project to work with a wider area. We feel this is a positive development for the project and will fill an identified gap in the Mayfield community.

We feel that the questions raised during the evaluation regarding specific aspects of the project work may provide opportunity for the project to reflect on its work.

We are concerned about the premises issue, but have been assured by the project that this is currently being resolved.

Project Name: C16 - Farranree Anti Drugs Initiative (F.A.D.I.)**Financial Details:**

Funding Channel: **Cork City Partnership**

Original Allocation: **£30,000**

Description:

The Farranree Anti Drugs Initiative (FADI) project was established in 1998 to develop creative and imaginative tailor-made programmes of activities, through the provision of an outreach service for young people at risk and to provide a support, information and referral service to individuals and families living in the Farranree community. This project received funding to recruit a worker to develop support services for young people affected by drugs and their families.

A community development model underpinned the rationale for deciding on the activities of the project.

Project Work:

The project offers a range of activities including: School-based Activities, Community-based Activities, Developmental Work, Non-community Specific Work, Staff Training and Project Management. This project links in with local schools (both primary and secondary) to do work on drug issues and awareness and also to link in with existing school programmes. The worker also works with a parents group who is currently involved in a training course. The project is also involved with Toghler Link Up on the development of a “computer clubhouse” for young people.

The evaluation highlighted the following issues:

“The Project has developed an impressive range of links reflecting an equally impressive range of activities”

“In addressing these objectives, the project adopted an imaginative and creative community development approach to its task.”

"It is clear that the project is having a significant impact on the local area and is addressing the issues it set out"

"The project worker was very anxious to emphasis the scale of the task in the area and the inability to meet the level of need within current resource provision. The project worker stated that current resource allocation has exposed the need for a variety of interventions and approaches and that without further allocation, hard choices will have to be made resulting in the withdrawal of important services from the area."

Final Comment:

The Task Force is generally satisfied with the work of the project and welcomes its mainstreaming.

There are a number of areas that need to be developed further.

The project is currently in the process of establishing itself as an independent group and limited company. We feel that this will result in additional support being needed for the management committee and recommend that they engage in management training. Also the Task Force will need to be satisfied that adequate supports are put in place for staff and volunteers.

We are recommending an additional worker for this project to enable it to develop the outreach element of its work and there is also a need for a part time administrator solely dedicated to the project.

This project has carried out a lot of work. Some of this work, for example: teacher training may now be covered by other Drugs Task Force projects which will alleviate some of the workload of the project.

The project should also reflect on the issues raised in the evaluation.

Project Name: C17 - Togher Link-Up Ltd.

Financial Details:

Funding Channel: **Department of Justice**

Original Allocation: **£50,000**

Description:

The Togher Link-Up project was established in 1998 and operates in the communities of Togher, Bishopstown, Ballyphehane and The Lough. This project received funding to co-ordinate a multi-agency approach to reduce the demand for drugs in Togher and surrounding areas, including the creation of a forum within the communities for discussing drug issues and the provision of outreach services. A community development model underpinned the rationale for deciding on the activities of the project.

Progress of Project to date:

This project was set up specifically as a Drugs Task Force project; it was not in existence previously. The project is managed by a Board of Management comprising of fifteen local organisations along with two representatives from the Garda Síochána.

The initial choice of premises was problematic as local residents objected and a second premises had to be found. Two staff has been employed by the project, one funded by the LDTF and the other funded by Young People's Facilities and Services Fund.

Project Work:

A needs identification survey was conducted with local organisations and community groups by the project prior to the commencement of activities. This project runs a number of activities including exploring issues through Art Workshops, Drug Education Workshops for Youth Workers (focusing on legal issues, general information about drugs and issue based Music Workshops). The project was also involved in Drug Awareness Month with Ballyphehane CDP and also organised Drug Awareness Workshops for parents. They also link with F.A.D.I. and the Computer Clubhouse Project.

The evaluation highlights the following:

"While the Board is broad based in terms of representatives of local agencies, its social class composition would suggest that it is not representative of the social class or of the age composition of the Togher area"

"The project has identified a need within its management structure for specific training in financial management, human resource and labour law."

"The Togher Link-Up is a valued and important resource for this area in Cork City"

Final Comment:

The Task Force is very satisfied with the work undertaken by this project and welcomes its mainstreaming.

The Task Force is concerned that the catchment area of the project is quite large and it may need to consider refocusing solely on the Togher community.

The Task Force is also recommending additional management training for this project and a review of its membership given the questions raised in the evaluation.

Project Name: C18 - M.A.Y. Project (Mahon Action for Youth)

Financial Details:

Funding Channel: **Department of Justice**

Original Allocation: **£25,000**

Description:

This project received funding to enable the Mahon Action for Youth Project to extend its services by employing a Co-ordinator/Counsellor and developing a programme to meet local needs in regard to appropriate responses to deal with the growing drug problem.

Project Update:

The project is managed by Foróige for the Department of Justice. Ten people make up an advisory committee. The Foróige Area Manager is the manager of the project worker and also a member of the advisory committee.

The project is poorly equipped in terms of basic facilities. The project does not have an office in the south side, but the project worker has access to a city-centre office. In terms of equipment, the project relies on a mobile phone and does not have access to a fax machine, photocopier, computer, e-mail or Internet.

Project Work:

The work of the project is divided into three areas:

- Drug awareness education in schools.
- Support for young people and families effected by drugs. This involves one to one sessions, parent support groups, referral and peer education groups.
- Education/Prevention in the community.

The evaluation highlighted the following:

"It is clear that the project has delivered some tangible outcome. The degree to which it has achieved one of its five key objectives, namely the promotion of a drug-free culture is beyond the scope of this evaluation to establish. However, there is evidence that it has provided family support, that it has worked in schools and that it has networked with other groups in the area."

"The commitment of the worker to the area was identified during the evaluation as a key-contributing factor. In addition the project worker identified his own personal experiences as important both in terms of his own understanding of addiction and his empathy for those who have either experienced or have been affected by the experience of addiction."

Final Comment:

The Task Force is very satisfied with the work undertaken by this project and welcomes its mainstreaming.

It is vital that this project locates an office in the community. The Task Force is currently supporting the development of an initiative that may result in premises becoming available and this may solve the problem.

The original budget for this project was low and left little funding for programme costs. We are recommending an increase in programme costs as part of this plan, and also we are recommending that the workers salary be put in line with the salaries of the other Drugs Task Force workers.

Project Name: C19 - Rehabilitation Programme for Ex-Prisoners (Probation & Welfare Services)

Financial Details:

Funding Channel: **Department of Justice**

Original Allocation: **£35,000**

Description:

This project received funding to set up a rehabilitation programme with the aim of integrating ex-prisoners back into mainstream society and stop them re-offending.

Progress of Project to date:

The project is managed by a partnership of voluntary and statutory bodies but has a specific management committee of four. The Probation Service of the Department of Justice Equality and Law Reform has along with the Governor his staff and the Head Teacher and the Education Department in the prison been the primary animators in the development of this project. The project only came into existence as a result of LDTF funding. The project serves the inmates of the prison who prior to detention resided in the Cork Drugs Task Force area but also works with family members of prisoners and with ex-prisoners and those who are on probation. An Addiction Counsellor has been employed by the project to work with the above target group.

Project work:

The project provides a counselling and referral service to clients referred by the Probation and Welfare Service. The project also provides an individual counselling service in Cork Prison and an Addiction Education and Awareness Programme. The worker runs an Alcohol Management Course with the Intensive Probation Scheme and also link in with the Auto Crime Diversion Unit. A working alliance has been established with a number of related groups. Since the project's inception, 181 people have had some form of contact with the Counsellor. In addition to this number there is a current waiting list of fifteen.

The Evaluation highlighted the following:

"The project is innovative, at least within Cork Prison, in that it attempts to integrate, through continuity of personnel, a custodial and post-custodial counselling service."

"The main constraining factor identified by this evaluator is the size of the target group and the demands on the time of the Counsellor. The sheer size of the caseload reduces the time for reflecting on the modus operandi of the project."

"The project needs to rethink its management structure."

Final Comment:

The Task Force is very satisfied with the work undertaken by this project and welcomes its mainstreaming.

The project has a very large workload and we are recommending that another worker be put in place to support the existing worker.

It is also important that this project locate independent premises outside of the Probation Service.

The Task Force intends funding a Post Release Service Co-ordinator Project and this will complement the work undertaken by this project.

Project Name: C20 - Community Forum (Community Outreach Drug Awareness Project)**Financial Details:**

Funding Channel: **Cork City Partnership**

Original Allocation: **£120,000**

Description:

This project consists of an action research project; education and training courses, a library of drugs and alcohol information resources, and incorporates Technical Assistance (C1); Networking (C2) and Seminars and Workshops (C21)

Progress of Project to date:

Cork City Partnership is a legally constituted Partnership Company under the Companies Act and is limited by guarantee. Five sub-committees have been established including one dealing with Community Development. The drugs initiative operates under the auspices of this committee.

Project Work:

(a) Education and Training Courses.

Course development was undertaken jointly by the Cork City Partnership, the Cork Social and Health Education Project and UCC. The courses developed were: The Certificate in Non-Formal Guidance followed by the Diploma in Community-Based Guidance and Support Studies developed as a result of this research report. The courses ran over two years and seventy people participated in total.

(b) Library.

The project has developed a resource library focused on the drugs issue. The library is still at its initial stages and has a small stock of resources but the task of stocking it further is ongoing.

(c) Community Action Drugs Research Project.

This was a joint initiative involve FAS, Ogra Chorcaí, Cork City Partnership and the Cork Local Drugs Task Force. This research project is one of the first in Ireland to employ young people as peer researchers. Fifteen young people were recruited to a Special Project CE Scheme and each of these young people received training. The project culminated with the publication of the research finding “Drugs Unplugged – facing the reality of drug abuse in Cork City”. Two thousand copies were published and these were distributed.

One full-time researcher was employed for twelve months of the project to facilitate the research. A community development worker was employed and also worked on C1, C2 and C21 Projects. In addition, there were two sessional workers fifteen researchers who were part of a CE Scheme, a CE Supervisor and Co-ordinator, visiting lecturers and teaching staff from UCC.

The evaluation highlighted the following:

“This project has been innovative in that it applied peer research principles to the research on the drug issue, an approach involving young people that were new to this country.”

“Dissatisfaction was expressed by those who spoke to the evaluation that the peer- research team did not get an opportunity to participate in a second year of the research project. It was hoped that they would have a role in dissemination of findings and possible education / information initiatives. As a result of a process of consultation between FÁS and the young people, it was, according to the Community Development Co-ordinator who spoke to the evaluation, agreed that their best interests would be best served by progressing in other ways.”

“In relation to the library:

Is there more to a resource centre than just stocking material? Should the project have read all the material and be in a position to advise all potential users of its contents, values, methodologies?”

Final comment:

The Task Force is satisfied with the work undertaken by this project and welcomes its mainstreaming.

As part of the mainstreaming process we are recommending that all four Cork City Partnership projects be merged into one.

With regard to the discontinuation of the research project, the Task Force welcomes the fact that all the young people have now been placed either in work or training.

The project should undertake a review with regard to the issues highlighted by the evaluation.

Project Name: C21 - Community Forum (Seminars and Workshops)

Financial Details:

Funding Channel: **Cork City Partnership**

Original Allocation: **£20,000**

Description:

This fund provides financial assistance to community and voluntary groups who wish to organise forums, seminars, workshops, etc., at local level on the issue of drug misuse.

Progress of Project to date:

The need for this project stemmed from a concern that those communities most likely to be affected by drug use/misuse are central to the decision making process, and are informed about current thinking on the most appropriate ways in which to respond to the drug issue. This project has organised a Youth Seminar and a Community and Drugs Seminar. In addition to these two seminars, five local seminars have taken place.

Final comment:

The Task Force is satisfied with the work undertaken by this project and welcomes its mainstreaming.

As part of the mainstreaming process we are recommending that all four Cork City Partnership projects be merged into one.

Projects funded through the Developmental Fund of the Cork Local Drugs Task Force.

Cork Local Drugs Task Force Developmental Fund -
The projects funded through the Development Fund include:

- Prison Aftercare Programme.
- Cork Simon Community: to organise a drug awareness course for the Simon volunteers.
- Knocknaheeny/Hollyhill Community Arts Development Project: towards the cost of touring a play entitled Double Vision.
- Prison Education Service – equipment costs for 15 ex-prisoners involved in a special category C.E. Scheme.
- Cork Y.M.C.A. – Pilot Basic Survival Skills Programme for young people out of home or in care.
- Cover some of the cost of publishing research undertaken by the Community Drugs Team in Cork and also cover the cost of the launch of the research project.
- To cover some of the publishing costs of publication of findings of a Research Project on Drug Education.

FAS Special Project Community Employment Schemes.

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force is very satisfied with the development of the Special Project CE Scheme in the Cork area. The take-up on these schemes have been very positive, as has the experience of participants. The following Special Projects CE Schemes are in existence:

- Northside Community Enterprise Projects – there are seven Special Projects CE Scheme within this organisation. One focuses on ex-prisoners and there are fifteen participants on this scheme.
- There are two schemes focusing on the Halfway House and these are focused on people who are just leaving treatment. There are four schemes focusing on general preventative work for people at risk and these cater mainly for women from various shelters in the city.
- The Probation Services. There is one scheme in the Probation Services and this caters for people on probation aged between 18 – 23 years.
- The Mahon YMCA. This project is based in Mahon and caters for young people at risk.
- The Community Action Drug Research Project – this was the Research Group that produced the “Drugs Unplugged” Study. This project has now ended.

We are recommending that additional funding for training be allocated to some of these projects. There is also a need to appoint Assistant Supervisors to some of these schemes to provide appropriate back up for the Supervisor.

Issues for consideration from the initial Drugs Task Force process:

There are a number of findings and recommendations that have emerged from both the evaluation process and the Drugs Task Force review, which can be applied to the development of the new Drugs Task Force Plan. These include:

Projects:

- The locally based intensive support projects have worked very well and these should be duplicated in all communities of need as they provide a model of good practice. Through these projects a voluntary local committee develops a locally based plan and a worker is also employed to implement this local strategy. The response from local communities to these initiatives has been very positive and these projects are seen as filling a very specific need in a focused way.
- Consultation is vital in the set up of a project and in this regard a community development approach was often very useful for Community Drugs Projects. This also highlights the necessity and importance of working with communities to address the issues and provide easily accessed support and resources within communities.
- Projects that are formed specifically for Drugs Task Force funding will need additional supports and may take longer to establish. Any new projects developed as part of this plan should refer to those projects that developed through the last plan to gain from their experience.
- It is important that the relationship between the funded projects and organisations that they may contract to recruit staff be carefully worked out. A carefully drawn-up contract should be put in place to ensure that local people have a say in the running of the project.

Promoting Good Practice:

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force feels that there is an opportunity to develop additional models of good practice. For example, the use of set criteria in funding projects e.g. projects should be required to provide proper support

for any volunteers involved and also proper support for any staff (adequate supervision, proper contract arrangements, external support etc.). We plan to implement such models in the development of this plan.

There is also a need to fund projects fully and to give projects enough money to enable them to carry out their work to their full ability. In this regard we mean providing projects with salary costs as well as adequate programme costs. The Task Force should ensure that proper administration support is available to projects.

The Local Drugs Task Force can also play a role in ensuring that we are not duplicating any work in the community. We have made a policy decision not to duplicate or overlap with existing projects but to provide a very strategic response to the drug problem. This is also evident in this plan.

Networking:

A network of the Drugs Task Force project workers has been established by the Cork Local Drugs Task Force. This network has been very successful and will be continued further. It does, however, need to be resourced and provision is made for this in this plan.

Part 2.

Development of the revised strategy.

Section 1

Outline of the Current Extent and Nature of the Drug Problem in the Area.

In order to assess the current extent and nature of the drug problem in the area the Cork Local Drugs Task Force engaged in widespread consultation with statutory agencies, voluntary and community groups and other relevant bodies. We also linked informally with drug users through a special project C.E. Scheme and through individuals working with this target group.

We also referred to the results of two research projects: Drugs Unplugged: Facing the reality of drug abuse in Cork City 1999, and the Southern Health Board's "Smoking Alcohol and Drug Use Survey" in 1996.

"Drugs Unplugged: facing the reality of drug abuse in Cork City"

This research project was undertaken in the Northside of Cork City in 1999 and is entitled "Drugs Unplugged: Facing the reality of drug abuse in Cork City" This was funded by the Cork Local Drugs Task Force under C20 – Community Forum Drug Education Centre.

This research was carried out by the Community Outreach Drug Awareness Project, a group of fifteen young researchers. The main aim of the report was to provide an opportunity for young people to give their views on the issue of drugs in Cork City. It also deals with attitudes towards what young people felt are the related issues of early school leaving, employment opportunities, availability and access to the services of youth and sports organisations.

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force, Cork City Partnership, FAS and Ogra Chorcaí combined its resources to establish the scheme in which fifteen young people on CE Schemes supported by a Research Co-ordinator and a Youth Worker designed and implemented this study. This study adopted a peer research approach. 291 people answered the questionnaire and their ages ranged from 14 – 25 years. The average age of the respondent is 16 years.

The main findings of the "Drugs Unplugged" research were as follows:

- The research indicated that the use of drugs is widespread amongst young people in Cork City. The most common drugs used were alcohol, cigarettes and cannabis. Over 46% of respondents use cigarettes daily. 51% drink weekly. 24% smoke cannabis weekly and 13% took solvents and glue occasionally.

As part of the "Drugs Unplugged" research a number of young people's discussion groups were held in order to design the main questionnaire. A number of issues are relevant from these discussion groups.

- The young people felt that most of the crime in their areas was either committed while under the influence or by people looking for money for alcohol or other drugs.
- The most popular drugs used as defined by the young people were cannabis, ecstasy, tranquillisers (Upjohn's, Purple Hearts).
- Alcohol was widely used by young people of all ages. The majority of the young people they asked would regularly drink cans on streets and in fields. The majority did not consider alcohol and tobacco as drugs.
- The majority opinion was that most types of drugs are freely available and socially acceptable.
- The most common reasons given for taking drugs was either out of curiosity or because their friends had taken them.
- The majority opinion was that cannabis should be legalised and because they felt it was the same as smoking cigarettes.
- There was some evidence of heroin use.

Use of specified drugs by period

Period	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Occasionally	Never
Cigarettes	46%	3%	4%	7%	40%
Cannabis	12%	12%	3%	19.50%	53.5%
Alcohol	9%	42%	12%	21%	16%
Ecstasy	0.5%	6%	3.5%	9%	81%
Trips	1%	1%	1%	6%	91%
Prescribed Tablets	1%	1%	4%	7%	0.87%
Solvents/Glue	0.5%	0.5%	2.5%	12.5%	84%
Poppers	0.5%	1%	1%	7%	90.5%
Heroin	0.5%	0.5%	1%	1%	97%
Magic Mushrooms	0.5%	0%	0%	4.5%	95%
Speed	0%	1%	2%	5%	92%
Cocaine	0%	0.5%	0%	3%	96.5%
N=291					

The age when the first drug was taken:

- The youngest age given for taking cigarettes and alcohol is 7 years of age and for cannabis is 9 years of age.
- The youngest age for taking ecstasy is 12 years of age and the average age for first experimenting with each of the following drugs are:
 - Cigarettes 12.5 years
 - Alcohol 13.5 years
 - Cannabis 14 years
 - Ecstasy 15 years

In relation to the first drug taken alcohol was identified as the most common drug first experimented with by respondents 24% followed by cigarettes 9% and cannabis 22%.

Where the first drug was taken.

The most popular location for experimenting with the first drug respondents took was unsupervised places such as on the street (20%) and fields (19%). Friend's homes were also popular choice (20%). A relatively small number of respondents (5%) identified the pub as being the first location where they drank alcohol.

In relation to the person who introduced the first drug.

Friends introduced over two thirds of respondents to their first drug (68%). Dealers were only mentioned by 1% of respondents.

Availability of drugs locally.

The overwhelming majority of respondents found it easy to get drugs in their area, in particular: cannabis, ecstasy, and solvents.

Locations for taking drugs.

Social gatherings such as discos, pubs, raves and parties stand out as being the most common locations for taking drugs such as alcohol, cannabis and ecstasy. More informal gatherings such as going to a friend's house, going on weekends away and hanging around in public places are also times where the most common drugs are used.

Southern Health Board's Smoking Alcohol and Drug Use Survey.

This research is entitled: "Smoking, Alcohol and Drug Use in Cork and Kerry" by Dr. Tim Jackson. This research formed the basis of the first Cork Local Drugs Task Force Plan and we have had access to updates of this research, the results of which are contained here. This survey was carried out during the summer of 1996 and a structured random quota sample of households in the Southern Health Board involving Cork City, Cork County and County Kerry. The overall findings of the survey at the time can be summaries as follows:

- In terms of drug use in Cork it was mainly Cannabis, Hallucinogens and Stimulants. Opiates were 2% or less. Heroin almost nil except for some lifetime use.
- The maximum drug use was in the age group 20 – 24 years and 15 - 19 years. The highest drug use in Cork City was concentrated mainly on city wards of North Centres, South West and South East, all areas in Cork City showed some use regardless of deprivation status.
- The level of smoking tobacco dramatically increased from 10% at 15 years to 31% by 16 years and 40% at 20 years.
- Boys started smoking tobacco more than a year earlier than girls and reported smoking more cigarettes per day.
- 78% of the population drank alcohol currently. 81% of men and 75% of women. Almost 90% of those in the age group 20-24 years were current drinkers. Almost half of those under the legal age of 18 years were current drinkers (44%) half of these were boys (50%) and a fifth were girls (20%).

- 13% of the age group 20-24 years drank in excess of recognised guidelines of 21 units of alcohol per week such high levels at that young age group has serious implications.
- The drug user in the Jackson survey tends to be young male from urban areas, is also a smoker and drinker, and has smoked or drunk from an earlier age than non-drug users. Part-time employment, high frequency of pub and disco attendance and low frequency of attendance at church are all associated with increased drug use.
- Recent and current drug users are highest at younger age and fall almost to nil over 35 years.
- Regionally the highest drug use was in Cork City. Especially in the city ward areas North Centres, South West and South East where lifetime prevalence for any drug used was about 30% with recent use 15% and current use 10% - 14%. All areas showed some use and deprived areas when corrected for age did not show significant increases for drug use except for Opiates and Sedatives.
- There was a strong association between drug use and current smoking frequency of drinking and frequency of drunkenness.

Attitudes:

- Cannabis is seen as the least harmful of most used drugs.
- There was a widespread knowledge and contact with situations where drugs were being taken.
- GPs, Psychiatrists, Treatment Centres and police were all recognised as main sources for help for substance misuse.

Overall:

- Alcohol is still the dominant drug of misuse in terms of prevalence and problem use.
- Smoking and alcohol use precede drug use and is highly associated with increase drug use.
- Cannabis, LSD and Ecstasy are the main drugs used and are widely available.
- Opiate use is minimal.

In Dr Jackson's Survey he warned that this could change rapidly in the current climate of widespread drug tolerance. Also he commented that in Dublin in 1991 there was a similar pattern of drug use in children.

Another survey "The Overview of Drug Issues in Ireland 1997 – A Resource Document" by Ms. Mary O'Brien and Ms. Rosalyn Moran, Health Research Board, Dublin, 1998 states the following:

- Problematic drug use continues to be association with social disadvantage.
- The profile of the typical drug user who presents for treatment and who is represented in this statistics over a number of years is significant that of a young unemployed male leaving school at an early age and living in a socially disadvantaged area.
- Between 1992 and 1996 there was an increase in the number and quantity of drugs seized particularly heroin, cocaine and amphetamines. The number of ecstasy seizures has increased over the years and very significantly so in 1995.

Southern Health Board Database

The Southern Health Board's Department of Public Health has established a comprehensive reporting system of treated drug misuse. It includes information fields on treatment and discharge status of clients, which allows for greater profiling of clients and for obtaining useful information on treatment outcomes. This database was developed to work closely with the national reporting systems and to assist in the collation of European statistics. During 1999 further reporting systems were established with the community-based services and other voluntary agencies.

There has been significant increases in the number of clients and concerned persons (family members mostly) attending Arbour House in 1999. The numbers of clients and concerned persons in 1998 were 648 and in 1999 were 896 this is an increase of 38%.

Patterns of drug and alcohol misuse – most clients attending Arbour House are poly drug abusers with alcohol, cannabis and ecstasy being the most widely used (85% of clients). Of particular concern is the significant increase in cocaine use amongst clients attending for treatment in 1999.

Information from Consultations:

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force engaged in extensive consultation for the development of the plan. We also used this opportunity to assess the extent and nature of the drug problem in Cork City and the following were the results of this community consultation:

- The main illegal drugs available in Cork are – Cannabis, Ecstasy, LSD and cocaine. There has been an increase in amphetamine use and an increase in LSD, speed and ecstasy. There is evidence of an increase in cocaine in the city and it is getting cheaper.

- There is an increase in abuse of prescription drugs from the home and a number were mentioned in the consultations.
- There is also an increase in solvent abuse with evidence of incidents of gas inhalation, solvent abuse, petrol lighter fluid, etc.
- In all the consultations that took place alcohol is seen as a very serious issue in the city.
- Heroin is not seen as a problem although there is anecdotal evidence of heroin being available.
- Magic mushrooms were also in use.
- There are 20-25 on Methadone Maintenance Programme through the GP Scheme (there are 9 GPs trained and 7 are participating in this Methadone Maintenance Scheme). The majority of people availing of this scheme have been stabilized elsewhere.
- There is a lot of evidence of poly drug use.
- The nature of drinking amongst young people is changing because of the ban on street drinking. Drinking is becoming more hidden and young people tend to be bushing or drinking in laneways and field.

Summary: The Extent of the Drug Problem in Cork

The main illegal drugs available in Cork are – Cannabis, Ecstasy, LSD and cocaine. There has been an increase in amphetamine use and an increase in LSD, speed and ecstasy. There has been an increase in the availability of cocaine in the city and it is getting cheaper. It is no longer classed as a ‘wealthy’ drug. In all the consultations that took place alcohol is seen as a very serious issue in the city and one that needs to be given serious consideration. In relation to the next two years, a continuation of the present levels of drug use is expected with an additional increase in cocaine. Of particular concern is the increase in abuse of prescribed drugs and solvent abuse. There is also expectation of a slight increase in heroin use.

Section 2

Profile of Current and Planned Service Provision in Cork

The projects funded and developed through the Cork Local Drugs Task Force are outlined in Part 1 of this plan. These form a substantial element of the current service provision in relation to drug issues in Cork. In this section we will focus on services dealing specifically with the drug problem, although related services have also developed in Cork and these will be detailed briefly. In relation to planned service provision, many existing service provisions will continue work already being undertaken, but are also expected to develop further. Additional planned provision is also detailed here.

Cork Local Drugs Task Force Projects.

The projects currently funded by the Cork Local Drugs Task Force form an integral part of current and planned provision in relation to drug issues in Cork. These focus on both adults and young people as well as on the wider community and are generally locally based. They include:

The Glen Neighbourhood Youth Project
Knocknaheeny Youth Project
Mayfield Youth 2000
Farranree Anti Drug Initiative
Togher Community Group
Mahon Action for Youth Project
Cork City Partnership Community Forum Projects
Cork Women's Education Initiative
Youth Information Centre
Stop Drugs Now
Neighbourhood Policing Project
Travellers Visibility Group
Rehabilitation Programme for Ex-prisoners
Youthlinks Development Centre
Y.M.C.A. Youth Counselling and Support
School Support Programme
Community Drugs Team

These projects have been detailed comprehensively in Part 1. Many of the above projects will be mainstreamed in the next six months while others are currently awaiting evaluation.

Southern Health Board Drug and Alcohol Services.

Arbour House.

This is a non-residential addiction and treatment centre based in St. Finbarr's Hospital. The service provided includes: Consultation and Assessment Service, Education Programme for people living with active addiction, Community Drugs Teams, Student Assistance Programmes, Employee Assistance Programmes, Adult Treatment Programme and Young Person's Programme. They have provision for a hundred assessments a year. They also provide an Aftercare Service. There has been significant increase in the number of clients and concerned persons (family members mostly) attending Arbour House. A new service for concerned persons has been established on a pilot basis. Its purpose is to assist those who are living with addicted persons to empower themselves in coping with the impact of the addiction on their lives. In the last year the Southern Health Board has employed seven new Addiction Counsellors this has resulted in reducing the waiting time for services. The Southern Health Board also runs a Drug Helpline.

In collaboration with the Southern Health Board the Community Drugs Team in the Northside of Cork City was developed. This is an outreach office of Arbour House and it has developed community services for concerned persons and clients with alcohol and drug problems. The Southern Health Board has plans to develop an additional Community Drugs Team for the Southside of the city.

Methadone Maintenance.

There are twenty to twenty-five on Methadone Maintenance through the G.P. Scheme (there are nine GPs trained and seven are participating in this Methadone Maintenance Scheme). The majority of people availing of this scheme have been stabilized elsewhere.

Adolescent Residential Services.

The Department of Health and Children fund six full time beds at Aislinn Adolescent Residential Treatment Centre in Co. Kilkenny and arrangements have been made through Arbour House to refer patients there.

Treated Drug Misuse Database.

The Southern Health Board's Department of Public Health has established a comprehensive reporting system of "Treated Drug Misuse". This database was developed to work closely with national reporting systems and to assist in the correlation of European statistics. During 1999 further reporting systems were established with community-based services and other voluntary agencies and the service's database has been developed to include information fields on treatment and discharge status of clients, which allows for greater profiling of clients and for obtaining useful information on treatment outcomes.

The Health Promotion Unit has developed the "Drug Questions Local Answers" course, which is focused on drug education and awareness in local communities.

They also continue to work on the 'Health Promoting Schools' project, with a particular focus on schools with designated disadvantage status. They also implement the School Support Programme with the Drugs Task Force.

Detoxification Facilities.

Cork University Hospital.

There are treatment and detox facilities available in GF in the Cork University Hospital.

Department of Education Programmes.

These include the Substance Misuse Prevention Programmes from the Department of Education and Science – "On My Own Two Feet" and "Walk Tall". These are currently being implemented in many schools in Cork City. The Substance Misuse Prevention is part of the Social, Personal and Health Education (S.P.H.E.) which will now become an integral part of the school curriculum for Junior Cycle students and a support service will be put in place by the Autumn 2000. This will be introduced on a phased basis over three years in all second level schools from September 2000.

Home School Liaison Service.

Currently there are Home School Liaison Teachers in Knocknaheeny, Farranree, Churchfield, Mayfield, Mahon, Blackrock, Ballyvolane, Dublin Hill, The Glen, Togher, Gardiner's Hill, St. Patrick's, Sullivan's Quay, North Mon., and Strawberry Hill. They work with adults, parents, staff, communities and agencies. They are targeted on disadvantaged areas only and cover the age of three to eighteen years old. The service is provided for both Primary and Secondary schools.

FAS.

The FAS Special Project Community Employment Schemes also incorporate drug awareness / education / prevention as an integral part of the programme delivered. These schemes include: YMCA Special Scheme Project – Mahon, these Special Project Community Employment Schemes form an important contribution to rehabilitation services in Cork.

The Community Training Workshops, which are run by FAS, also include a drug awareness element in the programme. These are focussed on early school leavers.

City of Cork V.E.C.

The City of Cork V.E.C. currently contracts local voluntary youth organisations to provide 12 special projects in Cork. These projects focus on young people at risk and all incorporate an element of drug education and preventative work as part of programme activity.

There are three Youthreach Centres in operation in Cork City through the V.E.C. (Dean St, Knocknaheeny, The Glen). These target early school leavers and include a focus on drug awareness and education.

Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform.

The Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform fund three Justice Projects in Knocknaheeny, Mahon and The Glen. These target 'at risk' young people and incorporate an element of drug awareness / education / prevention as part of every day programme delivery.

The Juvenile Liaison Officers and the Community Gardai also provide supports for individuals and communities in relation to drug issues at a number of levels. Through referrals to services, information presentations in schools and identification of young people or adults at risk.

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force has funded a Neighbourhood Policing Unit Programme in conjunction with the Gardai and funding was granted to run Garda / Community based activities in all areas of the city.

The Gardai also operate the new Impact Patrol in Anglesea Street. This patrol picks up young people who are using drugs or drinking and brings them home. At the moment this is just based around Anglesea Street but there are plans to expand it to other parts of the city.

Cork City Partnership.

The Cork City Partnership has received funding from the Cork Local Drugs Task Force for four projects. (These are detailed in Part1). While these form the core of the Drug Strategy in the Cork City Partnership there are other elements including: the establishment of a Drugs Working Group as a sub group of the Community Development Sub committee of the Cork City Partnership.

The Cork City Partnership has just completed the new local development and social inclusion plan and this states that one of the objectives of the Partnership is to:

“Alert young people to the dangers of substance abuse and to equip them with the skills to make the right choices in terms of saying no to drugs”

In their strategy they commit to: target organisations working on drug related issues, offer all existing services to recovering substance misusers and to develop more effective dual referral mechanisms with organisations that work with substance misusers and for shared responses for mutual customers.

Young People’s Facilities and Services Fund.

As part of the Young People’s Facilities and Services Fund, a variety of projects have developed that incorporate elements of drug education and awareness. These include: Cork Simon – Youth Homeless Drugs Prevention Programme, The Alliance have developed a Peer Education project which focus on drugs and sexual health, Ballyphehane and Bishopstown Outreach Project, Good Shepherd Services, The Rock Community Youth Group, Glen Young Adults Development Programme, Family Presentation County Enterprise, Blackpool Youth and Musical Association and U4EA an Anti Drug Based Educational Programme.

The Small Grant Scheme for the Young People’s Facilities and Services Fund is £65,000 for this year. They have about seventy applications the maximum they can apply for is £6,000 over three years. It would be advertised annually. The focus of the applications that have come in are mainly from sports clubs for equipment and even within small areas there are duplications of applications. There is also focus on Youth Clubs etc.

Community Initiatives.

Many locally based community initiatives are providing non-formal drug education and awareness raising services. These would include Community Development projects in Mahon, Ballyphehane, Knocknaheeny / Hollyhill, Farranree, The Glen, Mayfield etc. The Cork Social and Health Education Project runs a number of training courses for local community groups. There is also a range of organisations carrying out preventative work through the provision of diversionary activities, these include: Sports Clubs, Activity Groups, Community Associations etc.

Youth Initiatives.

There are a number of youth initiatives in Cork providing drug awareness / education / prevention as part of every day programme delivery. These include services provided by Ogra Chorcaí, Firoige, the YMCA, the Neighbourhood Youth Projects in The Glen and Mayfield, various youth clubs throughout the city, Cork Community Art Link, Guiding and Scouting organisations, National Youth Federation in Gurranabraher, Youthlinks Development Initiative, Barnardos. (Please note that this is a general overview of services available, a comprehensive list can be provided.)

Other Initiatives.

There are a number of In-school Programmes in operation in the city. These would normally have developed out of the School Support Programme or involve individual teachers undertaking drug education.

There are a number of individuals currently providing once off talks / information sessions for schools in the city. These would include people in recovery, concerned individuals etc.

Voluntary Treatment Services - Residential and Non Residential.

Anchor Outpatient Treatment Centre in Mallow – This is an outpatient rehabilitation programme for alcohol and drug abuse.

Tabor Lodge, Belgooly, Co. Cork - Residential Programme for alcohol and drug misuse. This service is for adults only.

St. Helen’s Convent Missionary Charities Blarney – Residential programme for alcohol and drug misuse. This service is for adults only.

Matt Talbot Services. - The Matt Talbot Service is not in operation at the moment. When in operation they focus primarily on adolescents. Matt Talbot operates a three-phase programme of recovery. Phase One is a pre-treatment and stabilization phase. Phase Two focuses on fielding skills, developmental tasks and family work. Phase Three is the re-entry into the community. The service can cater for twenty-five when it is up and running fully. They get referrals from schools and probation.

Bruree – Residential Programme for alcohol and drug misuse.

Sarsfield Court – Detox facilities.

Rehabilitation Services.

The Bridge Co-op – Rehabilitation of individuals with alcohol and drug problems. This group also organise work schemes as well as information education presentations in schools.

(Tabor Lodge) Renewal - Half Way House in Shanakiel, Cork City - This is a three-month residential programme for women.

Support Groups.

- AlAnon – support group for spouses and relatives of problem drinkers.
- AlAteen – Support group for teenagers who have a problem drinker in their family.
- Alcoholics Anonymous
- Narcotics Anonymous
- NarAnon

Cork Corporation Estate Management.

An Estate Management programme is in operation in most Corporation Housing areas in Cork. There is an area based estate management Project in Mayfield, The Glen, Knocknaheeny and Togher.

Cork City Development Board.

This Development Board is now in operation in Cork City and involves representatives of all the different sectors in the city. The Cork Local Drugs Task Force has developed links with this group which will be strengthened during the implementation of this plan.

Probation Services.

The work of the Probation and Welfare Service includes providing pre sanction reports on offenders for courts, supervising community sanctions and direct intervention with offenders and their families. Service staff also encourages and facilitate the development and operation of a range of community facilities including workshops and hostels and develop structured interventions which target high-risk offenders or those involved in specific types of offending behaviour. Service personnel also liaise with other agencies as well as community groups and organisations to provide enhanced opportunities for the social inclusion of offenders.

Cork Prison Education Service.

This service promotes to education in the prison. Also it seeks to encourage prisoners to continue with their education following their release. It aims to facilitate opportunities for learning through the development of the necessary supports. They also run educational programmes for the partners and adult family members of offenders with the aim of easing the transition from prison to community.

Integrated Services Process.

There is an integrated services process in operation in Togher. The purpose of this process is to improve the delivery of statutory services to the community. This will be done through the development of new procedures to ensure a more focussed and better-co-ordinated response by State Agencies to the needs of the community.

Section 3

An assessment of whether current/planned service provision meets current or anticipated needs.

The existing services being delivered to respond to the local drug problem in Cork have now been detailed. The extent to which current service provision meets identified needs will now be discussed, with a particular focus on the gaps that have been identified through the consultation process undertaken.

Drug Awareness/Education/Prevention.

Geographical Gaps / Needs for Drugs Task Force Community Projects.

Through the consultation process there were a number of geographical gaps identified in the city. These were generally areas of particular need, characterized mainly by a lack of services and facilities in the area, coupled with a high youth population and evidence of problem drug use. (Specific area detail will be discussed later in the plan) These areas include: Dublin Hill, Gurrabraher/Churchfield, Greenmount, Ballyphehane, Ballincollig, Grange/Frankfield, Glanmire, Carrigaline, Mayfield East, Middle Parish, and Bishopstown. It is also important that Youth and Community Services are developed for new communities. These areas were highlighted as being in need of additional supports most notably the support of Drugs Task Force Community Project.

As part of the existing plan the Task Force funded a number of locally based projects which provided intensive support for young people at risk and the community in general, through the provision of a Drug Outreach Worker. The response in local communities to these initiatives has been very positive. The evaluation of these projects has also been very positive, with all projects being mainstreamed and it is felt that this model of good practice should be replicated elsewhere. The existing projects are based in Knocknaheeny, Farranree, Mahon, Mayfield, Togher, and The Glen.

Revised Strategy: To expand and develop the Cork Local Drugs Task Force Community Project service to include areas of proven need. This form of Community Project as developed in the first Drugs Task Force Plan, provides intensive support for young people at risk and their families. These projects will not overlap or duplicate existing projects in the geographical areas chosen, but will compliment with existing services.

Parents Support.

A number of gaps have been identified in relation to Parents Support Services. A number of needs have been highlighted including:

- **Support.** The need for additional support for the parents of young people involved in drug related issues.
- **Information.** The need for comprehensive co-ordinated information for parents on what services are available and where to turn to for help. A telephone helpline was one of the methods suggested.
- **Education.** The need for more education on drug issues for parents, to enable them to understand the realities their children face. There is also a need for additional parenting courses.
- **Network.** The need for a Parents Network / Parent Support Group in the city which would facilitate information sharing and develop support mechanisms.

There are a number of small locally based Parent Support Groups in the city but the gap identified relates to a centralized support service. Arbour House also offers a Parents Support Service for parents of young people in treatment.

Revised Strategy: To initiate the development of a Parents Support Service that would link with existing provisions and would also act as a resource to them.

Peer Education.

The need for additional Peer Education work has also been highlighted. There is some Peer Education work being undertaken on a small scale but the lack of a dedicated service and support structure has been highlighted. Also the lack of information and support for projects that wish to develop peer support as part of their programme has been emphasized.

Revised Strategy: To provide funding towards the development of a comprehensive Peer Education Programme for the city.

Training Gaps.

A number of training gaps have been identified they include:

Specialist Training for Youth and Community Workers, Drug Outreach Workers etc.

A gap has also been identified in relation to training support for workers. There is a need for specific training for workers to enable them to respond effectively to drug issues as they arise. For example: There has been an increase in solvent abuse in some areas, and workers have requested a focussed training day to explore this issue and develop effective responses.

Employer Training.

The lack of training in corporate bodies for their employees was also highlighted.

Revised Strategy: To develop a training programme to respond to the needs identified. This training programme should link in with and compliment the work undertaken by the Community Forum Drug Education Centre.

Improve School Supports

There were a number of gaps highlighted in relation to existing supports for schools.

Early School Leavers

The link between early school leaving and drug misuse is well documented. There are a number of projects in the city targeting early school leavers, and throughout the consultation process this issue was highlighted as one of particular difficulty. It is clear that additional services and supports are needed, particularly at times of transition which have been identified as the time when early school leaving is most likely to happen, e.g. the transition from primary to secondary school. It is felt that early targeting and pinpointing of young people at risk was very easy and is an important role carried out by the Home School Liaison Initiative. The need for a Student Assist Programme was highlighted where young people at risk are identified from an early stage and people work with these children. There is also a need for post school support in the area of drug education for young people who leave school.

Revised Strategy: To develop a strategy in relation to student support structures that would take into account existing provisions and support.

Educational Issues.

There were a number of other issues highlighted through the consultation and these included:

The need to develop the Educational Psychologists Service in Cork. This service is under resourced and unable to cope with the demands for the service. The referral system is inadequate and this service needs a substantial investment from the Department of Education and Science.

The new Education Bill raises issues regarding the exclusion of young people from schools and this issue needs to be raised with the Department of Education and Science.

- The need for smaller classes in schools.
- The need for more teachers and more resources for schools.
- The need to promote and avail of the School Meals Scheme.
- In relation to teacher training the importance of selecting appropriate staff for the delivery of S.P.H.E. was emphasized.

Revised Strategy: To raise issues of educational concern with the Department of Education and Science and lobby for additional resources and investment.

Drug Education Strategy needed.

There is a need for a Drug Education Strategy in the city. The Cork Local Drugs Task Force is currently funding the publication of a research study into effective methods of delivering Drug Education Programmes and this provides valuable guidelines on ensuring effectiveness. There are a lot of different drug education services in operation and these are largely uncoordinated. The Task Force through its funding of the guidelines on developing a drug and alcohol policy for primary and secondary schools has taken a step towards co-ordinating delivery and developing models of good practice but this needs to be formalized and co-ordinated more.

Revised Strategy: To develop a comprehensive Drug Education Policy for Cork City.

Treatment programmes and services for drug misusers.

Residential Treatment for Adolescents.

This gap has been identified in every consultation session that was undertaken by the Cork Local Drugs Task Force and has been established as a very clear gap in services.

Revised Strategy: To explore the development of a residential treatment centre for adolescents in Cork.

Detox Facilities.

The need for additional Detox facilities in the city. There are currently two beds available in the Cork University Hospital.

Revised Strategy: To explore the development of additional detox facilities in the city.

Treatment Strategy.

Another need that has been highlighted is the need for a comprehensive treatment strategy for the city. This would co-ordinate services for individuals. It would involve all existing services and would incorporate:

- The development of formal protocols around the referral of people to treatment.
- The development of a pre-treatment model which would ensure the provision of support prior to the start of treatment and would ensure a continuation of care from assessment to treatment.
- A method of tracking people should also be developed which would follow up people who do not attend for treatment.

As part of this Treatment Strategy there is also a need for the development of an Advisory Network for all existing services and to develop formal protocols on how to relate to each other and acknowledge the specialist skills of existing services. There also needs to be acknowledgement of different approaches but it is important that there is connection between all phases that people go through. This would maximize current services, serve to avoid duplication and would promote good working relationships.

Revised Strategy: To explore the possibility of developing a Treatment Strategy.

Alternative to Custody.

It is generally felt that there is an informal Drugs Court in Cork, with good relationships existing between the Courts, the Gardai, the Probation and Welfare Service and the various rehabilitation and treatment services. There is a need to formalise this relationship and to encourage further co-operation between the courts and treatment centres. There is also a need to discuss the issue of people on probation that are attending treatment. It was also suggested that an information session for judges on existing services might be appropriate.

Revised Strategy: To develop a Drugs Court Programme in Cork.

Free Counseling (Not Addiction Counselling).

Another gap that has been identified is the need for additional free general counseling services.

Revised Strategy: To explore the possibility of developing additional free general counseling services.

Supports for Addicts with Special Need.

A number of additional needs have been highlighted:

- Counselling and support for couples and families upon release.
- Family support (peer support which should be community based).
- There is a need for trauma therapy for young people.

- There is a need for family therapy and family mediation.
- Community based support for addicts who are under eighteen.

Revised Strategy: To develop a support structure for addicts with special needs. Link in with Youth Programmes based locally. Structured meetings/special interest settings. Groups for young people. Peer Education and support for under eighteen's.

Rehabilitation Programmes and Services for Stabilizers Recovering Drug Misusers.

Post Release Support.

One of the gaps that have been identified is the need for a co-ordinated Post Release Support Structure for people leaving prison. There are a number of groups providing post release support but all feel that there is a need to co-ordinate this process more and introduce a tracking system and mentor programme.

Revised Strategy: To develop a co-ordinated Post Release Support Service for people leaving prison.

Post Treatment Release Support.

A gap in existing provision has been identified in relation to supports for people leaving treatment. The needs include:

- Counselling and support for couples and families upon release.
- Family support (peer support which should be community based).
- There is a need for family therapy and family mediation.
- Community based support for addicts who are under eighteen.
- Continuing support for addicts in their own community.

Revised Strategy: To develop a support service for people leaving treatment and returning to their communities.

Strategic Development of Special Project Community Employment Schemes.

Another need that has been highlighted is the need to further develop the strategic nature of the Special Project C.E. Schemes.

Revised Strategy: To review, evaluate and further develop the structure of implementation of the Special Project C.E. Schemes.

Halfway House for Men.

Another gap that has been identified is the need for a Halfway House for men who are leaving treatment, similar to the Renewal House that has just been opened for women. It was also highlighted that a half way house for ex-prisoners is needed.

Revised Strategy: To explore the possibility of developing a Halfway House for Men.

Community Involvement and Issues Relating to Reducing Supply at Local Level.

Alcohol.

The abuse of alcohol amongst young people was identified as a major issue in all parts of Cork. There were a number of gaps identified relating to abuse of alcohol by young people and these included:

Drinking in Public.

The laws regarding drinking in public have given rise to many problems in communities. The amount of open air drinking involving very young children is increasing, but it is becoming more hidden as young people who were on the streets are now going into fields to drink and this has resulted in more accidents, and more danger for young people.

Underage Drinking.

There is a lack of implementation on laws on under age drinking. There is a wide spread use of fake IDs and hopefully the National Identity Cards Scheme will focus on this issue. The obligation of the publican should also be emphasised.

Revised Strategy: To liaise with the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform regarding the need for additional resources for the National Identity Scheme.

Off Licences.

There is a need for some work to be done with Off Licences. It was highlighted that Off Licences can not police every customer but there is a need to raise awareness with the Off Licences about young people using middlemen to purchase their drink. It was also suggested a system of inspection of Off Licences should be developed.

Revised Strategy: To develop a programme to focus on Off Licences.

Training for Doormen.

Another gap that has been identified is the need for training for doormen and staff working in pubs and clubs in the city centre. This training should focus on Drug Dealing/First Aid/Harm Reduction/Conflict Resolution. The Gardai at Anglesea Street does run some training and they also have a register of bouncers which could form part of a new initiative.

City Centre Issues.

There is a major problem in the city center at weekends. On an average Saturday night there are about fifteen thousand people on the streets of Cork once the pubs have closed and this is causing serious difficulty. There is a high level of drug and alcohol abuse. This has been identified as an area that needs to be focused on. There is a need for Drug Education and Awareness Programmes to be developed for the eighteen to twenty year olds going to the nightclubs and pubs. There is also a need for young people to be aware of the First Aid skills needed in case of an incident when drinking. The Gardai in Anglesea Street operate an Impact Patrol which picks up young people who are drinking and brings them home. At the moment this is just based around Anglesea Street and it was recommended that this be expanded to other areas.

Revised Strategy: To develop a comprehensive service to deal with the problems with drug and alcohol abuse in the city center at weekends.

Solvent Abuse.

A gap has been identified in relation to the area of Solvent Abuse. There is a need for the following:

- ***An Information Campaign.***

There is a difficulty around solvents because of the extent of products that can be abused but there is a need for an Awareness Raising Programme on the dangers of some of the products being sold. There is a difficulty around educating young people around solvent abuse but this should be explored further. Also there is a need for an Awareness Campaign on the dangers of drugs in the home.

- ***Support for Vendors.***

There is a need to support vendors around the issue of selling potentially dangerous substances. There is a need for guidelines regarding what substances could be abused and also a need to target young staff in these outlets. It was suggested that maybe the Drugs Task Force could organise a positive campaign where they would invite vendors to participate in raising awareness and vendors would be given stickers or signs to show that they are participating in a campaign such as this.

Revised Strategy: To develop a comprehensive programme to focus on the issue of Solvent Abuse.

Prescribed Drugs.

A gap has been identified in relation to the abuse of Prescribed Drugs. There is a need for the following:

- ***Information / Awareness Raising Campaign***

We need to raise awareness amongst parents of the dangers of prescribed drugs. We also specifically need to target young parents. It is important to target different age groups in schools and give children updates regularly in schools rather than doing just a once off campaign. It was also suggested that a poster campaign be undertaken raising awareness of the difficulties around prescribed drugs. This should be focused on GPs, Chemists, bus shelters, public places etc. There is a need to encourage people to return unused drugs to the chemist and to dispose of them safely. There is also a need to break the cycle of the culture of taking prescribed drugs without a prescription. It was also suggested that perhaps training for Home School Liaison Teachers around this issue be given.

- ***Develop a Programme with GPs in Relation to Prescribed Drugs***

There is a need to work with GPs when tackling the prescribed drugs problem. Any community initiatives should involve local GPs and perhaps the Regulating Body of GPs could be involved. There is a need to look at prescribing practice, repeat prescriptions, tracking prescriptions perhaps through the computerising of the GPs systems. The provision of information for GPs regarding locally based initiatives will also be important.

- ***Support Programme***

There is a need to develop a programme of support for people addicted to prescribed Drugs. This should involve support groups. It is also important to raise awareness of alternative medicine as well. It is very important to involve the community in this initiative.

Revised Strategy: To develop a comprehensive programme to tackle the abuse of prescribed drugs.

GPs.

The need to involve GPs in community responses to drug related issues were also highlighted. Doctors are a vital resource in the community and co-operation with GPs is important. It is important that GPs are informed of services available and that they link in with existing initiatives. It was suggested that a seminar be organized for GPs to allow them to participate in the process. There were also issues identified in relation to prescribing practice and these will be detailed in a specific section on prescribed drugs.

Revised Strategy: To develop a structure to facilitate the development of links with local GPs.

Crisis Street Work.

There is a gap in services for young people who are out of home. The gaps include: the lack of a 24 hour emergency service, lack of supports in relation to drug issues for young people who are on the streets, the need for a short-term hostel service / crisis centre for young people.

Revised Strategy: To develop a comprehensive response and support structure for young people who are out of home and using or at risk of using drugs.

Section 4.

Development of a Revised Strategy.

Drug Awareness/Education/Prevention.

Revised Strategy:

- To expand and develop the Cork Local Drugs Task Force Community project service to include areas of proven need.
- To initiate the development of a Parents Support Service that would link with existing provisions and would also act as a resource to them.
- To develop a comprehensive peer education programme for the city.
- To develop a training programme to respond to the needs identified. This training programme should link in with and compliment the work undertaken by the Community Forum Drug Education Centre.
- To develop a strategy in relation to student support structures that would take into account existing provisions and support.
- To raise issues of educational concern with the Department of Education and Science and lobby for additional resources and investment.
- To develop a comprehensive Drug Education Policy for Cork City.

Treatment Programmes and Services for Drug Misusers.

Revised Strategy:

- To explore the development of a residential treatment centre for adolescents in Cork.
- To explore the development of additional detox facilities in the city.
- To explore the possibility of developing a Treatment Strategy.
- To develop a more formalised alternative to custody service with the Treatment Centres, the Courts, the Gardai and the Probation Service.
- To explore the possibility of developing additional free general counseling services.
- To develop a support structure for addicts with special needs.

Rehabilitation Programmes and Services for Stabilizers Recovering Drug Misusers.

Revised Strategy:

- To develop a co-ordinated Post Release Support Service for people leaving prison.
- To develop a support service for people leaving treatment and returning to their communities.
- To review, evaluate and further develop the structure of implementation of the Special Project CE Schemes.
- To explore the possibility of developing a Halfway House for Men.

Community involvement and issue relating to reducing supply at local level.

Revised Strategy:

- To liaise with the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform regarding the need for additional resources for the National Identity Scheme.
- To develop a programme to focus on Off Licences.

- To develop a comprehensive programme focussed on staff in nightclubs and bars.
- To develop a comprehensive service to deal with the problems with drug and alcohol abuse in the city center at weekends.
- To develop a comprehensive programme to focus on the issue of Solvent Abuse.
- To develop a comprehensive programme to tackle the abuse of prescribed drugs.
- To develop a structure to facilitate the development of links with local GPs.
- To develop a comprehensive response and support structure for young people who are out of home and using or at risk of using drugs.

Part 3.

Development and prioritisation of specific proposals to give effect to the Revised Strategy.

Section 1

Introduction to the proposals.

The proposals develop to give effect to the revised strategy for the Cork Local Drugs Task Force are detailed herein. It is important to note that only some of the proposals have funding implications for the National Drugs Strategy Team. Some of the action that will be undertaken to address the needs of the strategy will not have funding implications as they require input from different groups or agencies and from the Cork Local Drugs Task Force themselves.

Introduction to the costings of proposals.

The application assessment process has been outlined in detail in the introduction to this plan. All the approved proposals were carefully costed based on costing guidelines developed by the Task Force. It was necessary to ensure that the costings for all projects are based on similar criteria, to ensure consistency and clarity. In this respect all projects are costed equally with the same amount of funding being allocated for salaries, expenses, administration, programme costs, rent etc. In some cases where the costing of a project varies from the costing of another project, the reasons are detailed in the commentary. In relation to a Management Training Budget that we have included in the costings of some proposals, this is additional to committee skills training which will be provided for all projects. The management training refers to internal project work and development and has been particularly recommended for newly formed management groups made up of a variety of different partners. The figures included in the costings were developed based on consultation with voluntary and community organisations and existing Task Force projects. The Task Force was very careful to ensure that all proposal are allocated adequate funds to enable them to develop as planned. The costing for each project is for one year.

Adjustments to original proposals, which are necessary in order to achieve the objectives of the revised strategy

Adjustments that will be made to original projects through mainstreaming.

The following projects have been evaluated will now be mainstreamed. Some of the adjustments recommended for these projects will be implemented as part of the mainstreaming process and therefore are not costed here. Some of the projects applied for additional funding through the plan and these applications will be dealt with separately as they were not necessarily appropriate to the mainstreaming process. The Cork Local Drugs Task Force has made the following recommendations in relation to the mainstreaming of each project: (Please note that these recommendations are in addition to the recommendations highlighted in each individual evaluation. We intend reviewing all projects in relation to the issues raised in the evaluations.)

C14 – Knocknaheeny/Hollyhill Youth Project – Mainstreaming Category A

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force agreed that this should be mainstreamed without any changes but should receive a cost of living increase.

C17 – Togher Link-Up Ltd. – Mainstreaming Category B

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force agreed that this project should be mainstreamed with the following guidelines:

- The Management Team of this project should continue to participate in management training.
- That the project would refocus solely on Togher.

C16 – Farranree Anti Drug Initiative – Mainstreaming Category B

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force agreed that this project should be mainstreamed with the following guidelines:

- That an additional Development Worker/Street Worker be appointed to this project to increase its capacity to deal with the needs of the community.
- That the project should recruit a part-time Administrator.
- That this project would continue to participate in management training.

C13 – Glen Neighbourhood Youth Project – Mainstreaming Category B

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force agreed to the mainstreaming of this project with the following guidelines:

- That this project receives an increase in programme costs to develop their capacity to deal with the young people in question.

C18 – M.A.Y. Project – Mainstreaming Category B

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force approves the mainstreaming of this project with the following guidelines:

- That this project is allocated substantial additional programme costs.
- That this project locates a premises in the community.
- That the salary of the worker be brought into line with the salaries of other Drugs Task Force workers.

C19 – Rehabilitation Programme for Ex-prisoners - Mainstreaming Category B

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force approves the mainstreaming of this project with the following guidelines:

- That an additional worker be appointed to this project.
- That the project sources premises outside of the Probation Services to enable it to develop a separate identity.

C10 – Neighbourhood Policing Unit – Mainstreaming Category B

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force approves the mainstreaming of this project with the following guidelines:

- That this project received additional programme costs (or cost of living increase)

C15 – Mayfield Youth 2000 – Mainstreaming Category B

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force approves the mainstreaming of this project with the following guidelines:

- That this project receives additional programme costs.
- That this project locates a premises within the community.

C6 – YMCA Youth Counselling Service – Mainstreaming Category A

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force approves the mainstreaming of this project with no change. (Additional funding for this project will be highlighted later in the plan)

C20/C2/C21/C1 – Cork City Community Forum

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force approves the mainstreaming of this project with the following conditions:

- That these four projects are merged.
- That the two worker positions (Technical Assistance and Community Development Worker) be retained.
- That the once off cost associated with the research project be taken out of the mainstream funding of this project.
- That there be some review of the Certificate in Non Formal Guidance and the Diploma in Community Based Guidance and Support.

We are recommending that all mainstreamed projects receive an appropriate cost of living increase. We are also recommending that the funding for community based projects be equalised. In the original plan some projects received more than others, some received funding to employ a worker but did not receive programme costs etc. An equalised funding structure should be implemented for all projects.

Additional Funding required for adjustments to existing projects:

Project Title - Youth Counselling and Support Project - Cork YMCA.

We are recommending that this project receive additional funding to develop the service further by doubling its client capacity. We also recommend additional funds to develop the counselling room further. We wish to expand this project to enable it to act as a resource to both the Dion Project (detailed later) and the School Assist Project (detailed later). By increasing resource to this project we are avoiding the necessity of developing a whole new project to cater for this demand.

Amount Recommended: £20,000

Details of Project Cost

Staff costs:	-	£12,000
Professional Supervision (2x300)	-	£600
Project Mentor (2x20x30)	-	£1,200
Insurance	-	£500
Overheads/telephone/heat/light	-	£900
PR	-	£200
Capital cost lighting/soundproofing	-	£4,600
Total	-	£20,000

Internal Task Force applications:

Additional Supports for the Cork Local Drugs Task Force:

Staff Development.

The Task Force has highlighted a number of additional supports needed to ensure the continual effectiveness of the process. In this regard we are now recommending additional resources for:

- A Development Worker. The role of this worker would be to act as a resource to the Co-ordinator and also to support the implementation of the second Drugs Task Force Plan.
- A dedicated Administrator. The Task Force is very fortunate in that it currently has the support of an excellent Administrator who is also the Southern Health Board Drug and Alcohol Services Administrator. However, the administration workload of the Task Force has increased and the Task Force now feels it needs a full time Administrator to support the process.
- Dedicated office space within the Southern Health Board. The Task Force Co-ordinator currently has a shared office within the Southern Health Board. The current location is ideal and if the staff complement to the Task Force increases, the Task Force will require a dedicated office space and ideally a meeting room also. We feel this should be discussed further with the Southern Health Board.

Amount Recommended: £45,000 (salaries of two workers).

Facilitation, training and networking.

The Task Force is recommending the allocation of a budget to support the members of the Task Force in training, networking and facilitation. The Task Force has contracted a facilitator on two occasions to date, and now intends to do so twice a year. The facilitated sessions have been very beneficial to the Task Force and have improved our effectiveness. We are also recommending a budget for networking and training which would allow Task Force members to attend training events but would also facilitate the organisation of networking visits to projects of interest. The training needs as identified by the Task Force include: group work, committee skills, provision of information and training on issues such as Harm Reduction approaches, Trends in Drug Use, Models of Good Practice from other areas. Also in case of an increase in heroin use the Task Force will need comprehensive training and information on this issue.

Amount Recommended: £15,000

Networking.

A network of the Drugs Task Force project workers has been established by the Cork Local Drugs Task Force. This network has been very successful as it provides opportunities for both information exchange and support. The numbers involved in this network will be increasing over the year, as new projects develop and we feel it is vital that this resource be maintained effectively. In order to develop the effectiveness of the network, we are

recommending the allocation of £15,000. This allocation will cover the cost of facilitated sessions and also the cost of overheads for the network.

Amount Recommended: £15,000

Introduction of guidelines for projects.

- It is important that the relationship between the funded projects and organisations that they may contract to recruit staff be carefully worked out. A carefully drawn-up contract should be put in place to ensure that local people have a say in the running of the project.
- Projects will be required to provide proper support for any volunteers involved and also proper support for any staff (adequate supervision, proper contract arrangements, external support etc.). Also all projects must have adequate insurance cover that includes professional indemnity.

(Other recommended guidelines appear in the introduction to the plan)

Development of a comprehensive information structure for the Cork Local Drugs Task Force.

There is a need to improve and develop information provision in relation to the drug problem in Cork. This should include:

- **Public Relations**

The need for more publicity and information regarding the work of the Cork Local Drugs Task Force. We are recommending that we develop a co-ordinated P.R. process, which should be ongoing.

- **Networking**

There is a need for more general networking and information sharing amongst the Drugs Task Force projects. The Task Force intends to organise a networking event for all projects at least twice a year.

- **Web site**

The need for the Cork Local Drugs Task Force to develop a Web site, which would include:

Provision of information on the various projects and work of the Drugs Task Force.

Provision of up to date information for groups on funding, research, current trends etc. We are recommending that the need for a web site be discussed as a Cross-Task Force issue. There is also a need for each member of the Task Force to have access to an email facility.

- **Drug Awareness and Information**

There is also a need to develop innovative ways of getting information to those individuals and communities most in need. The Task Force intends to explore the possibility of developing information access points in Health Centres, Chemists, surgeries etc. Specific information campaigns planned include a focus on solvents, prescribed drugs and Off Licences. There is also a need to continue to update the Cork City Partnership contact booklet on an annual basis.

Amount Recommended: £5,000.00

Respond to crisis drug issues outside of the original Drugs Task Force area.

The Task Force in revising its strategy will also respond to crisis drug issues outside of the original catchment area.

Development and prioritisation of specific proposals to give effect to the Revised Strategy.

Drug Awareness/Education/Prevention.

Training:

Strategy: To develop a training programme to respond to the needs identified. (See Strategy)
This training programme should link in with and compliment the work undertaken by the Community Forum Drug Education Centre.

Action to be taken: The development of a comprehensive training programme:

Project Title - Cork Community Drugs Prevention Training Project

Project Promoter - Cork City Partnership

Project Priority – Level 1

General Description - This project aims to provide a range of specific training opportunities on drug related topics for community groups, workers and service providers. The courses will range from information and awareness courses, worker training courses, management and committee training.

Target Group - There are a number of target groups to avail of this project such as:

- Cork City Partnership Forum Affiliated Groups.
- Drugs Task Force Funded Projects.
- C.C.D.I. Affiliated Groups.
- Youth and Community Workers.

Geographical Area Covered - Cork City

The aims and objectives of project.

The aim of the project will be to build capacity, raise awareness and ensure progression in relation to drug prevention strategy citywide. It will address the short fall of relevant needs based education and training in the area of drug use and misuse. The Community Outreach/Awareness Project currently has an education in training and education element where by two U.C.C. accredited courses are available to local communities. These are the Certificate in Non-formal Guidance and the Diploma in Community Based Guidance Support.

This proposal develops the current provision to include the following: -

- (a) Drug information and awareness raising courses.
 - (b) Management training for voluntary committees.
 - (c) Short term themes specific training.
- The project will provide six short-term theme specific training courses on the following issues: solvent abuse, prescription drugs, family communication and self-esteem. The short term courses will be available to all community group workers at all levels, those involved in the front line drug prevention work or those at a policy or strategic level both paid and voluntary.
 - In relation to the information and awareness courses. It is planned that the local people who undertook the existing U.C.C. courses as well as personnel trained in “Drugs Questions Local Answers” will spearhead this new initiative in their communities.
 - The strategy will also include a progression link for short-term course participants to be accredited.
 - Management training course. This strategy of training will include a range of skilled development including project management, committee skills, financial management, report writing, communication and evaluation. The content will include general information and awareness raising in relation to the Cork Local Drugs Task Force local, national and trans-national drug initiatives and project and comprehensive information on current services available. It will also include project specific training where necessary based on the needs identified by the particular group.

A further course will be developed based on needs as they are identified in order to facilitate a flexible response to needs. For example in the event that heroine use increases substantially the Task Force will recommend the organisation of relevant training and information sessions for projects and workers. Training will be provided by external facilitators but co-ordinated by the existing staff, the Community Drug Outreach Awareness Project.

Evidence of the need for this project.

This project will address a Level One need as identified through the Drugs Task Force consultation process. This need has been highlighted at a number of difference levels throughout the Drugs Task Force consultation including requests from workers and volunteers on information on drug issues as they arise. Also the need for management training for volunteers involved in the management of Drugs Task Force projects has been highlighted. We

believe that the implementation of this training will act as a vital support to management of both existing and new projects.

Details of the operation / management structure of the project.

The project will be managed by the Cork City Partnership. The work will be overseen by the Community Development Sub Committee who oversees the work of the Community Development Unit. Community representatives and statutory representatives are on both the Board of the Company and the Community Development Sub Committee.

Details of how the project will complement other initiatives and avoid unnecessary overlap or duplication?

This project will act as a resource to existing initiatives and will not duplicate the work of any other group in the city.

How will this project address the drug problem?

The project will contribute to addressing the drug problem by making information and training available to community groups and organisations to further enable them to develop drug prevention strategies and thereby to address the drug issue at local level.

Specify performance indicators against which the success of the project can be evaluated.

The success of the project will be measured through the relevance to the Communities Drug Prevention Strategies through on going feedback from participants and through formal end of course evaluation including qualitative as well as quantitative indicators.

Proposed Inputs:

Cork Local Drugs Task Force - £10,000

Expected Outputs:

- Six short-term courses covering specific themes. A course on Project Management for Drugs Task Force funded projects
- Drug Information and Awareness Course

Targets to be achieved:

- Six courses organised.
- Management Training undertaken.
- Engagement with all management committees of the Drugs Task Force funded projects.
- Engagement with all the workers involved in the Drugs Task Force funded projects.

Have the Promoters demonstrated the capacity to deliver the proposed project?

Yes – The Community Outreach Drugs Awareness Project has already been funded comprehensively through the First Drugs Task Force Plan. The Cork City Partnership has relative experience in relation to organisation of training.

Details of Project Cost -

Prescription Drugs Course	-	£1,500(4 weeks)
Solvent Abuse Course	-	£1,500(4 weeks)
Family communication and self esteem course – 10 weeks	-	£2,500
Management training	-	£1,500 (6 weeks)
Administrative	-	£3,000
Total	-	£10,000

The budget for courses includes: design, facilitation, course materials and evaluation

Comment:

This application was originally for £25,000 and included additional for bouncers and bar staff. The Task Force received clarification on course content and on costing and it was decided that we would not fund the training for bar staff and bouncers.

The Task Force is recommending funding this project but with the following guidelines:

- We are recommending the funding of the short term information and awareness courses for community groups, workers and service providers on issues such as Prescribed Drugs, Solvent Abuse etc.
- We are recommending the funding for the Management / Committee training as we feel this is essential for Drugs Task Force funded projects, but we are also recommending that the Partnership link in with C.C.D.I. on the delivery and design of this training as they have an expertise in this area.
- We are also recommending the organisation of a course specifically on Harm Reduction approaches, to ensure that all projects and workers are trained in this approach.
- We are not recommending funding for training bar staff and bouncers etc, as this will be carried out through another application.

- The Drugs Task Force is also recommending that this project link in with the NICHE Project and C.W.E.I. in relation to the Prescription Drugs Course to ensure that any overlap is avoided.
- We are not recommending funding the Cork Community Intensive Training three-day event as we already give Cork City Partnership funding for Seminars through the Drugs Task Force.

It is also important that the above short-term courses link in with longer-term courses and any Community Seminars that are organised by the Cork City Partnership.

Strategy: To develop a comprehensive programme focused on staff in nightclubs and bars.

Project Title – Club Cork 2000

Project Promoter - Health Promotion Unit, Southern Health Board.

Project Priority – Level 1

General Description - This project will inform and educate nightclub staff, doormen and managers to enable them to take an active role in dealing with substance misuse within nightclubs in Cork. It was also recommended by the Task Force that this project work with Off Licence owners and staff. This project will be targeted at all nightclubs in the city centre and at some Off Licences. Local communities and the Gardai will be involved in prioritising the Off Licences that will be invited to participate in this project.

Target Group - Nightclub and Off Licence staff, doormen and managers.

Geographical area covered - Cork City.

The aims and objectives of project.

The aim of this project is to inform and educate nightclub staff, doormen and managers to enable them to take an active role in dealing with substance misuse within nightclubs in Cork. In relation to Off Licences, it is recommended that the project develop a campaign that would inform and educate Off Licence staff on underage drinking, the use of middlemen for alcohol purchasing, and develop strategies to reduce the supply of alcohol to young people. It is envisaged that protocol regarding off licence sales would be developed. A Health Education Officer will be recruited to work on this initiative. This work will be done in four phases:

Phase 1 – Planning – to set up a Steering Committee with representation from the Gardai, the Irish Nightclub Owners Association, Medical Professional and the Health Education Officer.

Phase 2 – Consultation – to target all nightclubs in the area to identify training needs.

Phase 3 – Training – delivery of training to include drug awareness, emergency first aid, legal issues, managing a drug related incident, requirements for a safer nightclub environments.

Phase 4 – Evaluation of Training and the production of materials.

We will request that the project promoters develop a similar implementation plan in relation to Off Licences.

Evidence of the need for this project.

The need for this initiative was highlighted through the gaps identified through the Cork Local Drugs Task Force Consultation Day and evidence of good practice from the “Safer Dance Initiative” of the Eastern Health Board. This project will address a Level One need as identified through the Drugs Task Force consultation process.

Details of the operation / management structure of the project.

The Health Promotion Unit of the Southern Health Board will have overall responsibility for the project. The project work will be carried out by Health Education Officers in liaison with the Drug and Alcohol Services Co-ordinator for the Southern Health Board. The Project will establish a committee and actively consult with the target group to the delivery of training. A representative from the target group will be requested to participate on the committee’s Steering Group.

Details of how the project will complement other initiatives and avoid unnecessary overlap or duplication?

It is recommended that this project should link in with and complement the Garda Training for door staff in Anglesea Street and also with the Alliance Peer Education Project. There are no services available for the training of nightclub owners and staff in relation to drug prevention and education.

How will this project address the drug problem?

This project will contribute to raising awareness and providing information to nightclub and Off Licence owners and staff. It will specifically address the drug problem by highlighting the need for education and prevention in areas where young recreational drug users are located and providing adequate services and responses for these drug users.

Specify performance indicators against which the success of the project can be evaluated.

- Numbers of individuals trained.

- Numbers of Nightclubs or Off Licences involved.
- Evaluation of the effectiveness of the programme e.g.: evidence of incidents dealt with etc.

Proposed Inputs:

Cork Local Drugs Task Force - £32,000
 Southern Health Board - Administration and all additional costs.

Expected Outputs:

- Models of good practice developed for Off Licence and Nightclub staff.
- Incidents managed in a supportive and effective way.
- Increased awareness amongst staff.
- Increase in information available for staff.

Targets to be achieved:

- A Steering Committee will be established.
- Consultation with all groups will take place.
- The project will have worked with 10 nightclubs.
- The project will have worked with 10 Off Licences.
- At least two training courses will be organised and implemented.
- Training will be evaluated and material will be produced.

Have the Promoters demonstrated the capacity to deliver the proposed project?

Yes. The Health Promotion Unit has already acted as project promoter for the School Support Programme and this has been very successful. Support exists for staff, and the Unit has also delivered training on a number of other themes.

Details of Project Cost -

Project Officers Salary	- £25,000
Travel/Subs/Expenses	- £1,500
First Phase - Planning – expenses incurred to set up Steering Committee Meetings, venue hire	- £1,000
Second Phase - Consultation – four consultation seminars to target Nightclub owners and staff to identify needs (4x£250)	- £1,000
Third Phase - Training – expenses incurred through training Venue hire, resource development etc.	- £1,500
Fourth Phase – Evaluation – Production of materials/ Evaluation report etc.	- £1,000
We are also recommending an additional £1,000.00 to enable the project to focus on Off Licences.	- £1,000
Total	- £32,000

Any additional costs will be covered by the Health Promotion Department.

Comment:

The Task Force received clarification from this group on costings. It was assessed with a similar application and this proposal was deemed to be the most effective. The Task Force is recommending funding this projects but with the following guidelines:

- The project will be expanded to include Off-Licences.
- The project will link in with the Gardai at Anglesea Street and the Alliance Peer Education Programme.
- The project will link with the Community Drug Education Centre in the Cork City Partnership.

Strategy: To expand and develop the Cork Local Drugs Task Force Community Project Service to include areas of proven need.

Action to be taken: We are recommending the locating of the new Community Based Drug Projects in the following areas of Cork City: Dublin Hill, Mayfield East, Greenmount, Grange / Douglas, Ballincollig, Carrigaline, Gurrabraher / Churchfield, Glanmire and Ballyphehane. Details of each project appear below:

Project Title - D.I.Y. Project (Dublin Hill Initiative for Youth)

Project Promoter - An Garda Siochana

Project Priority – Level 1

General Description - The project aims to develop a locally based service which would recruit two workers to work with young people at risk in the area, through leisure based, educational and self developmental activities. The funding required is for the recruitment of two workers and additional related costs.

Target Group - The target group will be young people living in the Dublin Hill/Ballyvolane area between the ages of 10 – 20 years who are, already involved in the drug and alcohol culture or at risk of becoming involved. This will include: young people at risk of early school leaving and young people who are a source of complaint, annoyance and disruption due to anti social behaviour due to drug and alcohol abuse.

Geographical Area Covered - Dublin Hill / Ballyvolane.

The aims and objectives of project.

- There will be two workers in this project, one community drugs worker and one street outreach worker.
- The aim of this project is to work with young people in a holistic fashion and equip them to deal with the pressure of becoming involved in drug or alcohol abuse.
- To provide a first point of contact resource for the community in relation to the drug and alcohol abuse issues.
- To harness existing relations with school personnel and work jointly at developing educational programmes.
- To empower young people to make informed choices in relation to drug and alcohol issues.
- To provide alternative activities for young people in the out of school period particular emphasis on the holiday times.
- The workers will focus on primary and secondary schools in the area and will also develop leisure based educational and self-development activities.
- To introduce appropriate activities in the primary school which would have a drug awareness theme around the solvent abuse issue.

Evidence of the need for this project.

- There are over 4,000 young people in the Dublin Hill/Ballyvolane area one of the highest in Cork City. There is no other paid youth service provision in the area. There is no community centre or other place for young people to access. Dublin Hill/Ballyvolane is situated in the Cork North Central which is the priority area for the Cork Local Drugs Task Force and an area in which no other funding has been accessed or no other funding has been applied for
- This project will address a Level One need as identified through the Drugs Task Force consultation process.
- In this general area it has been identified that it is socially acceptable for young people to abuse alcohol and drugs at the age of the target group. There is also evidence of a solvent abuse problem in the area. Large volumes of complaints come to the Gardai from the local residents each night.
- The numbers coming to the attention of the local Garda JLO are directly comparable to any designated disadvantages area in Cork City with over 50 referrals each year.
- A successful application would be a springboard for development for further services in the area.

Details of the operation / management structure of the project.

A management advisory committee made up of local residents, statutory and voluntary agencies including school representatives, Gardai, existing youth club volunteers is already in place. The project will be monitored by this management advisory committee and will be administered and managed by Ogra Chorcaí who will be responsible for the employment of the workers.

Details of how the project will complement other initiatives and avoid unnecessary overlap or duplication?

There is no similar service in the area. Extensive consultation has taken place with other groups and schools in the area and all are in support of this application. The area has a local soccer club and a local GAA Club with the Glen Rovers and the project will link in with these initiatives.

How will this project address the drug problem?

The project will contribute to addressing the problem by providing a dedicated recognised accessible resource to the community. By the provision of programme activities and opportunities for young people to engage in alternative to alcohol and drugs by providing an effective local forum which will provide local responses to local issues.

Specify performance indicators against which the success of the project can be evaluated.

- The number of young people involved in the initiative.
- The expansion of volunteer led youth services.
- The level of engagement in the local schools.
- The number of referrals to the project.
- The number of direct contact made with parents.
- The quality of services developed.
- The level of support for young people at risk.

Proposed Inputs:

Cork Local Drugs Task Force - £90,000

Expected Outputs:

- Increased support for this community.
- Increased support for young people at risk.
- Organisation of activities for young people, both diversionary and educational.
- Reduction in complaints to the Gardai.

Targets to be achieved:

- Establishment of project.
- Young people at risk engaged in the project.
- Educational programmes developed.
- Diversionary programmes developed.
- Links established and work undertaken with schools and Gardai.
- Reduction in complaints to the Gardai.

Have the Promoters demonstrated the capacity to deliver the proposed project?

Ogra Chorcai are an established youth organisation in Cork City and have vast experience in staff employment and support and programme development. The voluntary management group have varying levels of experience in relation to managing a project but they will be supported by the Ogra Chorcai volunteer support structure. Also this management committee will receive training through the Management Training that will be organised through Cork City Partnership. (See project)

Details of Project Cost -

Start-up costs	-	£3,000
Rent and Office Set-up	-	£9,000
Salaries Two Workers	-	£50,000
Travel/Subsistence	-	£3,000
Programme Activities	-	£12,000
Administration/Insurance etc	-	£10,000
Training Management Committee and volunteers	-	£2,000
Initial Equipment	-	£1,000
Total	-	£90,000

Comment:

The Task Force was proactive in encouraging this application because of the nature and extent of the problem in this community. The project originally applied for £103,000 but the Task Force reduced this. We received clarification on the costings. We have allocated increased set up costs and programme costs to the project because it is new initiative and there are not many community supports in the area.

The Task Force is recommending funding this project but with the following guidelines:

- One worker will be a Community Drugs Worker and the other will be an Outreach Worker.
- We are awaiting details on where the project will be based.
- This management group will have to engage in Management Training.

Project Title - Ballincollig Youth Initiative

Project Promoter - An Garda Siochana

Project Priority – Level 1

General Description - The project aims to develop a locally based project, which would employ a Community Drugs Worker to work with young people at risk in the locality.

Target Group - The target group for this application is young people in Ballincollig between the ages of twelve and twenty years, who are involved in or at risk of becoming involved in drug or alcohol related abuse in the Ballincollig area.

Geographical Area Covered - Ballincollig

The aims and objectives of project.

- To divert young people in Ballincollig from involvement or risk of involvement in drug or alcohol abuse.
- To change attitudes to drugs misuse and reduce acceptability of drugs to young people and the wider population.
- To work with young people in a positive way in work related to drugs misuse.
- To refer people to counselling services if needed (young people, parents, and siblings).
- To develop supports for young people who are at risk of early school leaving or have left school early.
- Involve at risk young people through developing personal and social skills to provide information training and support for parents of young people and volunteers to the project.

- The project will equip young people with the proper knowledge about drugs and alcohol, building their confidence and self-esteem, by doing this they are giving the young people the tools to refuse drugs.
- They will provide alternative activities for young people at identified high risk times by having the project worker familiar with existing services working and co-ordinating with them will maximize the project effectively.
- They will set up a mechanism where by the project will collate and share drug and alcohol related information.
- They will work directly with young people through the employment of a worker who will actively seek out those most at risk of becoming involved in drug or alcohol abuse. The Project Worker will be assisted by volunteers from the local community and will also seek out referrals from teachers, Gardai, parents and other organisations operating locally.
- The project will set up a youth forum to inform and consult with young people about the way the project is developing.
- The worker will involve themselves with the target group through the development of leisure based educational and self-development activities.

Evidence of the need for this project.

This project will address a Level One need as identified through the Drugs Task Force consultation process:

- Local studies show that 67% of the age bracket have indicated that they can access alcohol easily and 27% have engaged in drug related activity.
- Ballincollig has one of the most rapidly growing populations in Ireland. Over 50% of the population are comprised of young people, an age profile similar to Ballymun, Moyross or Knocknaheeny.
- Two recent studies recorded that 75 –78% of the 12 – 18 year olds have taken their first alcoholic drink and 45 – 50% have stated that they drink regularly. These claims mean that over 1,000 young people are drinking regularly. 22% of young people have said that they have taken drugs 6% say they take them regularly. Figure breaks down as 500 school going young people in the area has engaged in illegal drug activity.
- Ballincollig was once a small town in County Cork but due to expansion and improved infrastructure it is now considered a city suburb. The area is made up of both local authority and private housing estates. The Gardai JLO had approximately 50 cases late year. The cases range from larceny, criminal damage, public order and possession and supply of drugs. There has been an increase in complaints received by the local Gardai about young people aged 14 upwards using and dealing drugs. Successful prosecutions and drug seizures have taken place. “Stop Drugs Now” the 24 hour helpline service have indicated that they have received a substantial amount of calls from the Ballincollig area.

Details of the operation / management structure of the project.

The overall responsibility for the project will rest with the management/advisory committee. This management committee will be made up from representation from the organisations, which have made a contribution to this application and the consultation process. They will include the Gardai, Ballincollig Community School, Southern Health Board Community Worker, St. Vincent de Paul, the Family Centre, Colaiste Choilm, Foroige, YMCA, Youthreach, Southern Health Board Social Worker, local clergy, traders association and local residents. The St. Vincent de Paul Family Resource Centre in Ballincollig will be responsible for the employment of the worker and the administration of the project. They have the relevant experience in dealing with young people in the Ballincollig area and were democratically elected by the Consultation Group. The committee will determine the direction of the project and instruct the youth organisation accordingly. Training for volunteers will be provided or organised by the management of the project.

Details of how the project will complement other initiatives and avoid unnecessary overlap or duplication?

This project will not duplicate or overlap with any other service. It will link in and act as a resource to existing services. The project worker will be a link between the project, young people and other organisations in Ballincollig such as Youthreach, The Family Centre, YMCA, St. Vincent de Paul, local soccer and G.A.A. Clubs and all other organisations where the target group have access. A cross referral system will be in operation.

How will this project address the drug problem?

It will endeavour to reduce the number of young people involved in drug and alcohol abuse through educational and preventative work and it will also act as a support to young drug users and their families.

It will contribute to addressing the drug problem by providing a recognised dedicated accessible resource to the community through the provision programmes, activities and opportunities for young people to engage in alternatives to alcohol and drugs.

Specify performance indicators against which the success of the project can be evaluated.

- The number of young people involved and the level of participation.
- The change in behavioural patterns of the young people involved.
- The number of problems that are actually resolved.
- Links to schools and other relevant agencies.

- The number of referrals to the project.
- Number of young people, families and parents, who have been referred to Counselling.

Proposed Inputs:

Cork Local Drugs Task Force - £61,000

Use of community facilities.

St. Vincent De Paul: Administration of the project.

Expected Outputs:

- Increased support for this community.
- Increased support for young people at risk.
- Organisation of activities for young people, both diversionary and educational.
- Reduction in complaints to the Gardai.
- Linkages developed with other relevant organisations.

Targets to be achieved:

- Establishment of project.
- Young people at risk engaged in the project.
- Educational programmes developed.
- Diversionary programmes developed.
- Links established and work undertaken with schools and Gardai.
- Reduction in complaints to the Gardai.
- Referrals to counselling services.

Have the Promoters demonstrated the capacity to deliver the proposed project?

The St. Vincent de Paul Family Centre is an established youth organisation in Ballincollig and they have the relevant experience in dealing with young people in the Ballincollig area as well as experience in staff employment and support, programme development and project administration. The voluntary management group have varying levels of experience in relation to managing a project but they will receive training through the Management Training that will be organised through Cork City Partnership. (See project)

Details of Project Cost -

Start-up costs	-	£1,500
Rent and office set-up	-	£5,000
Salary of Worker	-	£25,000
Travel and Subsistence	-	£1,500
Programme activities	-	£20,000
Administration /insurance etc.	-	£5,000
Training Management Committee volunteers	-	£2,000
Initial equipment	-	£1,000
Total	-	£61,000

Comment:

This application was originally for two workers. The Task Force decided not to fund the proposed counselling element of the project, as this service is already available through the Community Drugs Team and Arbour House. The Task Force requested that the project develop a management structure, as this was not detailed in the original application. There were two youth organisations involved in the development of the proposal and the committee voted on which group would be responsible for administering the project and employing the worker. This project originally requested £106,000 but this was then reduced by the Task Force.

The Task Force is recommending funding this project but with the following guidelines:

- We recommend that the Community Drugs Team and Arbour House in the Southern Health Board link formally with the project to agree on service provision.
- We will fund the project with one worker but will give significant programme costs to support this project given the nature of the drug problem and the size of the area.

Project Title - Gurrabraher and Churchfield Outreach Project.

Project Promoter - National Youth Federation.

Project Priority – Level 1

General Description - This application aims to recruit a Community Drugs Worker for the area to support existing youth initiatives and develop responses to the needs of young people particularly those deemed at risk.

Target Group - The target group for the project is young people who are at risk of using drugs or are those who are currently involved in drug use with particular focus on the over 15 age group.

Geographical Area Covered - Gurrabraher / Churchfield.

The aims and objectives of project.

The worker will have three main areas of work.

- The project will provide information, referral and support in relation to drug issues and services to young people, parents and community groups.
- The project will train a group of young people to act as peer educators in the community.
- The project will through the youth network develop a Community Drug Prevention Response.
- The project will identify and work with at risk young people this will be done through intensive small group work and the worker will support the progression from this group into other services. The project will engage this group of young people and develop appropriate responses to encourage participation in either existing services or to develop new programmes to meet the needs identified.
- The project will support existing services to develop drug prevention programme and also to assess the needs to young people and to develop appropriate responses. The worker will also work at a broad community level through awareness raising of drugs issues and services with young people, parents and groups in the area.

Evidence of the need for this project.

This project developed out of the Gurranabraher/Churchfield integration day from which a youth network was established. Other factors indicated the need for intervention in this area include the rank factor ratings in the Gamma Report 1996 for Gurranabraher/Churchfield area where all 6 wards in the area received a rank factor rating of one, indicating highest levels of disadvantage. The report also details the figures in relation to early school leaving, the percentage of the population who education ceased at 15 years or lower is – Churchfield 63.4%, Gurranabraher A 57.9%, Gurranabraher B 53.6%, Gurranabraher C 55.2%, Gurranabraher D 57.9%, Gurranabraher E 56.8%. This project will address a Level One need as identified through the Drugs Task Force consultation process.

Details of the operation / management structure of the project.

The project will be managed by an advisory steering committee (which comprises of members of the youth network) in conjunction with the National Youth Federation. The National Youth Federation will employ the worker.

Details of how the project will complement other initiatives and avoid unnecessary overlap or duplication?

This project developed out of the Youth Network, which was established by the Gurranabraher/Churchfield Integration Day. This Network is made up of representatives of all organisations working in the Gurranabraher/Churchfield area. The role of this project is to link in and complement the services provided by these initiatives and to work with young people who are not engaged in any of these initiatives as well as people who are deemed at risk. This will ensure that there is no overlap with other initiatives.

How will this project address the drug problem?

This project will contribute to addressing the drug problem in Gurranabraher/Churchfield by providing a dedicated community resource to deal with drug related issues. This project will provide intense support for young people at risk as well as for their families and the wider community.

Specify performance indicators against which the success of the project can be evaluated.

- The numbers of young people involved in the youth services in the area specially the over 15 years age group.
- Evaluation of the programme with young people themselves.
- Review of progress by staff and volunteers of the projects.
- Numbers presenting/requesting information or referral.
- Increase in volunteerism in the area.
- The number of young people working as peer educators in the area.

Proposed Inputs:

Cork Local Drugs Task Force - £46,000

Expected Outputs:

- Increased support for this community.
- Increased support for young people at risk.
- Organisation of activities for young people, both diversionary and educational.
- Development of peer education initiative in the community.

Targets to be achieved:

- Establishment of project.
- Young people at risk engaged in the project.
- Educational programmes developed.
- Diversionary programmes developed.
- Links established and work undertaken with existing organisations.

Have the Promoters demonstrated the capacity to deliver the proposed project?

The National Youth Federation are an established youth organisation and have experience in staff employment and support and programme development. The voluntary management group have some experience in relation to managing a project. They will be supported by the National Youth Federation volunteer support structure. Also this management committee will receive training through the Management Training that will be organised through Cork City Partnership. (See project)

Details of Project Cost -

Start Up Cost (advertisement and recruitment)	-	£1,500
Rent and Office Set Up	-	£3,000
Salary of Worker	-	£25,000
Travel and Subsistence	-	£1,500
Programme Activities	-	£8,000
Administration / Insurance	-	£4,000
Training Management Committee volunteers	-	£2,000
Initial Equipment	-	£1,000
Total	-	£46,000

Comment:

The Task Force received clarification from this project on the costings and also on the methods through which duplication would be avoided. The Task Force is recommending funding this project but with the following guidelines:

- This project must not overlap with other provisions in the area. A cross referral system should be developed.
- It is recommended that the group would link with the Alliance in relation to the Peer Education element of the project.

Project Title - Greenmount Youth Initiative

Project Promoter - Greenmount Youth Action Committee.

Project Priority – Level 1

General Description – To develop a Community Drugs Project in Greenmount.

Target Group - Young people in Greenmount and surrounding areas involved in or at risk of becoming involved in drug or alcohol abuse specifically: 12 – 16 year olds who have dropped out from or are not involved in structured sport and youth provision and 16 – 18 year olds involved in anti-social behaviour.

Geographical Area covered - Greenmount and surrounding areas.

The aims and objectives of project.

- The project will focus on the target group through the employment of a Community Drugs Worker. This worker will engage directly with the target group through leisure based educational and developmental activities.
- The project will provide a first point of contact resource for the community in relation to the drug and alcohol abuse issue.
- It will work with young people in a holistic fashion and equip them to deal with the pressure of becoming involved in drug or alcohol abuse.
- It will provide alternative activities for young people in the out of school period with specific emphases on holiday times.
- The worker will also engage with other statutory and voluntary agencies in the area to ensure that service duplication is avoided and that interagency collaboration retain an agreed focus. The worker will also directly consult with the target group around their needs.
- It will develop an effective local forum, which will provide local responses to local issues.
- It will identify, link with and support young drug users or young people at risk of becoming drug users.
- To refer people to counselling services if needed.
- The project will equip young people with the proper knowledge about drugs and alcohol, building their confidence and self-esteem, by doing this they are giving the young people the tools to refuse drugs.

Evidence of the need for this project.

This project will address a Level One need as identified through the Drugs Task Force consultation process. There is a large population of young people residing in the general Greenmount area. This target group has been identified by parents, school authorities and community leaders as most likely to be at risk of getting involved in the drug and alcohol misuse. There is no dedicated full time youth service in the area and there has been a significant increase in the number of complaints coming to the Gardai from local residents about under age

drinking, drug use and anti-social behaviour. There is a history of drug distribution in the area and the area is recognised as one of the more disadvantaged of Cork City.

Details of the operation / management structure of the project.

A management advisory committee made up of local residents, statutory and voluntary agencies including representatives of Greenmount National School Parents Association, Lough Rover G.A.A. Club, Greenmount Junior and Intermediate Youth Clubs, Greenmount Summer Recreation Scheme, Gardai Barrack Street, School Authorities, Lough Community Association, Lough Credit Union, local residents and Home School Communities Liaison Teachers. The worker will be contracted by Ogra Chorcaí.

Details of how the project will complement other initiatives and avoid unnecessary overlap or duplication?

- There are existing and available community assets to complement the employment of a full time worker i.e. the primary school, Lough Rover, G.A.A. facilities, Lough Community Association and fenced green areas. All participants in the committee are currently involved in the direct provision of education and sport or recreational activities in the Greenmount area for the target group and this will ensure that any duplication or overlap is avoided.
- The project will link in with the existing networking group operating in the area. This Educational Network Group currently meet around issues of information sharing, resource allocation, client targeting and a common approach to problem solving.
- The project will also link with the existing after-school youth provision on Sullivan's Quay, which caters for some young people from the Greenmount area.
- There is no similar service to this project in the area and it will not overlap or duplicate any other service.
- It will link with existing youth club and summer recreation scheme and work with the voluntary workers attached to it. There will be a live link to Lough Rovers G.A.A. Club, schools, local sport clubs and existing services.

How will this project address the drug problem?

It will endeavour to reduce the number of young people involved in drug and alcohol abuse through educational and preventative work and it will also act as a support to young drug users. It will contribute to addressing the drug problem by providing a recognised dedicated accessible resource to the community through the provision of programmes, activities and opportunities for young people to engage in alternatives to alcohol and drugs and by providing an effective local forum which would provide local responses to local issues.

Specify performance indicators against which the success of the project can be evaluated.

- The quality of services developed.
- The level of support for young people at risk.
- The number of young people involved in the initiative.
- The number of Garda JLO referrals to the project and the number of referrals from the members of the consortium group.
- The number of general referrals to the project.
- The existence of new out of school initiatives catering for the target groups at out of school and holiday periods.

Proposed Inputs:

Cork Local Drugs Task Force - £50,000
Access to community facilities and premises through involved organisations.

Expected Outputs:

- Increased support for this community.
- Increased support for young people at risk.
- Organisation of activities for young people, both diversionary and educational.
- Reduction in complaints to the Gardai.

Targets to be achieved:

- Establishment of project.
- Young people at risk engaged in the project.
- Educational programmes developed.
- Diversionary programmes developed.
- Links established and work undertaken with schools and Gardai.
- Reduction in complaints to the Gardai.

Have the Promoters demonstrated the capacity to deliver the proposed project?

Ogra Chorcaí are an established youth organisation in Cork City and have vast experience in staff employment, support and programme development. The voluntary management group have varying levels of experience in relation to managing a project but they will be supported by the Ogra Chorcaí volunteer support structure. Also

this management committee will receive training through the Management Training that will be organised through Cork City Partnership. (See project)

Details of Project Cost -

Start up costs. (Advertisement and recruitment)	-	£1,500
Office Set-up and Rent	-	£5,000
Salary of worker	-	£25,000
Travel and Subsistence	-	£1,500
Programmes/Activities	-	£8,000
Administration/Insurance etc.	-	£6,000
Training Management Committee volunteers	-	£2,000
Initial Equipment	-	£1,000
Total	-	£50,000

Comment:

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force had identified this area as an area of particular need. In the initial round of applications, we did not receive an application relating to this area. We decided not to expand another project to meet the needs of the community and instead we invited an application from the area. Members of the Task Force met with the local group and supported them in the development of the application. We are recommending this project for funding with the following guidelines:

- The project must avoid any potential client overlap with the B.A.Y. project particularly in relation to schools work.

Project Title - Mayfield Youth 2000 – Phase 2

Project Promoter - Mayfield Youth 2000 (Mayfield Gardai in partnership with Lotamore Residence Association, Lotabeg Residence Association, Silversprings Court Residence Association, the Community Work Section of the Southern Health Board, and Ogra Chorcaí)

Project Priority – Level 1

General Description - To develop the Mayfield Youth 2000 Project further into Lotamore, Lotabeg, Silverheights and Silversprings area which currently does not have any youth service provision. The project is applying for a Community Drugs Worker and administration costs to support that worker. The worker will be contracted by Ogra Chorcaí.

Target Group - 10-18 year olds residing in the area currently not attached to any youth service or leisure provision.

Geographical Area Covered – East Mayfield with specific focus on Lotamore, Lotabeg, Silverheights and Silversprings.

The aims and objectives of project.

Phase 1 of this project is currently funded by the Cork Local Drugs Task Force and is now being mainstreamed. The aim of this project is to apply the learning and successes of Phase 1 in a geographical area currently devoid of any youth service provision. The project will focus on the target group through the employment of a project worker. This worker will link with the existing Drugs Task Force worker in the development of the project. The project will be developed using models of good practice from other Drugs Task Force Community Drug Projects.

- The project will provide a recognised dedicated accessible resource to the community in relation to drug issues.
- It will develop drug education, awareness and prevention strategies through the provision of programmes and activities.
- It will also provide opportunities for young people to engage in alternatives to alcohol and drug abuse.
- It will develop an effective local forum, which will provide local responses to local issues.
- It will identify, link with and support young drug users or young people at risk of becoming drug users.
- The worker will also engage with other statutory and voluntary agencies in the area to ensure that service duplication is avoided and that interagency collaboration retain an agreed focus. The worker will also directly consult with the target group around their needs.

The Gardai and the Resident Associations feel that the situation is manageable with one supported worker at the current time. However, if current trends continue to accelerate as they have in recent years it is felt that the situation will become out of control. Consequently any positive intervention at this stage would prevent the situation from becoming unmanageable in the near future.

The aims and objectives of project.

- To refer people to counselling services if needed.
- The project will equip young people with the proper knowledge about drugs and alcohol, building their confidence and self-esteem, by doing this they are giving the young people the tools to refuse drugs.

Evidence of the need for this project.

This project will address a Level One need as identified through the Drugs Task Force consultation process.

- A sustained pattern has emerged in this area in the past two years and this has included: street dealing, solvent abuse (petrol and gas sniffing), vandalism and criminal damage to property, arson attacks, large groups hanging out causing serious degrees of intimidation and duress to the community at large.
- The area identified straddles both Cork Corporation and Cork County Council area and as a result has suffered from infrastructure deficiencies. Several people have applied to the Corporation for housing transfers. There are plans to build 400 new houses in the area within the next two to three years.
- This target group is being chosen because it has been proven that these young people are most likely to enter into the drugs culture and most likely to develop drug or alcohol related dependency. In this general area it has been identified that it is socially acceptable between young people to abuse alcohol and drugs at the age of the target group.
- Large volumes of complaints come to the Gardai from local residents about underage drinkers and gangs of youths involved in drug abuse each night.
- There is a small but growing solvent abuse problem for young people in this age group.
- This application developed following requests from three local residents groups to respond to an emerging problem.

Details of the operation / management structure of the project.

The existing management group for Mayfield 2000 will be expanded to incorporate the representatives of the community that are the subject of this application. It is envisaged that a sub-committee structure will be required to ensure that local responses to local needs will remain a priority. The project will be monitored by this steering and management group. The worker will be contracted by Ogra Chorcaí.

Details of how the project will complement other initiatives and avoid unnecessary overlap or duplication?

The project will work with Mayfield Youth 2000 - Phase 1 and will not duplicate the work as it focuses on a separate area. The project will link with Mayfield Gardai through the JLO service and the Neighbourhood Watch Schemes. The project will also link with the local Ogra Chorcaí youth club. The local schools have been consulted and there are supportive of this application. There is no similar service in the area. This will be a new service but will become part of existing networks.

How will this project address the drug problem?

The project will contribute to addressing the drug problem by providing a recognised dedicated accessible resource to the community through the provision of programmes, activities and opportunities for young people to engage in alternative to alcohol and drug and by providing an effective local forum which will provide local responses to local issues. It will endeavour to reduce the number of young people involved in drug and alcohol abuse through educational and preventative work and it will also act as a support to young drug users.

Specify performance indicators against which the success of the project can be evaluated.

- The quality of services developed.
- The level of support for young people at risk.
- The number of young people involved in the initiative.
- The number of Garda JLO referrals to the project.
- The number of general referrals to the project.
- The expansion of volunteer led youth services.
- The level of engagement with local schools.
- The number of direct contacts with parents.

Proposed Inputs:

Cork Local Drugs Task Force - £50,000

Use of community facilities.

Cork Corporation - The Task Force is liaising with Cork Corporation regarding the possibility of locating the project in a new Cork Corporation development in the community.

Expected Outputs:

- Increased support for this community.
- Increased support for young people at risk.
- Organisation of activities for young people, both diversionary and educational.
- Reduction in complaints to the Gardai.

Targets to be achieved:

- Establishment of project.
- Young people at risk engaged in the project.
- Educational programmes developed.
- Diversionary programmes developed.
- Links established and work undertaken with schools and Gardai.

- Reduction in complaints to the Gardai.

Have the Promoters demonstrated the capacity to deliver the proposed project?

Ogra Chorcai are an established youth organisation in Cork City and have vast experience in staff employment and support and programme development. The voluntary management group have varying levels of experience in relation to managing a project but they will be supported by the Ogra Chorcai volunteer support structure. Also this management committee will receive training through the Management Training that will be organised through Cork City Partnership. (See project)

Details of Project Cost -

Start Up Cost (advertisement and recruitment)	-	£1,500
Rent and Office Set Up	-	£5,000
Salary of Worker	-	£25,000
Travel and Subsistence	-	£1,500
Programme Activities	-	£8,000
Administration / Insurance	-	£6,000
Training Management Committee volunteers	-	£2,000
Initial Equipment	-	£1,000
Total	-	£50,000

Comment:

We are recommending this project for funding with the following guidelines:

- We recommend that Cork Corporation explore the possibility of locating the worker in the new Cork Corporation development in Lotamore.
- That the project, as it is divided into two geographical areas, should have a separate support group for each area.
- The project should consider organising joint activities if possible with the original project.
- The project must ensure that it does not duplicate the work of Mayfield Youth 2000 Phase One in the local schools and should make itself aware of any young people that has been involved in the schools work already undertaken to avoid possible overlap.
- The project should develop links with Newbury House Family Centre and Mayfield C.D.P. and with any other relevant initiatives.

Project Title - Ballyphehane Action for Youth

Project Promoter - Ballyphehane Action for Youth

Project Priority – Level 1

General Description - This project is based in Ballyphehane and has employed a part-time outreach development worker to work with the 15-18 year olds most at risk through the Young People’s Facilities and Services Fund

Target Group - The target group was chosen through recognition that they are the most neglected grouping of young in the area in terms of resources being channelled to address their needs.

Geographical Area Covered – Ballyphehane.

The aims and objectives of project.

This project will be based in Ballyphehane Community Association, Ballyphehane C.D.P and Ogra Chorcai. The level of funding received from Young People’s Facilities and Service Fund fell far short of the amount they applied for. The implications of this have been that the project does not have the resource to fulfil its original aims and objectives. The key area of under resourcing lies with the dedication of only one worker to undertake outreach street work with an unattached and highly at risk target group. This is unattainable at a number of levels. The objectives will be:

- To employ an outreach development worker to engage with and devise programmes for young people in the above age group.
- To identify gaps in current provision, which needs to be addressed.
- To prevent the emergence of further young people at risk.
- To develop a one-stop community information point relating to a number of drug prevention measures including health information, counselling and rehabilitation, family support services, education and training.

The project aspires to engage young people in activities and involvement, which steer them away from drug activities. The first step of the project’s work involves approach street work with young people gathering locally and engaging in drink and drug related activities.

Evidence of the need for this project.

This target group are at serious risk of becoming involved in drug related activities which further their marginalisation. Ballyphehane is constituted by three DED areas i.e. a mapping of the 3,000 most disadvantaged

areas in the country and includes Pouladuff B which is in the highest 5% of disadvantage and Ballyphehane A which is in the highest 7%. Pouladuff B is the area highest on the scale of disadvantage on the southside of Cork City. The schools in Ballyphehane hold disadvantage status and both the Community Development Project and Youth At Risk Project for 12-15 year olds are also located in the area all of which are indicators of disadvantage. This project will address a Level One need as identified through the Drugs Task Force consultation process.

Details of the operation / management structure of the project.

The B.A.Y. Project is managed by a partnership of statutory agencies working in the area, locally based organisations and parents. Members include the Southern Health Board Community Worker, Ogra Chorcai, Ballyphehane/Togher C.D.P, Ballyphehane Community Association, Home School Liaison Teachers and Community Gardai. The project has ongoing support from the Community Development Unit of the Cork City Partnership. The youth development staff are employed by Ogra Chorcai.

Details of how the project will complement other initiatives and avoid unnecessary overlap or duplication?

This project will link in with and build on existing provision in the area. It will develop links with local sporting organisations and facilities in the area for the purpose of working toward the inclusion of unattached youths in local sporting activities. It will also link with the neighbouring Togher Link Up Project (funded by the Cork Local Drugs Task Force) for the purpose of building a cross community consolidation of drug prevention measures.

How will this project address the drug problem?

The project will contribute to addressing the problem by acting as a resource to the community, through the provision of programme activities and opportunities for young people to engage in alternative to alcohol and drugs by providing an effective local forum, which will provide local responses to local issues.

Specify performance indicators against which the success of the project can be evaluated.

- Numbers of young people being contact through street work.
- Numbers of target group actively participating in the B.A.Y. Project.
- Numbers of target group integrated into other programmes and organisations.
- Identification of long-term community based strategies to respond to the needs of the young people at risk in the area.
- Inclusion of young people in the identification of gaps and current provision.
- The establishment of a One-Stop Community Information Point for the dissemination of preventative and rehabilitative information and materials relevant to combating drug activities in the area.
- The building of strong community links between existing services and resources in the area.

Proposed Inputs:

Cork Local Drugs Task Force	- £43,500
Young People’s Facilities and Services Fund	- £10,000

Expected Outputs:

- Increased support for this community.
- Increased support for young people at risk.
- Organisation of activities for young people, both diversionary and educational.
- Development of one stop information point for the community.

Targets to be achieved:

- Establishment of project.
- Young people at risk engaged in the project.
- Educational programmes developed.
- Diversionary programmes developed.
- Links established and work undertaken with schools and Gardai.
- Development of one stop information point for the community.

Have the Promoters demonstrated the capacity to deliver the proposed project?

Yes. The B.A.Y. project is already in existence and has recovered funding through the Young People’s Facilities and Services Fund. Ogra Chorcai are an established youth organisation in Cork City and have vast experience in staff employment and support and programme development. The voluntary management group have experience in relation to managing a project. They will be supported by the Ogra Chorcai volunteer support structure. Also this management committee will receive training through the Management Training that will be organised through Cork City Partnership. (See project)

Details of Project Cost -

Salaries for a full time outreach development worker	-	£25,000
Administration	-	£3,000
Project Activities including Group Work Residential Training, Outdoor pursuits, and team building	-	£5,000

Everyday costs – snacks, sports gear, room hire, equipment	-	£5,000
Training child care support for volunteers	-	£2,000
Travel / subsistence	-	£1,500
Management training	-	£2,000
Total	-	£43,500

Comment:

This project originally applied for one part time worker and the Task Force requested that they re-budget for one full time worker, given the extent of the problem in this area. The Task Force is recommending funding this project but with the following guidelines:

- It is recommended that we fund one Full Time worker rather than two part-time workers.
- It is also recommended that the group continue to participate in management training in the area.

Project Title - Carrigaline Youth Initiative

Project Promoter - An Garda Siochana

Project Priority - Level 1

General Description - The project aims to divert young people in Carrigaline at risk of, or currently abusing drugs and alcohol, through involving them in needs based developmental youth work programmes.

Target Group - There are three target groups in the proposal, those already using drugs or seriously abusing alcohol, those considered at high risk of involvement and the general youth population of Carrigaline.

Geographical Area Covered – Carrigaline.

The aims and objectives of project.

- The aims are that young people participating in the project will be less likely to take drugs or use alcohol.
- The worker will get to know young people most at risk by engaging in outreach work in the locations where young people hang around.
- The project will implement a strategy to become known in the area as an exciting to use project and this strategy will include activities such as sports or youth concerts or festivals.
- The project will develop education support in co-operation with the schools this may include transfer from primary to secondary programme and potential early school leaver programmers.
- The worker will work directly with the group of young people through activities such as outdoor pursues, craft, music and active citizenship.
- That young people at risk of leaving school early or who have already left will be helped to return to or remain in education or training.
- That more unattached young people will be involved in youth activities.
- That young people at risk will increase their personal and inter-personal skills including communication assertiveness and coping skills.
- That young people using drugs will be able to access appropriate advice and/or treatment.
- The project will accept referrals and will also refer young people to other services if necessary.
- It will provide support to parents concerned about their children’s use of drugs.
- The project will focus on the target group through seeking referrals from local professionals and the project committee through a detailed needs analysis of the area. It will be located in the town centre.

Evidence of the need for this project.

This project will address a Level One need as identified through the Drugs Task Force consultation process.

- The Garda JLO figures for Carrigaline stand at over 50 per year.
- There is no paid youth work provision in Carrigaline. It is a fast growing town of over 16,000 people and there is a considerable youth population over 4,000.
- There is a growing drug problem, which could become more serious.

Details of the operation / management structure of the project.

A local committee has been set up consisting of local residents, representatives of existing youth groups, schools and Gardai. This maybe expanded in the future. The role of this committee is developing project, policies, assisting in the recruitment of staff, identifying needs, prioritising action, identifying and involving people and resources in the community, managing with the Gardai and projects budget, identifying possible programmes, evaluation of the project and working for the future development of the project. The committee has chosen Foroige, National Youth Development Organisation to employ, support and manage the staff of the project. In this capacity Foroige will also be part of the project committee. The Project Co-ordinator will be employed by Foroige.

Details of how the project will complement other initiatives and avoid unnecessary overlap or duplication?

The project will engage with statutory and voluntary agencies operating in the area to avoid duplication and ensure interagency collaboration, which will maintain an agreed focus. It will not duplicate or overlap with any other project.

How will this project address the drug problem?

The project will contribute to addressing the problem by providing a dedicated recognised accessible resource to the community. By the provision of programme activities and opportunities for young people to engage in alternative to alcohol and drugs by providing an effective local forum which will provide local responses to local issues.

Specify performance indicators against which the success of the project can be evaluated.

- The number of referrals to the project by Gardai, schools, youth leaders and others.
- The number of participants referred on to other services.
- The observed change in young people behaviour to drug use or attitudes.
- The participation in the project by those currently involved in youth or sport groups.
- The improved school performance by potential early school leavers participating in the project.
- The linkages between the project and other agencies and groups.
- The number of adults voluntarily working with young people in the project.
- Feedback from participants.

Proposed Inputs:

Cork Local Drugs Task Force - £50,000

Expected Outputs:

- Increased support for this community.
- Increased support for young people at risk.
- Organisation of activities for young people, both diversionary and educational.
- Reduction in complaints to the Gardai.

Targets to be achieved:

- Establishment of project.
- Young people at risk engaged in the project.
- Educational programmes developed.
- Diversionary programmes developed.
- Links established and work undertaken with schools and Gardai.
- Reduction in complaints to the Gardai.

Have the Promoters demonstrated the capacity to deliver the proposed project?

Foroige are an established youth organisation in Cork City and have vast experience in staff employment and support and programme development. The voluntary management group have varying levels of experience in relation to managing a project but they will be supported by the Foroige volunteer support structure. Also this management committee will receive training through the Management Training that will be organised through Cork City Partnership. (See project)

Details of Project Cost -

Start Up Cost (advertisement and recruitment)	-	£1,500
Rent and Office Set Up	-	£5,000
Salary of Worker	-	£25,000
Travel and Subsistence	-	£1,500
Programme Activities	-	£8,000
Administration / Insurance	-	£6,000
Training Management Committee volunteers	-	£2,000
Initial Equipment	-	£1,000
Total	-	£50,000

Comment:

The Task Force is recommending funding this project but with the following guidelines:

- The project must cover Mount Rivers estate.
- This management group will have to engage in Management Training.

Project Title - Glanmire Community Drug Initiative.

Project Promoter - Glanmire Area Community Association and Ogra Chorcaí

Project Priority – Level 1

General Description - The project aims to develop a community-based response to an emerging drug and alcohol problem in the area.

Target Group - 13-16 year olds engaged in regular drinking in the community and an emerging group of teenagers using cannabis and other illegal substances.

Geographical Area Covered – Glanmire.

The aims and objectives of project.

- The aim of the project is to enable a community based response to come into place in relation to merging drug and alcohol problem in the area and to act as a resource supportive to young people and their families struggling with current abuses of alcohol, cannabis and ecstasy.
- The worker will involve themselves with the target group through recreational, educational and social development programmes.
- The project will focus on the family unit, which is of particular importance for a developing community.
- Primary and Secondary schools in the area will be targeted and work will be carried out informally in a co-ordinated way with school personnel.

Evidence for the need of this project.

- This project will address a Level One need as identified through the Drugs Task Force consultation process.
- Glanmire is now a satellite town with a population in excess of 12,000 people and expected to rise to the region of 20,000 in the next 5 years. Two local schools are extending to cope with the growing number of young people wishing to attend. Presently there are 1,250 pupils attending four local primary schools. Pupils attending secondary level education will increase from 1,200 to 1,700 in this coming school year.
- The target group has been chosen for the following reasons: there has been a 300% increase in the JLO referrals in the area in the last two years.
- School principals and teachers have identified that behavioural problems associated with alcohol and drug abuse are becoming more evident in the school setting.
- The local residents through the community association has particularly identified these target groups as requiring an urgent and prioritised response.
- The Southern Health Board and the Probation and Welfare Service are identifying a support gap for young people currently going through the courts system from the area.
- The community was harnessed to make this application on foot of the murder of a local Leaving Certificate student in a drug related incident.
- The last number of years has seen an increase in the number of known drug dealers coming into the area targeting the young people. There is a growing pattern of drug dealers moving from longer established areas to satellite communities like this.

Details of the operation / management structure of the project.

There are community resources available to accommodate a worker. A management advisory committee made up of representatives of local community association, the Gardai, the Probation and Welfare Services, schools, Southern Health Board and Ogra Chorcai is set up and already in existence. The project will be administered and managed by Ogra Chorcai who currently provide both paid and voluntary led services in the community. The project worker will become an employee of Ogra Chorcai Ltd., and will work directly with the special service youth worker in the area who is also contracted by Ogra Chorcai. The spirit of partnership will form all phases of implementation. The project will be monitored by the support and advisory committee by Ogra Chorcai Management.

Details of how the project will complement other initiatives and avoid unnecessary overlap or duplication?

The project will engage with statutory and voluntary agencies operating in the area to avoid duplication and ensure interagency collaboration, which will maintain an agreed focus. The project will consult with the target group in relation to their needs. There is no other related service in the area except the Ogra Chorcai Special Youth Initiative. It will not duplicate or overlap with any other project.

How will this project address the drug problem?

The project will address the drug problem by placing a dedicated resource in the community where no specialised resource exists.

Also by providing a dedicated recognised accessible resource to the community. By the provision of programme activities and opportunities for young people to engage in alternative to alcohol and drugs by providing an effective local forum which will provide local responses to local issues.

Specify performance indicators against which the success of the project can be evaluated.

- The level of engagement in local schools.
- The number of referrals to the project
- The number of direct contact made with parents.
- The number of support sessions held with young people and their families.
- The number of young people involved in the initiative.

- The level of engagement in the local schools.
- The number of referrals to the project.
- The quality of services developed.
- The level of support for young people at risk.

Proposed Inputs:

Cork Local Drugs Task Force - £48,000

Expected Outputs:

- Increased support for this community.
- Increased support for young people at risk.
- Organisation of activities for young people, both diversionary and educational.
- Reduction in complaints to the Gardai.

Targets to be achieved:

- Establishment of project.
- Young people at risk engaged in the project.
- Educational programmes developed.
- Diversionary programmes developed.
- Links established and work undertaken with schools and Gardai.
- Reduction in complaints to the Gardai.

Have the Promoters demonstrated the capacity to deliver the proposed project?

Ogra Chorcai are an established youth organisation in Cork City and have vast experience in staff employment and support and programme development. The voluntary management group have experience in relation to managing a project as they already manage the Ogra Special Project. They will be supported by the Ogra Chorcai volunteer support structure. Also this management committee will receive training through the Management Training that will be organised through Cork City Partnership. (See project)

Details of Project Cost

Start-up costs (advertisement and recruitment)	-	£1,500
Refurbishment of Community Resource space	-	£3,000
Salaries of Worker	-	£25,000
Travel/Subsistence	-	£1,500
Programme Activities	-	£8,000
Administration/Insurance etc	-	£6,000
Training Management Committee and volunteers	-	£2,000
Initial Equipment	-	£1,000
Total	-	£48,000

Comment:

The original application was for £53,800 and included the counselling services. We are not recommending that we fund the Counselling element of the project, as this service is already available through the Community Drugs Team in Church Street.

The Task Force is recommending funding this project but with the following guidelines:

- We recommend that the Community Drugs Team and Arbour House in the Southern Health Board link formally with the project to agree on service provision.

Project Title - D.A.Y.S. (Douglas West Area Youth Service)

Project Promoter - An Garda Síochána

Project Priority – Level 2

General Description - To develop a Community Drugs Project in Douglas West.

Target Group - The target group is young people in the area between the ages of ten and twenty.

Geographical Area Covered - Douglas West including Grange, Donnybrook and Shamrock Lawn.

The aims and objectives of project.

- The funding required is for the recruitment of a worker and additional related costs.
- The project aims to develop a locally based project, which would recruit a worker to work with young people at risk in the locality.
- The worker will work with local schools, and will develop a holistic approach to deal with drug and alcohol abuse in the area. The worker will focus on primary and secondary schools in the Douglas area where many

of the young people attend and work with them informally in a co-ordinated manner with the school authorities.

- This worker will involve themselves with young people through leisure-based education and self-development activities.
- To provide a first point of contact resource for the community in relation to the drug and alcohol issue and to provide appropriate activities in the schools which would have a drug awareness theme around underage drinking, drug abuse and solvent abuse issues.
- They will engage with other statutory and voluntary agencies in the area to ensure that service duplication is avoided and that inter agency collaboration retains an agreed focus.
- A forum will be set up where young people participating in the project can express their opinions on its work, programmes and operations.

Evidence of the need for this project.

The project will have a special focus on Douglas West Area which includes Grange, Donnybrook and Shamrock Lawn areas where it has been identified that problems exist around drug and alcohol abuse. Douglas West lies in the southern side of the South Ring Road between Douglas Village and Togher. Recent years it has become one of the most densely populated areas in the city. There are no facilities for youth in this area not even a football or soccer pitch.

There are over 16,000 people living in this area and 7,000 young people are residing here. There is no other paid youth service provision in the area. The numbers coming to the attention of the local Gardai JLO are directly comparable to any designated disadvantage area in Cork City. This project will address a Level Two need as identified through the Drugs Task Force consultation process.

Details of the operation / management structure of the project.

A management advisory committee consisting of local residents, statutory and voluntary agencies include school representatives, Gardai, existing youth club volunteers will be set up. The project will be administered and managed by Ogra Chorcaí and the project will be monitored by the management/advisory committee.

Details of how the project will complement other initiatives and avoid unnecessary overlap or duplication?

There is no similar service to this project in the area and it does not duplicate or overlap with any other service.

How will this project address the drug problem?

The project will contribute to addressing the drug problem by providing a recognised dedicated accessible resource in the community for the provision of programmes activities and opportunities for young people to engage in alternatives to alcohol and drugs by providing an effective local forum which will provide local response to local issues by focusing on areas identified as problem areas by Gardai and local residents.

Specify performance indicators against which the success of the project can be evaluated.

- The number of young people involved in the initiative.
- Expansion of the volunteer led youth services.
- The level of engagement in local schools.
- The number of referrals to the project.
- The number of direct contacts made with parents.
- The quality of services developed.
- The level of support for young people at risk.

Proposed Inputs:

Cork Local Drugs Task Force - £54,000

Expected Outputs:

- Increased support for this community.
- Increased support for young people at risk.
- Organisation of activities for young people, both diversionary and educational.
- Reduction in complaints to the Gardai.

Targets to be achieved:

- Establishment of project.
- Young people at risk engaged in the project.
- Educational programmes developed.
- Diversionary programmes developed.
- Links established and work undertaken with schools and Gardai.
- Reduction in complaints to the Gardai.
- Establishment of youth forum.

Have the Promoters demonstrated the capacity to deliver the proposed project?

Ogra Chorcaí are an established youth organisation in Cork City and have vast experience in staff employment and support and programme development. The voluntary management group have varying levels of experience in relation to managing a project but they will be supported by the Ogra Chorcaí volunteer support structure. Also this management committee will receive training through the Management Training that will be organised through Cork City Partnership. (See project)

Details of Project Cost -

Start Up Cost(advertisement and recruitment)	-	£1,500
Rent and Office Set Up	-	£5,000
Salary of Worker	-	£25,000
Travel and Subsistence	-	£1,500
Programme Activities	-	£12,000
Administration / Insurance	-	£6,000
Training Management Committee volunteers	-	£2,000
Initial Equipment	-	£1,000
Total	-	£54,000

Comment:

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force received two applications in relation to this area. This application was chosen after lengthy deliberation because of the involvement of a local advisory and management group. The Task Force received clarification on a number of issues in order to make the decision.

The Task Force is recommending funding this project but with the following guidelines:

- The management group is expanded to include people who were consulted through the other application.
- The area covered by the project should be expanded to include the wider catchment area, additional programme costs have been allocated for this purpose.

Strategy: To develop a strategy in relation to student support structures that would take into account existing provisions and support.

Action to be taken:

- Development of Student Assist Programme.
- Development of intensive support in relation to drug issues for young people at risk of early school leaving.

Project Title - School Assistance Programme

Project Promoter - Southern Health Board

Project Priority – Level 1

General Description - The aim of this project is to provide professional support to young people who are experiencing difficulties in any areas of their lives.

Target Group - Young people in Cork City.

Geographical Area Covered - Cork City.

The aims and objectives of project.

This support is to be provided by the employment of two full-time Counsellors who will be available to pupils, teacher and parents and Drugs Task Force projects to assist in the resolution of problems. This is for all secondary schools in Cork City. The services will be located in an independent building away from the school environment. The programme will be managed by a Clinical Director in the Southern Health Board. The Counsellors will be accountable to the Director. Training and development of the programme will be provided by Health Education Officers. This project aims to provide a system that will train both parents and teachers to identify the early signs of difficulties in a child's life, address these issues in a positive and professional manner and return the child to a secure lifestyle. The introduction of the programme in each school will be undertaken by a professional trainer in conjunction with the School Counsellor and Health Education Officer. Once the programme is introduced and operational it will avail of existing resources and therefore will incur minimal costs. The project has a written policy as its foundation which is agreed by both management and parent groups. The policy is developed in a co-operative manner by all concerned. The focal point at the initial stages is the designated Counsellor who will be an initial resource for teachers, pupils and parents. The programme within the school is managed by the School Principal and the School Counsellor or a resource person. When a teacher recognises a deterioration in a pupils performance or behaviour over a period of time and the usual teaching skills are not bringing the required change it is an indication that the child may be experiencing underline difficulties in their personal or private life. The teacher can discuss the situation with the Counsellor and develop an approach

to resolve the issue. This may involve the referral of the pupil and parent to see the Counsellor and when appropriate the Counsellor may refer on to specialist help.

Evidence of the need for this project.

It is agreed that the drug problems are generally as a result of a development in a person's life around the areas of self-esteem, confidence, frustration, shyness, etc. Providing counselling to these children at an early age will allow them to develop a more positive lifestyle and also to develop skills to express themselves. This project will address a Level One need as identified through the Drugs Task Force consultation process.

Details of the operation / management structure of the project.

The programme will be managed by a Clinical Director in the Southern Health Board. Counsellors will be accountable to the Director. Training and development of the programme will be provided by Health Education Officers.

Details of how the project will complement other initiatives and avoid unnecessary overlap or duplication?

The Task Force has directed in that this service link in with the Department of Education and Science, Psychology Service, and also the School Support Programme. The service is about linking the services within a community to the needs. Strong links will be developed between the Department of Education and Science through the V.E.C. and other programmes. This project will act as a resource to all Task Force projects. This project has also been directed by the Task Force that it is not to duplicate the work undertaken by the 8-15 Initiatives.

How will this project address the drug problem?

The project will act as a preventative structure for young people at risk. It aims to provide early support for these young people and will also complement services provided by other Drugs Task Force projects in schools.

Specify performance indicators against which the success of the project can be evaluated.

- Numbers using the services.
- Number of self-referrals.
- Number of teacher referrals.
- Number of consultation with parents.
- Number of referrals to other agencies.
- Survey of pupil satisfaction.
- Survey of parent's satisfaction.
- Survey of teacher satisfaction.
- Impact on disciplinary system.
- Impact on early school leavers.

Proposed Inputs:

Cork Local Drugs Task Force	-	£90,000
Southern Health Board	-	£30,000

(This will cover Training and Educational Programme, slide presentations development, update seminars, compilation of statistical report, professional supervision, personal supervision)

Expected Outputs:

- Development of the School Assistant Programme Service.

Targets to be achieved:

- Service established.
- Young people referred to the service.
- Service developed in secondary schools in the City.

Have the Promoters demonstrated the capacity to deliver the proposed project?

Yes. The Southern Health Board has been involved with the Drugs Task Force for other projects and has been extensively involved in both recruitment of staff and programme development.

Details of Project Cost -

Amount requested - £90,000

The total cost of the project is £120,000 they are applying for £90,000 and additional resources will be provided from existing staff complement of the Southern Health Board.

Costing	
Two Counsellors/Psychologists	- £60,000
Administrative Support	- £14,500
Office Accommodation Rent	- £7,000
Telephone and stationery	- £3,000

Heat and light	- £2,000
Initial Start-up	- £3,500
Total	- £90,000

Comment:

The Task Force is recommending funding this project but with the following guidelines:

- The project must link with the Department of Education and Science Psychology Service, School Chaplains and Counsellors.
- The service must link in with the Home School Liaison Officers.
- The project must not duplicate the work carried out by the 8-15 initiatives and it is recommended that a cross referral structure be developed between the two initiatives.

Project Title - Hillgrove Outreach

Project Promoter - Hillgrove Lane off Campus Centre

Project Priority – Level 1

General Description - The Hillgrove off Campus Centre endeavours to respond to the needs of young people aged twelve to sixteen who are excluded or about to be excluded from school due to behavioural problems. This project will ensure ongoing support for young people at risk of becoming involved in a drug culture.

Target Group - Young people aged 12 - 16 who are excluded or about to be excluded from school due to behavioural problems. Young people between the ages of 12 – 16 years attached to the Hillgrove Lane initiative and at risk of involvement of drugs and also their siblings and/or friends.

Geographical Area Covered – North West Cork City

The aims and objectives of project.

- The aim of this project is to ensure ongoing support for young people at risk of becoming involved in the drug culture.
- To provide support around drug related issues for the target group attending Hillgrove Lane Centre.
- To continue outreach/support work when they leave the centre.
- To encourage and support involvement of young people in their own community.
- To develop relationships with siblings and friends of the target groups and to provide ongoing Educational Awareness Programmes for the young people and their families.
- Awareness and conciseness raising by young people of the effects of drug use and the long-term consequences of abuse.

The centre works at enabling the young people to raise his or her self-esteem by using a skills based curriculum, affirmation and concentration on the positive aspects of education. Contact at appropriate level with parents is an integral part of the programme. Involvement with agencies in the areas is built into the initiative. Young people will be engaged in the structured leisure time activity and encouraged to develop their own interests and skills through work with siblings/families development of communication with families will be enhanced resulting in parents/carers becoming more amicable to avail of the support services of the project.

Evidence of the need for this project.

In the current provision there is a distinct gap in service for this target group who are involved in antisocial behaviour and part of the drug culture. This project will address a Level One need as identified through the Drugs Task Force consultation process.

Details of the operation / management structure of the project.

The existing organisation as a partnership approach will be extended to this project. The project will be monitored by the worker, the management committee and the Cork Local Drugs Task Force.

Details of how the project will complement other initiatives and avoid unnecessary overlap or duplication?

The Task Force has laid down very specific guidelines for this project to ensure that they will not overlap with the work of any other initiative, these are detailed below. The project has also given an undertaking to avoid overlap and duplication.

How will this project address the drug problem?

In relation to addressing the drug problem they will do this by developing a relationship with young people which will enable a level of trust to be earned by the worker. The project will work intensively with the young people in question to enable them to deal with any drug-related issues.

Specify performance indicators against which the success of the project can be evaluated.

- The level of engagement and response to programmes by young people.
- The level of contact with families and their consequent involvement in appropriate programmes.
- Two-way information sharing with agencies.

Proposed Inputs:

Cork Local Drugs Task Force	-	£44,000
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Expected Outputs:

- Development of service to respond to the needs of the target group.
- Employment of worker.
- Programme Development.

Targets to be achieved:

- Young people at risk involved in the service.
- Target areas covered.
- Employment of worker.
- Programme development.

Have the Promoters demonstrated the capacity to deliver the proposed project?

There is an experienced management committee already in place that oversees this project. There are staff already recruited in this project and there will be supports for staff recruited.

Details of Project Cost -

Salary	-	£25,000
Administration	-	£6,000
External Supervision	-	£500
Programme materials	-	£5,000
Travel	-	£1,500
Activity costs	-	£5,000
Food costs	-	£1,000
Total	-	£44,000

Comment:

The Task Force is recommending funding this project but with the following guidelines:

- This project must not overlap with existing Drugs Task Force projects in Farranree and Knocknaheeny and with proposed initiatives in Gurrabraher and Blarney St. The worker should work with existing projects and act as a support to existing projects.
- We recommend that the project focus specifically and exclusively on Blackpool, Cathedral Rd, and Shandon as these have been identified as areas of need.

Strategy: To initiate the development of a Parents Support Service that would link with existing provisions and would also act as a resource to them.

Action to be taken: The development of a Parents Support Group.

Project Title - Parents Support Group

Project Promoter - Parents Support Group

Project Priority – Level 1

General Description - The aim of this project is to offer parents a space to come to when under pressure with relevant support and information on hand.

Target Group - The target group will be parents who are in need of support and experiencing difficulties with their children.

Geographical Area Covered - Cork City.

The aims and objectives of project.

This is a voluntary peer support group for parents during time of pressure. The core group is supported by an advisory group of relevant professionals working in the field of youth work, crime prevention, early school leaving prevention and drug prevention.

The main aims of the group are to support parents in a confidential setting. The group originated from a group of parents meeting to support each other during times of pressure as a result of the stresses of our young people. The long-term aim is to provide listening and support services that addresses the needs of parents locally and citywide.

The grant is being sought as a start up initiative for the project. It involves offering parents a space to come to when under pressure with relevant support and information on hand. The project will be located in a city centre premises to allow it to be accessible to parents citywide, with the necessary equipment for an office space but also

the facilities for both group meetings and one to one work. The support of an answering service for when the office will not be manned is also crucial.

The developmental element of the project involves parents participating in a specialised professional training programme. The aim of this programme would be to provide support for parents under pressure and to help them to begin to acquire the understanding and skills of listening and communication, which will enable them to support other parents in similar situations. The wider advisory group will also be seen as a resource for parents for information referral when the core group can not provide a service for the parent

The group is reluctant to become employers at this stage because they feel the focus must remain on the peer and voluntary support. Resourcing and support of volunteers to run the project is a preferred alternative to employment.

Evidence of the need for this project.

The group itself began as a result of this need to talk to others who have been through similar problems and pressures to see the issues collectively. There is a lack of services to deal with parental problems in general. The need for this project is also obvious because of the number of initiatives that have been developed over the last 12 months to support young people in the above named situations and during times of pressure yet there is a gap in services for parents living also through this pressure. This project will address a Level One need as identified through the Drugs Task Force consultation process.

Details of the operation / management structure of the project.

The project will be managed by the existing voluntary committee consisting mainly of parents. It will be overseen and supported by the wider advisory committee.

Details of how the project will complement other initiatives and avoid unnecessary overlap or duplication?

This group has already linked with other groups such as suicide, bereaved, drugs support groups, the Samaritans and victims support. The group is committed to further establishing links with other communities and newer initiatives.

How will this project address the drug problem?

This initiative will address the drug problem by giving parents the support needed when their young people are dealing with drugs uses and misuse. They also provide information and create awareness around services and resource relevant to their needs.

Proposed Inputs:

Cork Local Drugs Task Force - £20,000

Expected Outputs:

- Development of Parents Support Service in Cork City.

Targets to be achieved:

- Development of the service.
- Organisational training.
- Links between parents and the service.

Have the Promoters demonstrated the capacity to deliver the proposed project?

They have also identified the need for technical support and administration and report writing and accounts, they will link with Cork City Partnership Technical Assistance for the initial stages but also may need to engage in support of a professional service from time to time. This group should also link in with the management training that is being organised by the Cork City Partnership.

Details of Project Cost -

Rent	-	£5,000
Administration that includes		
- Light/heat/telephone/stationary/insurance	-	£3,000
Initial start up costs:	-	£1,000
Training in development programme	-	£4,000
Travel	-	£2,000
Childcare	-	£3,000
Support and Supervision	-	£2,000
Total	-	£20,000

Comment:

The Task Force is recommending funding this project but with the following guidelines:

- We are exploring the possibility of locating a premises for this project in conjunction with another project.
- We are not recommending funding equipment for this project.

Strategy: To develop a comprehensive peer education programme for the city.

Action to be taken: The development of a Peer Education Programme.

Project Title - Peer Education Programme

Project Promoter - Alliance Centre for Sexual Health

Project Priority – Level 1

General Description - The aim of the project is to develop a peer education programme in Cork City by encouraging awareness raising whereby young people learn from role models within their own peer group.

Target Group – Any young person aged 13-25 years of age with specific emphasis on areas where there is social deprivation and the city centre.

Geographical Area Covered - Cork City.

The aims and objectives of project.

- To develop a Peer Education Programme in Cork City by encouraging awareness raising whereby young people learn from role models within their own peer group.
- To provide accredited training for peer educators in order that those participating meet appropriate peer education training standards and gain qualification for training in work undertaken.
- To provide training and support for workers and volunteers involved in the community groups projects where peer education is taking place thereby facilitating the development of peer education networks in the region.
- To develop and facilitate a structure of support and supervision for peer educators in order to maintain standards and levels of commitment amongst participants.

Evidence of the need for this project.

This project will address a Level One need as identified through the Drugs Task Force consultation process. The need for Peer Education has been highlighted also through a number of the applicant groups under this Task Force Plan and it is seen as a valuable method of working with young people in relation to drug issues.

Details of the operation / management structure of the project.

The Peer Education Programme will be co-ordinated by the Peer Education Co-ordinator and will be managed by the Director of the Alliance. The Director is responsible to a volunteer Board of Management that meets on a monthly basis.

Details of how the project will complement other initiatives and avoid unnecessary overlap or duplication?

All Alliance work depends upon partnership with community organisations and statutory bodies working with young people for their success. Alliance is fully committed to working in partnership with all groups so as to enhance the work and the lives of target group. This project will act as a resource to other projects funded by the Cork Local Drugs Task Force.

How will this project address the drug problem?

Peer Education as a strategy has been recognised as very successful. Young people are most effective at relating to their own peer group and young people have reported that the most popular source of drug information is through other young people.

Specify performance indicators against which the success of the project can be evaluated.

- The number of young people recruited.
- The number of young people retained.
- The number of request for peer education.
- The number of accredited programmes implemented.
- The number of geographical area represented on the programmes.
- Participant evaluation of enhanced self-esteem, confidence and skills levels.
- Target group increase awareness of drug issues.

Proposed Inputs:

Cork Local Drugs Task Force - £50,000

Expected Outputs:

- The organisation of a comprehensive Peer Education Service in Cork City.

Targets to be achieved:

- Young people recruited and retained.
- Requests received for Peer Education.
- Accredited programmes implemented.

- Target group increased awareness of drug issues.

Have the Promoters demonstrated the capacity to deliver the proposed project?

The Alliance is a well-established organisation and has experience of both recruitment of staff and programme development. It is already involved with young people in a variety of setting using different approaches and methodologies. It is currently funded by the Young People's Facilities and Services Fund.

Details of Project Cost -

Start Up Cost (advertisement and recruitment)	-	£1,500
Rent and Office Set Up	-	£3,000
Salary of Worker	-	£25,000
Travel and Subsistence	-	£1,500
Programme Activities	-	£10,000
Administration / Insurance	-	£6,000
Training	-	£2,000
Mobile Phone	-	£1,000
Total	-	£50,000

Comment:

This application was originally for Peer Education Programme and an Outreach Workers Project. The Task Force is not going to fund the Outreach Workers Project at this time.

The Task Force is recommending funding this project but with the following guidelines:

- We recommend funding the Peer education element of the project.
- We do not recommend funding the Outreach element at this time as we feel the project may develop through the Peer Education Programme.
- We are not recommending funding the equipment or the administration worker, but we are recommending a budget towards administration costs.

Strategy: To raise issues of educational concern with the Department of Education and Science and lobby for additional resources and investment.

Action to be taken: The Task Force will meet with representatives from the Department of Education and Science to discuss the highlighted issues further.

Strategy: To develop a comprehensive Drug Education Policy for Cork City.

Action to be taken: The Task Force are recommending that the development of a Drug Education Policy for Cork City could be initiated through the School Support Programme which is an existing Task Force project. The Task Force will discuss this further with the group. It is also vital that the results of the research project that was recently published by the Task Force be used to guide this policy.

Treatment Programmes and Services for Drug Misusers.

Strategy: To explore the development of a residential treatment centre for adolescents in Cork.

Action to be taken: This was the most frequently identified need throughout the consultation process and the Drugs Task Force has identified this as a priority for Cork City. We understand that negotiations are underway and that a service development is imminent. We support the development of the service and are anxious that a centre would be established as soon as possible. Should a service not develop out of these negotiations, the Task Force will review its position again.

Strategy: To explore the development of additional detox facilities in the city.

Action to be taken: The Task Force is recommending that the Southern Health Board review this situation as soon as possible and ensure that every effort is made to develop additional detox facilities in the city.

Strategy: To explore the possibility of developing a Treatment Strategy.

Action to be taken: The Task Force is recommending that the Southern Health Board initiate the development of this initiative in consultation with voluntary treatment services. The Task Force is willing to act as a guide for the development of this strategy.

Strategy: To develop a Drugs Court Structure in Cork.

Action to be taken: The Task Force will discuss a method of progressing this strategy further.

Strategy: To explore the possibility of developing additional free general counseling services.

Action to be taken: This will be provided through the YMCA project and through the employment of additional Addiction Counsellors in the Southern Health Board.

Strategy: To develop a support structure for addicts with special needs.

Action to be taken: The Southern Health Board will be exploring this issue further. Also it is hoped that a support structure for addicts can be developed through the existing Drugs Task Force project network.

Rehabilitation Programmes and Services for Stabilizers Recovering Drug Misusers.

Strategy: To explore the possibility of developing a Halfway House for Men.

Action to be taken: The development of a Halfway House.

Project Title - Half Way House for Addicted Men in Recovery

Project Promoter - Tabor Lodge Addiction Treatment Centre

Project Priority – Level 1

General Description - This project will provide a residential supportive environment for young male drug addicts in early recovery to enable them to put their recovery programme into practice while being supported by their fellow addicts. This project is similar to the recently opened Renewal Project in Cork, which is a Halfway House for women.

Target Group –

- Men aged 18 and over that have completed a primary treatment programme and are in need of ongoing support.
- This service is not solely for people who have attended Tabor Lodge but the client group will come mainly from the Southern Health Board region and will be assessed prior to admission.
- The clients may have multiple addictions, a history of depression, overdosing and other destructive behaviours and may have a history of violence or dealing in drugs.
- They may have served a prison sentence.
- They may be unemployed and homeless.
- They may or may not have family support and may be barred from home and have difficulty in finding suitable accommodation.

From the experience in Tabor Lodge this is the type of young person who needs a halfway house.

Geographical Area covered - Cork City.

The aims and objectives of project.

The project will provide a residential supportive environment for young male drug addicts in early recovery which will:

- help them develop sober recreation skills,
- build self-esteem and confidence through ongoing counselling and group therapy,

- re-introduce them to the work environment through a FAS Training Scheme or part-time employment,
- help them to build new and more healthy relationships with people of their own age group,
- continue to be of support to their families who are also recovering from the trauma of addictive behaviour,
- enable to put their recovery programme into practice while being supported by their fellow addicts.
- Similar to the girls in Renewal, the men in this centre will also take on the responsibility of their own health care, budgeting, contributing towards treatment, dealing with the bank account, contact in the work place if unable to attend for any reason.

An interview with FAS personnel will be set up for each client and they will be given a training of their choice. The programme will also involve group and individual counselling and an opportunity to participate in twelve step programmes at night, such as Narcotics Anonymous.

It is also the policy in Tabor Lodge to train recovering people for the facilitation of after-care groups. They have trained recovering people as Counsellors and have found them to be an invaluable resource. They also involve recovering people in the Board of Management. Tabor Lodge is currently engaged in looking for a suitable property in or near Cork City and adjacent to a bus route. They clients will need to be free to travel independently rather than using group transport in order to give them personal responsibility for regular attendance at meetings.

Brochures will be sent to different Treatment Centres to raise awareness of the service.

The service will have a Manager who will be an Addiction Counsellor and two other part-time Addiction Counsellors. It will have supervisory night and weekend staff.

Evidence of the need for this project.

This project will address a Level One need as identified through the Drugs Task Force consultation process. Over the past eleven years Tabor Lodge has perceived a need for a residential support environment for young men in the early stages of recovery. Many relapse following treatment because of lack of support and lack of suitable accommodation and family support. They form part of the revolving door syndrome and continue to occupy beds in detox units and treatment centres. The primary care of addictive patients is expensive and needs to be followed up with a less intensive type programme. Many of these clients have never worked and have lead a life of drugs, crime, violence and some has served prison sentences. Leaving the treatment environment can be an ordeal having left behind the crutch of drugs, alcohol or gambling. A halfway house would fill the current gap in services for young men and they would be given the opportunity to practice their programme of recovery in a safe environment, while being gradually introduced to the work place through a FAS Scheme.

Details of the operation / management structure of the project.

The halfway house will be set up as a Sheltered House Co. Ltd. with Charitable Status. They will have a voluntary Board of Directors similar to Renewal. While Tabor Lodge is doing the initial application and planning it will be supported by the Irish Bishop's Network on Drugs and by the Sisters of Mercy. The project will be monitored by Tabor Lodge initially.

Details of how the project will link with and complement other initiatives and avoid unnecessary overlap or duplication?

The project will be linked to all primary treatment centres and with FAS. It will accept referrals from treatment centres within and outside the Health Board area.

There is no other similar facility for men in the country. The project will link with all existing services.

How will this project address the drug problem?

This project will contribute to addressing the drug problem by reducing the numbers caught up in the revolving door syndrome of treatment. It will free up more treatment spaces and will give the clients a better chance of a successful recovery.

Specify performance indicators against which the success of the project can be evaluated.

- Numbers involved in the service.
- Numbers taking up employment.
- Number of relapses.
- Comparison with the figures for those who have relapsed following treatment with and without a halfway house.
- Comparison with the figures for those who have returned to full employment with and without a halfway house.
- Comparison with the recovery rate with that of Renewal – the halfway house for women.

Proposed Inputs:

Cork Local Drugs Task Force	-	£100,000.00
Sisters of Mercy	-	Funding towards capital costs.
Southern Health Board	-	Provisional commitment of funds.

FAS	-	Special Project C.E. Scheme places.
Client Contributions and Donations	-	£6,000.00
Department of Social Community and Family Affairs	-	Possible input

Expected Outputs:

- Development of Halfway House.
- 12 rehabilitation places in the Halfway House.
- Reduction in relapses from the client group.

Targets to be achieved:

- Locating and renovating of suitable premises.
- Opening of Halfway House.
- 12 clients engaged in service.
- Utilisation of Special Project CE Scheme places.
- Tracking and recording of experience of client group.

Have the Promoters demonstrated the capacity to deliver the proposed project?

Yes. Tabor Lodge is an Addiction Treatment Centre. They currently offer 28-Day Residential Programme for men and women aged 18 years and upwards who suffer from alcohol, drug, gambling and food addictions. They provide a weekly family programme for up to 30-40 persons and an after care service for nine groups i.e. approximately 120 people per week. They provide a phone service, information and advice, both day and night. Tabor Lodge has recently opened Renewal in Shanakiel, Cork, which is a extended care programme for women which allows them put into practice what they have learned in the primary treatment facility by being involved in a worker training environment such as that offered by FAS in Blackpool. These young recovering addicts are putting a structure in their lives by living in the security of a halfway house. Some may choose to continue their studies and are encouraged to do so.

Details of Project Cost -

The total cost of the project - £300,000

The Sisters of Mercy made funding available, which helped to set up Renewal, and they are willing to make a similar arrangement for this project towards capital costs. The group has not applied from any other sources for this project but have verbal indications of support from the Southern Health Board.

Breakdown of costs: -

Wages and Salaries	-	£60,000
Food	-	£17,000
Power/Light/Heat	-	£2,000
Maintenance	-	£1,500
Insurance Public Liability and Professional Indemnity	-	£1,000
Telephone	-	£500
Office Supplies/Postage	-	£1,500
Management Fee	-	£2,500
Consultancy Fee	-	£7,500
(Auctioneers, Engineers, Architect and Solicitor)		
Motor Expenses	-	£3,000
Training	-	£2,500
Sundries Expenses	-	£1,000
Total	-	£100,000

The cost per person is £40 per day and it will cater for 10 – 12 men. The costings have been based on estimate costings of Renewal. The funding will be a full time Addiction Counsellor who will be a manager with two part-time Counsellors. In terms of supervisory staff there will be one person at night. There will probable be three people doing two nights work each. Consultancy fees refers to Architects, Engineers, Auctioneers and Solicitors. Training relates to staff training. The main sources of funding for Renewal are Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs, funding that comes from clients and donations and there is also some funding from the Southern Health Board.

Comment:

The original amount requested was £150,000. The Task Force reduced the costings by not recommending funding for depreciation costs, and also it was recommended that the Southern Health Board might fund the salary costs of the Addiction Counsellor as in Renewal. The Task Force received clarification from the group on the training budget and on the consultancy fees.

The Task Force is recommending funding this project but with the following provisos:

- Funding is conditional on the other funding being secured. In this regard we are recommending that FAS, the Department of Social Community and Family Affairs and the Southern Health Board consider this initiative further.

Strategy: To develop a co-ordinated Post Release Support Service for people leaving prison.

Action to be taken: The development of a post release support project.

Project Title - Post Release Services Project

Project Promoter - City of Cork V.E.C. (Prison Education Unit)

Project Priority – Level 1

General Description - This project aims to develop a post release support project through the recruitment of a Co-ordinator. The role of the Co-ordinator would be to liaise with statutory services, provide information on and support to ex-offenders as well as acting as a mentor.

Target Group - The target group is the offender population of Cork Prison, ex-offenders and the adult female relatives.

Geographical Area Covered - Cork City.

The aims and objectives of project.

This project aims to fill a gap in current provision with respect to ex-offenders in that there is no statutory agency that has a direct responsibility in the area. Once a prisoner has served his sentence, often a very long one, is released the Co-ordinator of Post Release Services would be responsible for giving information and advice, liaising with statutory services in relation to accommodation etc. They would act as a mentor in relation to the above and in relation to job seeking liaise with similar projects. They would also put in place a tracking mechanism to inform evolving practice and policy.

Evidence of the need for this project.

This target group was chosen because no other agency deals specifically and exclusively with this constituency of people. It is also a fact that the incidence of drug misuse and abuse amongst this group is high. The project will be located within Cork Prison and also St. Joseph's Hall, Sunbeam, and Gerald Griffith Street, because this is the area which is most accessible to the target population.

This project will address a Level One need as identified through the Drugs Task Force consultation process.

Details of the operation / management structure of the project.

It will be managed by a management committee, which will represent the major stakeholders in the project; the Dillon's Cross Project Outreach and the Bridge Co-op will be intricately involved in the project.

Details of how the project will complement other initiatives and avoid unnecessary overlap or duplication?

This project has been developed in agreement with all projects currently involved in post release service provision. The project will act as a liaison between all projects and will act as a resource to all projects.

How will this project address the drug problem?

In relation to how will this project address the drug problem there is high incidence of high drug misuse and abuse amongst this target group. This project will contribute to addressing the drug problem by acting as a support and resource to these people and encouraging them to move away from the drug scene.

Specify performance indicators against which the success of the project can be evaluated.

- The number of clients re-offending.
- Recidivism rates.
- Referrals.

Proposed Inputs:

Cork Local Drugs Task Force - £50,000

Expected Outputs:

- Establishment of service.
- Establishment of support structure.
- Worker employed.

Targets to be achieved:

- Engagement with the client group.
- Establishment of service.
- Response to service.

Have the Promoters demonstrated the capacity to deliver the proposed project?

All the members of the management committee are involved in management committees of their own projects, however, there will be a need for some management training in order for the group to develop an effective method of working.

Details of Project Cost -

Start Up Cost (advertisement and recruitment)	-	£1,500
Rent and Office Set Up	-	£5,000
Salary of Worker	-	£25,000
Travel and Subsistence	-	£1,500
Programme Activities	-	£8,000
Administration / Insurance	-	£6,000
Training Management Committee volunteers	-	£2,000
Initial Equipment	-	£1,000
Total	-	£50,000

Comment:

The Task Force is recommending funding this project but with the following guidelines:

- We recommend that we write to the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform and to the Governor of the Prison regarding the project and that we recommend that it should be a permanent post.

Strategy: To develop a support service for people leaving treatment and returning to their communities.

Action to be taken: The Southern Health Board will be exploring this issue further. Also it is hoped that a support structure for addicts can be developed through the existing Drugs Task Force project network.

Strategy: To review, evaluate and further develop the structure of implementation of the Special Project CE Schemes.

Action to be taken: The Task Force in consultation with FAS intend to review and evaluate the Special Project C.E. Schemes. We will then develop a revised structure of implementation, which will develop the initiative further.

Homelessness.

Strategy: To develop a comprehensive response and support structure for young people who are out of home and using or at risk if using drugs.

Action to be taken:

- Preventative educational programme.
- Street Outreach Work.

Project Title - Street Outreach Project

Project Promoter - Cork Simon Community

Project Priority – Level 1

General Description – This Project would aim to offer intensive support and intervention to young people who are out of home and using or at risk of using drugs. The project would employ two street workers who would provide outreach during anti-social hours, early mornings, late evenings, as well as at times arranged for individual meetings for young people sleeping rough.

Target Group - The target group is young people who are out of home particularly rough sleepers.

Geographical Area Covered - Cork City.

The aims and objectives of project.

- Cork Simon currently has a youth drugs project, which has started outreach at different times throughout the day. This is a structured outreach which aims to offer early intensive intervention to ensure people are assessed and appropriate referrals made. This is funded by the Young People's Facilities and Services Fund.
- The project we are now recommending will build on the existing project. The project aims to offer intensive support and intervention to people sleeping rough in the city. The project will particularly target young people.
- The project would work in collaboration with the existing Youth Homeless Drug Prevention Project and the Simon Soup Run.
- The project will employ two street workers who would provide outreach during anti social hours early mornings, late evenings as well as time arranged for individual meetings with people sleeping rough. The street workers would gain trust and build relationships with people who are sleeping rough with the aim of accessing them into accommodation and services.
- The workers would identify those at risk of using drugs or currently using drugs and provide information and support. A drug information pack for young homeless people is being developed by the youth project. The street workers would provide crisis intervention or emergency aid as necessary.
- In addition the project would collate qualitative and quantitative information which would be used to define scale and nature of homelessness and drug related problems in Cork.
- The outreach would involve making contact with people, making comprehensive assessment of their current needs and gathering information on their situation. The reasons why they are homeless: - if they are current drug users providing advice and information and appropriate referral. The street workers would have knowledge and experience of working with drug users and would discuss their current use to look at harm minimisation.
- The street workers will be based at the Anderson's Quay complex. This is a key city centre site close to the bus station it has proven to be accessible for homeless people from the city and those new to the city. The street workers can avail of the other services at the complex for people who they come in contact with on the street this includes crisis beds two kept for outreach workers, referral service, 11.00 o'clock to 2.00 o'clock day facility where people have access to laundry and showers as well as clothes and food, Simoncrafts a work project where people can go during the day.

Evidence of the need for this project.

This project will address a Level One need as identified through the Drugs Task Force consultation process. From the Cork Simon project 1999 Report the number of people who contacted the emergency shelter was 1,094, 20% of those people were under 25 years. The group has consulted widely for the development of this application including with young people on the street and have also consulted Focus Ireland in Dublin and Dublin Simon.

Details of the operation / management structure of the project.

The two street workers would work closely with the Youth Drug Worker and volunteer co-workers on the nightly Soup Run. The project would be managed by the Sheltered Management Group who is accountable to the Director. This group is currently responsible for all shelter projects.

Details of how the project will complement other initiatives and avoid unnecessary overlap or duplication?

Street workers would liaise with other agencies such as Drug and Alcohol Services, the Homeless Adolescent Unit and the other Drugs Task Force Projects. The project would link in with a wide number of other groups in the city e.g. YMCA, Gardai, Southern Health Board, local community groups, youth workers etc. There is no other homeless street outreach teams in Cork although it will link in with similar projects in Dublin. The project would work in collaboration with the existing Youth Homeless Drug Prevention Project and the Simon Soup Run.

How will this project address the drug problem?

The project will contribute to addressing the drug problem as follows: - Cork Simon Community believes that all those who are homeless are at risk of using drugs while recognising the growing number of homeless people are current users. For this reason the project will contribute by identifying homeless people in particularly under eighteen's who are at risk of using drugs and providing intervention through street outreach.

Specify performance indicators against which the success of the project can be evaluated.

- The number of people contacted through outreach work.
- The number of people referred to other agencies.
- The number of referrals for drug treatment.
- Testimonies from people contacted through outreach.

Proposed Inputs:

Cork Local Drugs Task Force - £67,500

Cork Simon will provide a base for the workers and will cover all associated capital costs e.g. equipment etc.

Expected Outputs:

- Employment of Street Workers.

- Development of Youth Homeless Drug Prevention Project.
- Provision of additional support for young people who are out of home.
- A provision of referral service for these young people.

Targets to be achieved:

- Two workers recruited.
- Comprehensive service developed.
- Young people contacted through outreach work.
- Young people referred to other agencies and drug treatment where necessary.

Have the Promoters demonstrated the capacity to deliver the proposed project?

Yes. Cork Simon is a well-established organisation and has a vast experience in relation to recruitment of staff, programme development and support for volunteers. They already run the Youth Drugs Project, which is funded by the Young People's Facilities and Services Fund. They also received Developmental Fund funding from the Cork Local Drugs Task Force toward drug awareness training for volunteers.

Details of Project Cost -

Estimated salary cost	-	£50,000
Management and administration costs	-	£2,000
Volunteer expenses		
- this includes out of pocket allowances(3@£40 per week)		
Travel (including part time volunteers),		
Training, food vouchers (£5x3x52)	-	£9,000
Running costs -	-	£5,000
Recruitment costs	-	£1,500
Total	-	£67,500

The volunteer expenses are for full time volunteers who live in the community and who will be working with the project.

Comment:

The Task Force received clarification from this project in relation to volunteer expenses and general costings.

The Task Force is recommending funding this project but with the following guidelines:

- That this project would link in with the Dion Project in the YMCA.
- That a cross referral service could be developed between these two initiatives.

Project Title – Díon

Project Promoter – YMCA

Project Priority – Level 1

General Description – The aim of the project is to provide young people at risk of being out of home with the skills necessary for independent survival. Experience has proven that people who do not possess proper coping skills for independent living find themselves as homeless persons which can lead to further problems with drug and alcohol addiction and prostitution. The Díon project received pilot funding from Cork Local Drugs Task Force last year, through the Developmental Fund.

Target Group – Young people aged 15 – 21 years.

Geographical area covered - Cork City.

The aims and objectives of project.

The project will:

- Recruit a group of young men and women from the care system or seeking independence.
- Develop and evaluate programmes suitable and relevant to the needs of this group.
- It is expected that an average of six attendants would complete an average of eight sessions.

The Díon project is based in the YMCA, which is centrally located for all agencies.

It is hoped that this initiative will work towards reducing the incidences of failure within independent living.

Evidence of the need for this project.

There is a high failure rate of independent living amongst this age group due to lack of basic living skills. This group are often overlooked and tend to get lost in the system. It is hoped that this initiative will work towards reducing the incidences of failure with independent living. This project will address a Level One need as identified through the Drugs Task Force consultation process.

Details of the operation / management structure of the project.

Dion will run in co-operation with the Adolescent Services Unit of the Southern Health Board and will be directly managed by the general secretary of the Cork YMCA who reports to the Board of Management on a monthly basis.

Details of how the project will complement other initiatives and avoid unnecessary overlap or duplication?

This project will link with the Southern Health Board, the Simon Drug Outreach Programme, Loughmahon Residential Unit for Girls, Wellsprings, Bruac and Edel House. It will complement these services and act as a resource to them.

How will this project address the drug problem?

This project will undertake preventative and educational work by facilitating the development of coping skills for independent living with the Target Group they hope to prevent further problems with drug and alcohol addiction and prostitution.

Specify performance indicators against which the success of the project can be evaluated.

The performance indicators will be:

- Recorded feedback from participants on process and programme content.
- Recorded feed back from referring agencies.
- Average of six attendants who would complete an average of eight sessions.
- Evidence skills acquired over the three-month period following the programme.

Proposed Inputs:

Cork Local Drugs Task Force	-	£24,500
YMCA: Premises and back up.		

Expected Outputs:

- Training Programmes to have taken place.
- Links developed with other organisations.

Targets to be achieved:

- 20 young people engaged with the service.
- Links developed with other agencies.
- Tracking and follow up results from participants should demonstrate value of project.

How will this integrate into the overall drugs Strategy?

This project will form an important part of the Cork Local Drugs Task Forces three-part response to youth homelessness. This project will form the preventative element of the response.

Have the Promoters demonstrated the capacity to deliver the proposed project?

Yes. The YMCA has already run a pilot of this project through the Cork Local Drugs Task Force Developmental Fund. They are an established organisation and the Task Force also funds two other projects in the YMCA, both of which have been successful.

Details of Project Cost –

Start-up costs	-	£1,500
Staff Costs (sessional)	-	£12,000
Programme development:	-	£4,000
Training Materials:	-	£3,000
Administration/Insurance etc	-	£3,000
Overheads	-	£1,000
Total	-	£24,500

Comment:

The Task Force also received applications for funding from two other groups proposing similar initiatives. It was decided that we fund this project but increase its capacity to cope with clients from the two other groups. The Task Force received clarification from this group on the costings and also on programme details.

The Task Force is recommending funding this project but with the following guidelines:

- We are increasing the costings to enable the project to deal with referrals from the Good Shepherd Services and Simon Drug Outreach Project.
- This project should also link with the YMCA Counselling Project.

Strategy: To liaise with the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform regarding the need for additional resources for the National Identity Scheme.

Action to be taken: The Task Force will meet with the Department of Justice to discuss this issue further.

Strategy: To develop a programme to focus on Off Licences.

Action to be taken: This will be dealt with through the Club Cork 2000 project.

Strategy: To develop a comprehensive service to deal with the problems with drug and alcohol abuse in the city center at weekends.

Action to be taken:

- The Club Cork 2000 project will deal with some of the issues related to this strategy.
- The Gardai training for doormen will also address part of this strategy.
- The Task Force also intend liaising with the Gardai to encourage the expansion of the Impact Patrol.
- The Task Force may need to review this strategy further as the above projects develop.

Strategy: To develop a comprehensive programme to focus on the issue of Solvent Abuse.

Action to be taken:

- This will be initially dealt with through the Community Drug Training project.
- An information campaign on solvents will be organised through the Task Force's information programme.
- A mechanism for supporting vendors will also be developed.

Strategy: To develop a comprehensive programme to tackle the abuse of prescribed drugs.

Project Title - Northside Community Health Initiative

Project Promoter – Northside Community Health Initiative

Project Priority – Level 1

General Description - This project will develop initiatives to promote individual and community awareness in relation to the benefits and dangers of prescribed drugs and also to develop a referral system with regard to mental health and well being, whereby appropriate and relevant alternatives to prescribed drugs are made available.

Target Group - There are a variety of target groups for this application.

Geographical Area Covered - Knocknaheeny / Hollyhill and surrounding areas, and wider in some elements of the programme.

The aims and objectives of project.

- The project will form part of and share the ethos of the overall NICHE Project. This includes commitment to developing innovative approaches to health related issues while drawing on existing resources. The strategies adopted by NICHE include development of appropriate alliances while building on existing strengths within the community.
- To develop a referral system with regard to mental health and well being in conjunction with designated GPs and other designated referral resources e.g. Public Health Nurses and Mental Health Services whereby appropriate and relevant alternatives to prescribed drugs are made available.
- There are two specific elements to this project, which will adopt different approaches to addressing drug-related issues.

Strategy 1 – Individual and Community Awareness. This element of the project will test different methodologies relevant to this specific target group for both document and experiences and raising awareness in relation to prescribed drugs.

- Two newsletters will be produced, one adult and one child orientated. Themes will include men talking, women talking, kids talking; each newsletter will have an information element and relevant competitions. They will be delivered widely and/or target specific groups.
- Focus Groups – focus groups will be used as a start up mechanism for in-depth consultation with local people. The project will draw on Niche’s experience in moderation of focus groups. Sub-groups targeted will include teenage boys and girls both women and men aged 18-30 years 30-55 years and 55+ years. Information gained from focus groups will be used to inform the development of the project activities.
- Visibility events – the project will organise drugs clearouts in conjunction with the local pharmacies.
- Well-Being Week which will focus on complementary therapies and an Education Week in relation to Prescription Drugs.
- The project will also organise specific information campaigns on the topics of antibiotics, asthma, medication focusing on young people and activities, hormone replacement therapy. They are also open to looking at other topics.
- It is envisaged that the programme will adopt a setting approach in co-operation with local GPs, Pharmacies, Health Centres, Supermarkets, Schools and Library.
- However, specific campaigns and programme initiatives will target at specific interest groups including parents of young children, teenagers, men and women aged 30-55 years and older people. Materials and information produced will be disseminated especially to the wider North West Sector of Cork City and further afield on request.

Strategy 2 – Referral and Support Scheme – This element of the project will involve the development of a referral system from GPs and other designated referral sources to the project. Specific criteria for appropriate referral will be developed by the project steering committee. Each person being referred will receive focus support for up to twelve weeks. This support offered will consist of: -

- (1) Individual support particularly on initial contact with the project and as a means of encouraging involvement in other elements of the project.
- (2) Skills development training for stress management and relaxation techniques in a group setting lasting 8 – 10 weeks. Approaches used will be developed with technical assistance from the Mental Health Services of the Southern Health Board and other relevant practitioners and will encompass proven strategies already in use. The focus will be on personal skills enhancement.
- (3) Access to appropriate therapies in particular massage and Aromatherapy from an accredited practitioner. Links to broader community based support primarily through various aspects of the existing NICHE programme and other locally based organisations. This will be based on individual needs and interests. A system will be put in place to track and document the progress of individuals referred to the programme. This element of the project will be targeted toward individuals from within the NICHE project area referred by designated GPs and other designated referral services. The project will be located in Knocknaheeny/Hollyhill.

The equivalent of two fulltime staff will be recruited to this project. Staff will be supported through existing NICHE structures.

NICHE is based on recognition that health issues are an important aspect of the quality of life in local areas and that local action on health issues can be part of a wider social strategy. Moreover the existence of a general level of social exclusion/poverty in the area is recognised to have an impact on the health status of the community and on access to health promoting facilities and opportunities.

How does this meet the identified needs of the area?

This project will address a Level One need as identified through the Drugs Task Force consultation process. This funding application draws on information received through various consultation mechanisms including health forums, contact with community health workers, anecdotal and cultural evidence and private research undertaken by NICHE.

Details of the operation / management structure of the project.

The project will be sponsored and administered by NICHE. Dr. John Cooney, Clinical Director, Mental Health Services, Southern Health Board, will provide technical support to the project. A Steering Group will be established which will include NICHE and relevant health services, GPs, pharmacies and local representatives.

How will this project address the drug problem?

The project will raise awareness of dangers of prescribed drugs and will also develop alternative drug treatment for those who are abusing prescribed drugs.

Specify performance indicators against which the success of the project can be evaluated.

- It is envisaged that up to forty people will participate over a one-year period.
- The project will link in with and complement other initiatives and also act as a resource to other initiatives in particular the project has been directed to link in with Arbour House and other treatment centres.

- Two newsletters produced and circulated.
- Information from focus groups available to the project.
- Number of people participating in visibility events.
- Information campaigns held.
- Number of people referred to support scheme – outcome of referrals.

Proposed Inputs:

Cork Local Drugs Task Force - £51,000

Expected Outputs:

- Two newsletters produced.
- Focus groups developed.
- Visibility events developed.
- Information campaigns held.
- Support Scheme developed.

Targets to be achieved:

- Two newsletters produced.
- Focus groups developed.
- Visibility events developed.
- Information campaigns held.
- Support Scheme developed.

Have the Promoters demonstrated the capacity to deliver the proposed project?

NICHE is an established project and has delivered similar projects.

Details of Project Cost –

Start-up costs (advertisement and recruitment)	-	£1,500
Project Worker (1 fulltime)	-	£25,000
Travel/Subsistence	-	£1,500
Programme development:		
Newsletters x 2	-	£3,000
Focus Groups	-	£500
Visibility events:	-	£1,500
Campaigns:	-	£2,000
Complementary Therapies:	-	£3,000
Documentation:	-	£1,000
Administration/Insurance etc	-	£6,000
Rent / office set up	-	£6,000
Total		£51,000

Comment:

The Task Force received clarification from this project on a number of issues including programme costs and programme content. This application was originally much bigger and the Task Force reduced it to the elements contained in this proposal.

The Task Force is recommending funding this project but with the following guidelines:

- We recommend funding the thematic newsletters, focus groups, visibility events, and specific information campaigns.
- We also recommend funding the referral and support scheme.
- We do not recommend funding the Information Technology element, the community arts section or the video production.
- Where possible we recommend that the project be extended outside its catchment area to cover the Northside or full city. (e.g. Information Campaigns)
- The focus groups should be used to inform the newsletter.
- The group should link with local community arts groups if possible.
- This project should be developed as a pilot project with the long-term aim of developing a model of good practice that can be used elsewhere.
- It is also recommended that this project link in with the Cork Community Drug Prevention Training in Cork City Partnership in relation to their course on Prescribed Drugs
- The project should avail of existing equipment within the community rather than purchasing new equipment.

Project Title - Newbury House Young Mother's Group

Project Promoter - Newbury House Family Centre

Project Priority – Level 1

General Description – This project aims to further develop the Young Mothers Group that is currently run by this organisation.

Target Group - Young Mothers in the Mayfield area.

Geographical Area Covered - Mayfield

The aims and objectives of project.

The Young Mother's Group previously existed in Newbury House as an initiative funded by the Department of Education and Science. Funding has now ceased but experience gained from this group includes the high dependence on anti-depressants. Sporadic contact now exists with this group. Young parents both male and female are in constant contact with the centre through the childcare facilities and can be easily engaged.

Evidence of the need for this project.

This project will address a Level One need as identified through the Drugs Task Force consultation process. There is an identified need for additional support work for young parents particularly in relation to prescribed drugs.

Details of the operation / management structure of the project.

This project will be managed by Newbury House Family Resource Centre.

Details of how the project will complement other initiatives and avoid unnecessary overlap or duplication?

This project will act as a resource to existing initiatives in the Mayfield area. It will link in with Mayfield Youth 2000 with the possibility of cross referral services being developed.

How will this project address the drug problem?

This project will contribute to addressing the drug problem by reducing the demand and dependence on prescribed drugs amongst young parents in the Mayfield area.

Specify performance indicators against which the success of the project can be evaluated.

- The number of young parents engaged in the group.
- Development of activities.
- Evaluation and feedback from the participants.

Proposed Inputs:

Cork Local Drugs Task Force	-	£10,000
Southern Health Board	-	£5,000

Expected Outputs:

- The organisation of comprehensive support for young parents in the Mayfield area.

Targets to be achieved

The targets to be achieved by this project are:

- The restarting of the Young Parents Support Group.
- Engagement of young parents in this group.
- Organisation of activities.

Have the Promoters demonstrated the capacity to deliver the proposed project?

Newbury House Family Centre is a well-established project and has experience in organising training and it has previously run this group.

Details of Project Cost -

Young Mothers Group 8 group members residential weekend	-	£1,000
Two Facilitators at £20 per hour	-	£1,600
8 weeks outreach/evaluation £200 per week	-	£1,600
Child care costs £5 per hour for two-hour sessions		
20 weeks 8-10 children	-	£2,000
Supervision – 20 weeks at £20	-	£400
Room Rental/ Lighting/ESB	-	£1,400
Report Writing and Dissemination	-	£2,000
Total	-	£10,000

£5,000 is being received from the Southern Health Board.

Comment:

This project originally included a request for funding for a Youth Arts Programme. The Task Force felt that there were more appropriate channels of funding for this programme possibly through the Cork Corporation Community Arts Project and this will be recommended to the Cork Corporation.

The Task Force received clarification from this group in relation to costing and in relation to the programme activity of the Young Mothers Group.

The Task Force is recommending funding this project but with the following guidelines:

- That the project would link in with other Task Force Initiatives – Mayfield Youth 2000 and the NICHE project in relation to prescribed drugs, C.W.E.I. in relation to prescribed drugs and also with the Cork Community Drug Prevention Training a Prescribed Drugs Course that they are organising.

Strategy: To develop a structure to facilitate the development of links with local GPs.

Action to be taken:

- This will be initiated through the NICHE project.
- The Task Force also intends to invite a G.P. representative to join the Task Force.
- It was suggested that a seminar be organized for GPs to allow them to participate in the process and the Task Force will consider this further.

Cross Task Force Issues.

One issue which the National Drug Strategy Team may wish to consider further is the development of a dedicated Web-site for each Task Force. This would facilitate increased information sharing and awareness raising. Also each Task Force should have access to e-mail and this should be considered further.

Summary of funding allocated by the Cork Local Drugs Task Force

The projects are listed in order of priority under each heading.

Additional Funding Required for Existing Projects:

Priority 1 - YMCA Youth Counselling and Support Project – Amount Allocated - £20,000

Additional Supports for the Cork Local Drugs Task Force:

Priority 1 – Staff Development – Amount Allocated - £45,000

Priority 1 – Networking – Amount Allocated - £15,000

Priority 2 – Facilitation Training and Network – Amount Allocated - £15,000

Priority 3 – Information Structure – Amount Allocated - £5,000

Drug Training:

Priority 1 – Cork Community Drug Prevention Training Project – Amount Allocated - £10,000

Priority 2 – Club Cork 2000 – Amount Allocated - £32,000

Expansion and Development of the Cork Local Drugs Task Force Community Project Programme:

Priority 1 – Dublin Hill Initiative for Youth – Amount Allocated - £90,000

Priority 1 – Ballincollig Youth Initiative – Amount Allocated - £61,000

Priority 1 – Gurrabraher/Churchfield Outreach Project – Amount Allocated - £46,000

Priority 1 – Greenmount Youth Initiative – Amount Allocated - £50,000

Priority 1 – Mayfield Youth 2000 – Amount Allocated - £50,000

Priority 1 – Ballyphehane Action for Youth – Amount Allocated - £43,500

Priority 2 – Carrigaline Youth Initiative – Amount Allocated - £50,000

Priority 2 – Glanmire Community Development Initiative – Amount Allocated - £48,000

Priority 3 – D.A.Y.S. Project – Amount Allocated - £54,000

Education and Supports:

Priority 1 – School Assistance Programme – Amount Allocated - £90,000

Priority 1 – Hillgrove Outreach – Amount Allocated - £44,000

Priority 1 – Parents Support Group – Amount Allocated - £20,000

Priority 1 – Peer Education Programme – Amount Allocated - £50,000

Rehabilitation Programmes and Services:

Priority 1 – Halfway House for Men – Amount Allocated - £100,000

Priority 1 – Post Release Services Project – Amount Allocated - £50,000

Homelessness:

Priority 1 – Cork Simon Outreach Project – Amount Allocated - £67,500

Priority 2 – Dion – Amount Allocated - £24,500

Supply Reduction:

Priority 1 – Northside Community Health Initiative – Amount Allocated - £51,000

Priority 2 – Newbury House Young Mother's Group – Amount Allocated - £10,000

TOTAL ALLOCATED: £1,141,500

Capital Projects

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force received a number of applications for Capital Funding we have not included recommendations on these projects at this stage. If capital funding becomes available for Drugs Task Forces we will further explore the possibility of funding the following projects but at this stage we are not recommending funding of any of them. However, the Cork Local Drugs Task Force is in agreement that the priority project for funding should capital costs become available is the Mahon Youth Network Project. This application is to further develop and refurbish a dedicated youth facility in Mahon. The Task Force currently has two projects in Mahon – (1) The M.A.Y. Project (2) Cork YMCA Special Project C.E. Scheme. Both of these projects are operating without premises, as are other similar projects in the Mahon area. We feel that this youth facility would be a vital resource for the community. Mahon has received capital for community buildings but this building will not house any youth organisations or facilities. The Cork Local Drugs Task Force has agreed to meet with Cork Corporation who currently has ownership of the property in order to progress the matter further. We will be recommending this project for some funding should capital costs be made available to Task Forces.

Name of Project Promoter –Mahon Youth Network

Project Title – Mahon Youth Network

Amount requested - £600,000

Summary of Project including details of costs –This application is to further develop and refurbish Ringmahon House to enable it to be used as a dedicated youth facility.

Geographical Area Covered – Mahon

Does this project fill an identified gap – Yes – Level One

No decision made on this application - It was recommended that we would consider funding an element of this proposal particularly as we have two projects working without premises in Mahon.

Name of Project Promoter –Middle Parish Community Association.

Project Title – Refurbishment of Community Centre

Amount requested - £225,975

Summary of Project including details of costs –This application is for funding to refurbish the Middle Parish Community Centre.

Geographical Area Covered – Middle Parish

Does this project fill an identified gap - No– Level Two

No decision made on this application - It was recommended that we would consider it if we receive funding for capital.

Name of Project Promoter –Community and Renewal Enterprises.

Project Title – Renovation of room space in the Parochial Hall.

Amount requested - £165,500

Summary of Project including details of costs –This application is for the renovation of room space in the Parochial Hall.

Geographical Area Covered – Gurrabraher / Churchfield

Does this project fill an identified gap - No– Level Two

No decision made on this application - It was recommended that we would consider it if we receive funding for capital.

Name of Project Promoter –Matt Talbot Adolescent Services.

Project Title – Matt Talbot Adolescent Services.

Amount requested - £20,300

Summary of Project including details of costs –This application is for the purchase of a seven-seater Picnic Toyota saloon to act as a support to the service.

Geographical Area Covered – Cork City

No decision made on this application - It was recommended that we would consider it if we receive funding for capital.

Other Projects.

Project Title - Cork Community Film Production Network

Project Promoter - Mahon Community Action Plan

Project Priority -

General Description - The group aims to be a centre for community access to film making in Cork. They wish to train young people in filmmaking and make anti drug videos. The funding required is for film making equipment, production costs, training and insurance.

Details of Project Cost - £34,470

Comment:

This application is not recommended for funding, as the proposal was not related to a gap that had been identified by the Cork Local Drugs Task Force. It was recommended that we would discuss this proposal with the Young People's Facilities and Services Fund to see if there was a possibility of funding the equipment element of the project. If funds are sourced this way, the Drugs Task Force may then consider funding the Drug Video element of the proposal. This will be considered under the Development Fund in the new plan.

Projects that are not recommended for funding.

The Task Force received a number of applications that were very worthwhile and interesting, but which did not relate directly to the remit of the Task Force. The majority of these were redirected to other sources of funding. They included:

Name of Project Promoter: St. Mary's On the Hill Youth Group.

Project Title - St. Mary's On the Hill Youth Group.

Amount requested - £15,000

Summary of Project including details of costs -

This is a Youth Group in Knocknaheeny / Hollyhill that is organised by local volunteers. They did not specify exactly what they want the money for, but it appeared to be for continuation of the service provided. There was not a detailed breakdown of the funding attached.

Geographical Area Covered - Knocknaheeny / Hollyhill.

Does this project fill an identified gap - No

Recommendation -

This application is not recommended for funding, as the proposal was not related to a gap that had been identified by the Cork Local Drugs Task Force. It was recommended that we could refer the group to the V.E.C. Youth + Sport Grant or the Young People's Facilities and Services Fund.

Name of Project Promoter - Anama Chara Project

Project Title - Anama Chara Project.

Amount requested - £4,000

Summary of Project including details of costs -

This is a voluntary group in Knocknaheeny / Hollyhill who work with young people. The funding was required to develop the current work of the group further. There was not a financial breakdown attached.

Geographical Area Covered - Knocknaheeny / Hollyhill

Does this project fill an identified gap - No

Recommendation -

This application is not recommended for funding, as the proposal was not related to a gap that had been identified by the Cork Local Drugs Task Force. It was recommended that we could refer the group to the Community Development Unit in the Cork City Partnership, the V.E.C. Youth + Sport Grant or the Young People's Facilities and Services Fund, or the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs, as more relevant sources of funding.

Name of Project Promoter - Cork G.A.A. Designated Area Scheme

Project Title - Cork G.A.A. Designated Area Scheme.

Amount requested - £6,000

Summary of Project including details of costs -

It was unclear from the application what the funding is required for, however it seems to be for further development of the existing project. The funding breakdown is not attached to the application.

Geographical Area Covered - Cork City

Does this project fill an identified gap - No

Recommendation -

This application is not recommended for funding, as the proposal was not related to a gap that had been identified by the Cork Local Drugs Task Force. It was recommended that this proposal could be referred to the Young People's Facilities and Services Fund and the V.E.C. Youth + Sport Grant.

Name of Project Promoter – Terence McSweeney Community College

Project Title – Best Practice for a School Drug Policy in Practice.

Amount requested - £7,000

Summary of Project including details of costs – The school are currently developing a School Drug Policy to help prevent Tobacco, Alcohol and Drug Misuse amongst the students and the school community. They want to develop a whole school community approach to the drug issue. Under this project they will target a second year group for specific training. This group will include at risk students. They will organise a Drug Awareness Week, provide information on drugs, provide a Drug Addiction Counsellor to work in the school for a half-day per week, a training course for teachers and parents and a Peer Education Programme for a second year group. The costings are for the employment of a Drug Addiction Counsellor for four hours per week and for the cost associated with Drug Awareness Week.

Geographical Area Covered – The School Community of the Terence McSweeney College.

Does this project fill an identified gap – No

Recommendation -

This application is not recommended for funding as it was felt that it is possible to meet the requirements of the project elsewhere: through the Knocknaheeny Special Justice Project, the School Support Programme and the Community Drugs Team in Church St it was also recommended that we refer the application to the Young People's Facilities and Services Fund in relation to the funding required for prizes etc.

Name of Project Promoter – Youthlinks Development Initiative

Project Title – Drugs the complete picture from our point of view.

Amount requested - £40,000

Summary of Project including details of costs –

This is a development education programme for community based youth groups, clubs, after school support groups in Cork City. It aims to use creative methanol to allow the participants to explore the issues around in their communities as part of an educational programme. This did receive some small funding from the Drugs Task Force under the first plan. The funding applied for is to recruit a Community Youth Officer, educational workshop and material for resource programme costs, admin costs, and travel costs.

Geographical Area Covered – Cork City

Does this project fill an identified gap – No

Recommendation -

This project is not recommended for funding. There was some confusion regarding this project which wasn't clarified by the applicant group. The application refers to a project originally funded under the first Drugs Task Force Plan; this is not the organization that was funded to carry out the project. This was considered to be an inappropriate project for an emerging organisation.

Name of Project Promoter – Matt Talbot Adolescent Services

Project Title – Matt Talbot Adolescent Services.

Amount requested – Their detailed costs are not currently available – see application form for further details.

Summary of Project including details of costs – The aim of this project is to equip parents, community and any working with young people with substance abuse problems with the necessary skills and tools and information to do this work successfully. They plan to do this by inviting specialist in the field of adolescent addiction to Cork to give workshops which will be open to all those dealing with young people.

Geographical Area Covered – Cork City

Does this project fill an identified gap - Yes- Level 1

Recommendation -

This project is not recommended for funding. It was felt that this application was outside the remit of the service at the moment and it would seem to duplicate some of the work already in existence in the city. However, it was felt that the Matt Talbot Service would be a valuable resource to the existing training programme that we fund through the Cork City Partnership and that we recommend that they link together.

Name of Project Promoter - Health Promotion Department Southern Health Board

Project Title - Research in Good Practice in Drug Education.

Amount requested - £25,000

Summary of Project including details of costs – This project aims to fund a position of a researcher who will undertake a research project which will provide key workers and professional working in substance misuse prevention and education with information on best practice and guidelines on effective drug prevention and education programmes within the community. There are not details of cost with this application.

Geographical Area Covered – Southern Health Board catchment area

Does this project fill an identified gap – Yes-Level 1

Recommendation -

This project is not recommended for funding as it duplicates the research carried out by Liz Kiely, which is currently funded by the Drugs Task Force.

Name of Project Promoter – Health Promotion Department Southern Health Board

Project Title - Alcohol Awareness for Parents.

Amount requested - £30,000

Summary of Project including details of costs – The project aims to recruit a Health Education Officer with the brief to develop and deliver programme of Alcohol Awareness for Parents and to support the Schools Support Programme currently running in the Department of Health Promotion. A break down of costs is not attached.

Geographical Area Covered – Southern Health Board catchment area

Does this project fill an identified gap – Yes-Level 1

Recommendation - We are not recommending this project for funding. There is a possibility that the School Support Programme may receive another worker following evaluation and we feel that it would be more relevant to continue to fund the project following evaluation rather than adding another worker at this stage. (This project will be evaluated in September).

Name of Project Promoter - St. Vincent's Underage Section

Project Title - St. Vincent's Underage Section.

Amount requested - £50,000

Summary of Project including details of costs - This project applied for funding to recruit a youth worker to deliver a drug education / prevention programme in the club. The funding is for a worker, training and administration costs.

Geographical Area Covered - North West Ward.

Does this project fill an identified gap - No

Recommendation -

It was recommended that we would not fund this project for the following reasons:

The proximity of the club to currently funded projects (Knocknaheeny Special Justice Project) and to projects currently being developed: (Gurranabraher / Churchfield Outreach Project and The Rock Centre, Blarney Street). It was felt that the young people catered for in the club would also be catered for by these other projects. We felt that to fund this project would serve to duplicate existing or proposed initiatives.

Also it was recommended that projects that are currently funded could be requested to provide the club with a drug education / prevention programme, if there are young people not involved in other initiatives.

Is there a possibility that the new Sports Officer would also be able to work with the club on some of the issues highlighted?

Name of Project Promoter - Traveller Visibility Group

Project Title - Traveller Visibility Group.

Amount requested- £20,000

Summary of Project including details of costs - This project aims to promote traveller self-determination and empowerment through Health and Education Programmes. The funding is for programme and administration costs.

Geographical Area Covered - Cork City.

Does this project fill an identified gap - Maybe

How high a priority is this gap - Level 2

Recommendation -

We are not recommending this project for funding. They are currently funded by the Drugs Task Force and have only recently restarted this project due to internal difficulty. We recommend that the current project should be concluded and evaluated before any further recommendation is made.

Name of Project Promoter – This is a Joint Application involving the following: Foroige Glen Youth Development Project, Foroige Young Men's Project, Glen Action Project, Glen and District Neighbourhood Youth Project, The Glen Residents Forum, Glen Celtic, Youthreach the Glen, local Gardai, Magnet and the Glen Estate Management Group.

Project Title – Glen Substance Misuse Counsellor.

Amount requested - £50,000

Summary of Project including details of costs – This is an application from The Glen for a full-time dedicated Substance Abuse Counsellor, which would network effectively with existing services. This Counsellor would be accessible to young people and adults who are affected by substance misuse in The Glen. The cost includes salary costs, travel, and rent of office and general programme cost for the worker.

Geographical Area Covered – The Glen

Does this project fill an identified gap – No

Recommendation -

We are not recommending this project for funding. We felt that this proposal duplicates other services that exist outside of the community. It is recommended that this group would contact the Community Drugs Team in Church St, to discuss the delivery of such a service.

Name of Project Promoter – Meitheal Mara

Project Title – One Boat.

Amount requested - £74,000

Summary of Project including details of costs – This application is to fund a maritime training course and boatbuilding course for people in recovery or post release. The funding is for support for trainees, administration, and training.

Geographical Area Covered – Cork City

Does this project fill an identified gap – Indirectly

Recommendation -

We are not recommending this project for funding. This project is already funded comprehensively by the Young People's Facilities and Services Fund, which is a related fund to the Cork Local Drugs Task Force. The client group is being catered for in other areas. It was decided that this is worthwhile as a diversionary project but is not necessarily relevant to the funding for the Cork Local Drugs Task Force.

Name of Project Promoter - Good Shepherd Services

Project Title - Good Shepherd Services.

Amount requested - £40,000

Summary of Project including details of costs -This project aims to expand their outreach services through the employment of two outreach workers. This would enable them to provide a service at nights and at weekends to work with people who are most at risk. The funding applied for is for the cost of two workers and related programme and administration costs.

Geographical Area Covered - Cork City

Does this project fill an identified gap – Yes - Level One

Recommendation -

We are not recommending this project for funding. In general terms it was felt that the Southern Health Board would be a more appropriate source of funding for some elements of this application. In relation to the drug education element we are recommending that the service link in with the DION project, as well as with the Simon Outreach Project. Also it was felt that existing project could act as an ongoing support to this service.

Name of Project Promoter - Southern Health Board + Voluntary Organisations.

Project Title - Youth Café.

Amount requested - To be discussed.

Summary of Project including details of costs - This project aims to provide a resource and refuge for at risk individuals, which would provide a conduit to professionals and others who are engaged in providing support to young people.

Geographical Area Covered - Cork City

Does this project fill an identified gap - Yes - Level One

Recommendation -

We are not recommending this project for funding at this time. It is recommended that we defer a decision on this application. The amount of funding is very large and the concept needs detailed investigation. Following this we would be interested in receiving a report on how the service will work.

Name of Project Promoter – Knocknaheeny / Hollyhill Justice Project.

Project Title – Knocknaheeny / Hollyhill Justice Project.

Amount requested - £93,000

Summary of Project including details of costs –This application is for funding to further develop the existing project through the employment of two Development Workers and related programme costs.

Geographical Area Covered – Knocknaheeny / Hollyhill.

Does this project fill an identified gap – Yes – Level One

Recommendation - A final decision has not been made on this project. It was recommended that we do not fund two workers but that we may consider one depending on the job description. We are awaiting further details from the project.

Name of Project Promoter – Denis Murray - Village United B Soccer Team.

Project Title – Football is their future.

Amount requested - £5,000

Summary of Project including details of costs – This soccer team is based in the Mayfield area with players ranging from ages sixteen to twenty-five. The application for funding is to keep the group together and continue to allow more people to participate. The money will be spent on entrance fees, insurance, gear, footballs, transport costs. The project also has weekly subscriptions, which pay for referees and ground fees etc.

Geographical Area Covered – Mayfield

Does this project fill an identified gap - Unclear

Recommendation -

This application is not recommended for funding, as the proposal was not related to a gap that had been identified by the Cork Local Drugs Task Force. It was recommended that we could refer the group to the V.E.C. Youth + Sport Grant or the Young People’s Facilities and Services Fund.

Name of Project Promoter - Tramore Athletic FC Cork.

Project Title - Development of Youth Facilities.

Amount requested - £15,000

Summary of Project including details of costs - This application is for the further development of the club, which is located at South Douglas Rd. The funding applied for is for the cost of a ride on mower and strimmer, security upgrading and pitch drainage.

Geographical Area Covered - Ballyphehane, Turners Cross, Ballinlough.

Does this project fill an identified gap - No

Recommendation-

This application is not recommended for funding, as the proposal was not related to a gap that had been identified by the Cork Local Drugs Task Force. It was recommended that we could refer the group to the V.E.C. Youth + Sport Grant or the Young People’s Facilities and Services Fund.

Name of Project Promoter - Cork Butter Exchange Brass and Reed Band.

Project Title - Cork Butter Exchange Brass and Reed Band.

Amount requested- £10,000

Summary of Project including details of costs - This application is for the further development of the Band by increasing its capacity to work with additional young people. The funding is for new instruments, uniforms and premises improvement.

Geographical Area Covered - Northside of Cork City.

Does this project fill an identified gap - No

Recommendation -

This application is not recommended for funding, as the proposal was not related to a gap that had been identified by the Cork Local Drugs Task Force. It was recommended that we could refer the group to the V.E.C. Youth + Sport Grant or the Young People’s Facilities and Services Fund.

Name of Project Promoter - Foroige

Project Title - Grange / Douglas Youth In Action Project.

Amount requested- £57,500

Summary of Project including details of costs - The project aims to divert young people from abuse or risk of abuse of alcohol or drugs through involving the community in developing and implementing a plan to address local youth needs. The funding required is for the recruitment of a worker and additional related costs.

Geographical Area Covered - Douglas and Grange

Does this project fill an identified gap – Yes - Level Two

Recommendation -

This application is not recommended for funding.

Name of Project Promoter - Wellspring Aftercare Programme.

Project Title – Wellsprings Aftercare Programme.

Amount requested - £50,000

Summary of Project including details of costs – Wellsprings Aftercare Programme provides residential care for eight young women from the ages of sixteen upwards and it also provides ongoing support to young women once they have left the residential Centre through their outreach programme. They are applying for money to further

develop a programme which is already in existence by adding the provision of a nursery for the fifteen children who are in the care of the current client group. This would involve employing a person on a part-time basis to supervise the children while the mother can take part in different programmes to be offered in Wellsprings. The costs are not detailed in the application form.

Geographical Area Covered – Cork City

Does this project fill an identified gap – Level 2

Recommendation – This application was discussed in detail and the final recommendation the Cork Local Drug Task Force may not be the most appropriate source of funding for the application. It was recommended that we refer this project to the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform, who have an allocation funding for childcare initiatives.

Name of Project Promoter: Community Women’s Education Initiative.

Project Title: Women’s Health Drug Prevention Programme.

Amount requested- £73,900 per year.

Summary of Project including details of costs - This project aims to encourage women who are socially and economically excluded to participate in Women’s Health and Drugs preventative programmes. The funding is for a co-ordinator, facilitators and programme costs.

Geographical Area Covered: Cork City

Does this project fill an identified gap: Yes: Level 1.

Recommendation – This application is not recommended for funding, as the Task Force is recommending another comprehensive proposal in relation to Prescribed Drugs. We are recommending that this project continue to receive the original funding from the Task Force, which was to provide support for women to enable them to access services. It is also recommended that this project will link in with the NICHE project.

Name of Project Promoter – Northside Community Enterprises Outreach Project.

Project Title – Northside Community Enterprises Outreach.

Amount requested - £203,000

Summary of Project including details of costs – Northside Community Enterprise Outreach is a post treatment-training centre for people in recovery from addiction. People are referred from Tabor Lodge, Hearth, Renewal, Edel House, Wellsprings, Cork Prison, Fort Mitchell, etc. The Outreach consists of seven projects, which employ a hundred and twelve people, eighty-two in recovery and thirty support workers. The objectives of these projects will be to offer these participants a transition period where they can further their education skills through certification for progression to employment. Participants receive training and also receive employment opportunities. This proposal aims to develop the project further by providing addiction counselling for all participants, personnel development and self awareness course, general counselling, career guidance counselling and training in parenting, health and social issues. Breakdown of costs include the employment of a Career Guidance Counsellor and an Addiction Counsellor, a part-time nurse, the recruitment of an electronic assembly worker, the recruitment of an instructor in construction skills, the development of a radio/communication programme and this aspect of the project would employ a station manger, buy equipment and expenses.

Geographical Area Covered – Cork City

Recommendation - We are not recommending this project for funding. We felt that this proposal duplicates other services that exist outside of the centre. We felt that it would be more appropriate for the Cork Local Drugs Task Force to encourage groups to link in with existing services rather than duplicate services. In this regard we are recommending that this organisation liaise with the Southern Health Board in relation to the counselling element and the nursing element of the proposal, FAS and the V.E.C. in relation to the training and education elements of the proposal. In relation to the Radio Station element of the proposal this was considered diversionary and was referred to the Youth + Sport Working Group. Following discussion, the Cork Local Drug Task Force felt that the Radio Station element of the proposal was not at a sufficiently advances stage for the Task Force to consider funding it. If this project receives a licence, the Task Force may consider the proposal further.

Conclusion:

This concludes the updated Action Plan for the Cork Local Drugs Task Force. We strongly feel that the proposals detailed herein will have a strategic role in addressing the drug problem in Cork City, and we look forward to the implementation of this plan.

Full copies of all funding applications are available from the office of the Cork Local Drugs Task Force, as are details of the consultation and information gathering process.

APPENDICES

CORK LOCAL DRUGS TASK FORCE

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

1. Consultation Process.
2. Advertisement in newspapers/general publicity calling for applications for funding (Applications may be called for under specific headings).
3. A comprehensive support structure for applicants will be in place. A support clinic will take place in each community, offering advice and guidance for applications based on research of community audit and community consultation. A support team will also be established to assist groups with applications.
4. Application procedure:
 - Applicants will be given two months to apply for funding.
 - A comprehensive application form will be used and a points system will be used in assessing applications.
5. Assessment of Applications:
 - Each sub-committee on the Cork Local Drugs Task Force will assess applications relevant to their theme.
 - A comprehensive application form will be used and a points system will be used in assessing applications.
 - “Criteria” for funding will also be developed and will be taken into account in the assessment of applications.

Examples of this could include:

- promoting good models of practice.
- focus on “unclubable” young people.
- avoid duplication etc.

SUB-COMMITTEE STRUCTURE FOR THE CORK LOCAL DRUGS TASK FORCE.

- The Task Force would divide into sub-committees based on priorities identified.

- Each sub-committee would be chaired by a member of the Task Force and would involve other members of the Task Force with an expertise/interest in the theme of the sub-committee. Sub-committees will not be limited in their membership and may invite others to participate, (i.e. people of particular expertise, GPs, addicts, young people, etc.)

- Each sub-committee would also hold a workshop based on their theme, which would encourage feedback and input from relevant groups.

- Each sub-committee would then assess applications relevant to the theme of the sub-committee.

- The sub-committee would also be proactive in identifying and encouraging applications based on identified needs/gaps in services.

- The recommendation of each sub-committee would then be presented to the Cork Local Drugs Task Force.

Cork Local Drug Task Force

Confidential Points Assessment.

Application Assessment.

Name Of Application:

Does this project address a Level One Gap?

Yes: 10 points. Maybe: 5 points. No: 0 points. Allocated: points

Does the applicant group have previous experience of working with the Target Group?

Yes: 10 points. Maybe: 5 points. No: 0 points. Allocated: points.

Has the applicant group engaged in any consultation in relation to the application?

Yes: 10 points. Maybe: 5 points. No: 0 points. Allocated: points.

Does this proposal duplicate or overlap with any other group in the community or any other service?

No: 10 points. Maybe: 5 points. Yes: 0 points. Allocated: points.

Will this project link with existing services?

Yes: 10 points. Maybe: 5 points. No: 0 points. Allocated: points.

Is there an adequate support structure in place for staff?

Yes: 10 points. Maybe: 5 points. No: 0 points. Allocated: points.

Is there an adequate support structure in place for volunteers?

Yes: 10 points. Maybe: 5 points. No: 0 points. Allocated: points.

Will this project clearly contribute to addressing the drug problem in Cork City?

Yes: 10 points. Maybe: 5 points. No: 0 points. Allocated: points.

Did the applicant group make contact with the Drug Task Force prior to making the application or did they avail of the Technical Assistance available?

Yes: 10 points. Maybe: 5 points. No: 0 points. Allocated: points.

Does this application clearly focus on an at-risk group?

Yes: 10 points. Maybe: 5 points. No: 0 points. Allocated: points.

Are there other sources of funding available to this project?

No: 10 points. Maybe: 5 points. Yes: 0 points. Allocated: points.

Total Points for This Application:

General information for applicants for funding from the Cork Local Drugs Task Force.

Objectives of Local Drugs Task Forces

The overall aim of the Government's drugs policy is to provide an effective, integrated response to the problems posed by drug misuse. The key objectives of that policy are:

- to reduce the numbers of people turning to drugs in the first instance, through comprehensive education and prevention programmes;
- to provide appropriate treatment and aftercare for those who are dependent on drugs;
- to have appropriate mechanisms in place at national and local level, aimed at reducing the supply of illicit drugs; and
- to ensure that an appropriate level of accurate and timely information is available to inform the response to the problem.

In contribution to these overall aims and objectives, the Local Drugs Task Forces were set up to develop and implement a drugs strategy for their areas which co-ordinates all relevant programmes and addresses any gaps in services. Of equal importance, the Task Forces provide a mechanism, which enables local communities to work closely with State and voluntary agencies in designing and implementing that strategy.

Consultation

In consultation with a variety of groups throughout the city the following have been identified as areas of need or gaps in existing services. Applicant groups are encouraged to note the following points and be aware of them in the development of applications. Please note these are the gaps that have been identified during a variety of consultation sessions. The Cork Local Drugs Task Force is aiming to focus on addressing **some** of these issues in the new plan. It is important to note that this list is only intended as a guide for potential applicants and is not intended to exclude additional initiatives.

- Need for additional Diversionary Activities for young people.
- Need for comprehensive Programmes with a focus on Prescribed Drugs and Solvent Abuse.
- Parent and Family Support services.
- Intensive support for young people at risk including: Drop In Centre, Halfway House, Additional Counselling and Referral Services, Street Workers, development of services in anti-social hours etc.
- Development of a comprehensive post-release support service.
- Programme focussed on underage drinking including targeting points of supply, awareness building, harm reduction etc.
- Additional School Support services.
- Programmes to target at-risk young people from a very young age.
- Additional co-ordination and development of rehabilitation of treatment services including: Residential Adolescent Treatment Services, trauma therapy, family therapy, family mediation, continuation of care from assessment to treatment follow up on relapses etc.
- Additional Training Services.

The full report from the recent Community Consultation Day held by the Cork Local Drugs Task Force will also be circulated to applicant groups for further information.

General Criteria.

In relation to the development of the new Drug Action Plan for Cork the following applies to all applicants:

The Cork Local Drugs Task Force particularly welcomes projects that have a specific focus on 'at risk' groups for example: early school leavers, homeless drug users, people in recovery from drug dependency, young people that are not engaged in existing youth provisions, communities of disadvantage etc.

Applicants must demonstrate that they are not duplicating or overlapping with the work of another group. When developing an application, project promoters are requested to take into account existing services and also aim to link in with such services.

Where a proposal involves the recruitment of staff, applicants must demonstrate that a comprehensive support structure will be developed for staff including: contracts, organisation based supervision, external support,

administrative support, travel expenses etc, the cost of this support structure should be included in the overall cost of the project.

Where a proposal involves the development or involvement of a voluntary board of management, applicants must demonstrate that a comprehensive support structure exists for volunteers including: management training, travel and childcare costs etc. The cost of this support structure should be included in the overall cost of the project.

While the aim of the Cork Local Drugs Task Force is to fund projects to deliver services, consideration may be given to proposals that have an element of capital or structural requirement (for example: to enhance a facility to suit the needs of the project etc.)

Please note that the Cork Local Drugs Task Force will give consideration to projects with a citywide focus as well as projects with a local focus.

Support for Applicant Groups

There will be a comprehensive support structure for all applicants. Support Clinics will take place throughout the city, offering advice and guidance for applications. These clinics will take place during the week of 15th to the 19th May 2000. Should you wish to avail of this service, please contact the Task Force Office where you will be assigned to the clinic nearest you. Clinics will be held in central locations or in local communities depending on the demand for this service. If you require an appointment in one of the clinics please contact us by Tuesday the 16th of May.

Also, Technical Assistance for groups is available from Sandra Coughlan in Cork City Partnership at 302310, as well as from the Cork Local Drugs Task Force Office at 923135.

Assessment of Applications

There are currently four Working Groups on the Cork Local Drugs Task Force. Once applications are submitted each Working Group will assess applications relevant to their theme. The recommendations of each Working Group will then be presented to the Cork Local Drugs Task Force. Applications that have been approved by the full Drugs Task Force at this stage will then be included in the new plan for the Cork Local Drugs Task Force. This plan will then be sent to the National Drugs Strategy Team for assessment and their recommendations will be submitted to the Minister of State and the Cabinet Committee for Social Inclusion. Following this assessment procedure, the new Drug Action Plan for Cork will be implemented.

Resource Material

Copies of relevant research material are available from the Cork Local Drugs Task Force office. This includes:

- Dr. T.M.R. Jackson, "Smoking Alcohol and Drug Use in Cork and Kerry".
- The results of research carried out by the Community Outreach Drugs Awareness Project "Drugs Unplugged - Facing the reality of drug abuse in Cork City."
- Ms. Elizabeth Kiely and Ms. Elizabeth Egan "Harm Reduction – An Information and Resource Booklet for Agencies Engaged in Drug Education"

Should you require copies of these please contact the office.

We are encouraging all potential applicants to make contact with the Cork Local Drugs Task Force prior to submitting applications. Also all applicants are encouraged to avail of the support services that have been put in place.

For further details on any of the above points, please contact:

**Ms. Rebecca Loughry,
Co-ordinator,
Cork Local Drug Task Force,
Community Care Offices,
Southern Health Board,
St. Finbarr's Hospital,
Douglas Road,
Cork.**

Tel: (021) 923135 - Fax: (021) 923137

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

Number	Youth and Sport Projects
Y&S.1	St. Mary's on the Hill
Y&S.2	Newbury Art Programme and Young Mothers Group
Y&S.3	Anama Chara Project
Y&S.4	Ballyphehane Action for Youth
Y&S.5	Gurranebraher and Churchfield Outreach Project
Y&S.6	Glanmire Community Drugs Initiative
Y&S.7	Grange/Douglas Youth in Action
Y&S.8	Douglas West Area Youth Service (D.A.Y.S. Project)
Y&S.9	D.I.Y. Project (Dublin Hill Initiative for Youth)
Y&S.10	Ballincollig Youth Initiative
Y&S.11	Carrigaline Youth Initiative
Y&S.12	Cork Community Film Production Network
Y&S.13	Cork GAA Designated Area Scheme

Number	Diversiory Activities Group
DIV.1	Tramore Athletic Cork FC
DIV.2	Cork Butter Exchange Brass and Reed Band
DIV.3	Village United B Soccer Team - Football is Their Future

Number	Rehabilitation and Treatment Projects
R&T.1	Tabor Lodge Addiction Treatment Centre
R&T.2	Northside Community Outreach Centre
R&T.3	The Glen Substance Misuse Counsellor
R&T.4	Post Release Services Project
R&T.5	Meitheal Mara
R&T.6	Cork Simon - Street Outreach Project
R&T.7	Good Shepherd Services
R&T.8	Youth Café - Southern Health Board
R&T.9	Dion - Y.M.C.A.

Number	Capital Projects
CAP.1	Refurbishment of Middle Parish Community Centre
CAP.2	Mahon Youth Network
CAP.3	Gurranebraher Renovation of room space in the Parochial Hall
CAP.4	Matt Talbot Adolescent Services (Bus)

Number	<i>Existing Projects</i>
EX.1	Farranree Anti Drug Initiative
EX.2	Knocknaheeny/Hollyhill Special Justice Project
EX.3	Youth Counselling and Support Services
EX.4	Programme Expansion – The Glen N.Y.P.
EX.5	M.A.Y. Project
EX.6	Mayfield Youth 2000

Number	Education and Prevention Projects
E&P.1	Terence McSweeney Community College
E&P.2	Youthlinks Community Development Initiatives
E&P.3	Cork Community Drug Prevention Training – Cork City Partnership
E&P.4	Matt Talbot Adolescent Services
E&P.5	Wellsprings Aftercare Programme
E&P.6	Cork Club 2000 – Health Promotion
E&P.7	School Assistance Programme – Southern Health Board
E&P.8	Research in Good Practice in Drug Education - Health Promotion
E&P.9	Alcohol Awareness for Parents - Health Promotion
E&P.10	Parents Support Group
E&P.11	Hillgrove Lane of Campus Centre
E&P.12	St. Vincent’s Hurling and Football Club – under age section
E&P.13	Traveller Visibility Group
E&P.14	The Alliance
E&P.15	NICHE
E&P.16	C.W.E.I.

Conference Mailing List.

Ogra Chorcai,
Turner's Cross Development Group,
Togher Link Up Group,
Barnardos,
Mayfield "Write On",
Alliance,
Y.P.F.S.F.,
St. Aidan's Community College,
Scoil an Spioraid Naomh,
Blackpool Community Centre,
St. John's Central College,
We the People,
NICHE,
Good Shephard Services,
National Training & Development Institute,
Southern Health Board,
Ballinlough Community Association,
Travellers Visibility Group,
Cuanlee Refuge,
Moving Age,
Farranree Community Development Project,
Cork Y.M.C.A.,
Cupla Focal Club,
Cork Probation Hostel,
Anama Chara,
Cork Community Art Link,
Marie Assumpt's Infant School,
Family Resource Centre,
Narcotics Anonymous,
Mayfield Drugs Task Force Advisory Committee,
St. Vincent de Paul,
Cork City Partnership,
Mayfield Youth Training Workshop,
Ballyphehane C.D.P.,
Probation & Welfare Services,
Department of Applied Social Studies U.C.C.,
Knocknaheeny/Hollyhill Youth Centre,
Arbour House Treatment Centre,
Stop Drugs Now,
C.W.E.I.,
Tus Nua,
Lets Get Together,
Magnet,
Scoil Mhuire,
Garda Siochana,
Northside Community Enterprise Outreach Ltd,
GAP Project,
Scoil Oilibheir,
Terence MacSwiney Community College
Bridge Enterprise,
Good Shephard Services,
Youthlinks Community Development Initiative,
Gurranebraher Road Development Centre,
Mahon Youth Development Project.

Cork Local Drugs Task Force

Application Form

- Please answer all the questions fully. Any additional information you wish to provide may be attached.

1. Project Title: _____

2. Target Group: _____

3. Under which of the following headings does your project fall?

(Please tick box)

Education and Prevention:....

Youth Initiatives:.....

Treatment:

Community Initiatives:.....

Rehabilitation:.....

Supply and Demand Reduction:.....

Diversionary Activities:.....

Other

Section A: Applicant Details

1. Name of Project Promoter (organisation or group applying for funding):
If this is a joint application, please list all groups involved, attach details for each group.

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

1.

2. **Type of Organisation :** _____

3. **Chairperson:** Name : _____
Address : _____

4. **Secretary:** Name : _____
Address: _____

5. **Treasurer:** Name: _____
Address: _____

6. **Contact Name for this application:** _____

7. **Position in organisation:** _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

8. **When was your organisation established?:**

Month		Year	
-------	--	------	--

9. **Geographical Area Covered:** _____

10. **What are the main sources of funding for the organisation?** _____

2.

11.

Outline the main aims and objectives of your organisation: _____

12.

Outline the current involvement of your organisation with the target group: _____

3.

13. **Are you a registered company?** _____
(Please attach articles of association / constitution if applicable)
- Tax Reference Number (if applicable): _____
- Tax District dealing with tax affairs: _____
- Charitable Status Number: (if applicable): _____

Please note a Tax Clearance Certificate will be required if funding is allocated.

Section B: Description of Project

1. **Please attach a description of the project for which funding is now being sought:**

This description should include:

1. The aims and objectives of project.
2. Please give specific details of how the project will contribute to addressing the drug problem.
3. Target Group:
 - (a) Description of target group.
 - (b) Rationale for choosing this particular target group,
 - (c) How will the project focus on the target group?
 - (d) Will the Target Group be involved in the management of the project?
 - (e) If yes, How?
4. The rationale for locating the project in a particular area / within a particular facility.
5. Details of the operation / management structure of the project.
6. Details of linkages with other similar initiatives / facilities in the area or across other areas.
7. Details of partnership approach to project implementation if applicable.
8. How will the project be monitored.
9. Specify performance indicators against which the success of the project can be evaluated.
10. If you plan to recruit staff, give details of support mechanisms that will be developed for staff. (See information sheet attached)

11. If there are volunteers involved in the project give details of support mechanisms that will be developed for voluntary workers. (See information sheet attached)

12. Consultation Process:

- (a) How has your group consulted with the target group with regard to this application?
- (b) How have you consulted with other local groups / organisations providing a related service?
- (c) Does this proposal duplicate or overlap with any other group in your community / or any other service?
- (d) How will this project link with existing services?

Section C: Details of Project Cost

1. **Estimated total cost of project:** _____

2. **Amount of funding required from Cork Local Drugs Task Force:** _____

3. **Details of any other funding available for this project (please attach any supporting documentation)**

4. **If you have applied for funding for this project under any other source please detail:**

5. **Please attach a detailed breakdown of the costings of your project.**

5.

DECLARATION

1.

On behalf of _____

I, _____

wish to apply for funding towards the project/service named on application form and I declare that all the information given is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signed: _____

Address: _____

Date: _____

Application Forms must be returned by Wednesday 14th June 2000.

to

**Ms. Rebecca Loughry,
Co-ordinator for Cork Local Drugs Task Force,
Community Care Offices,
Southern Health Board,
St. Finbarr's Hospital,
Douglas Road,
Cork.**

7.