



Consultation Paper – September 2010

UPDATE ON THE NEW DRUGS STRATEGY

The government plans to publish a new Drug Strategy in December 2010. The new strategy will set the framework for the future delivery of drugs policy.

This consultation provides an early opportunity for all stakeholders to contribute to the development of the new strategy, which is structured around four key themes:

- preventing drug use;
- strengthening enforcement, criminal justice and legal framework;
- rebalancing treatment to support drug-free outcomes; and
- supporting recovery to break the cycle of drug addiction.

The consultation is open for 6 weeks until 30 September. You can respond to the consultation online; www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/consultations/cons-drug-strategy-2010/

This targeted consultation document aims to provide an early engagement opportunity for a wide range of partners, from charities to enforcement partners, drug workers and voluntary and community sector organisations. Responses from members of the public are also welcome. The paper sets out the key objectives and themes of the government's vision for drugs policy, and aims to give the voice of the 'Big Society' the power to influence the development of the new Drug Strategy, by asking you what should be the approach taken in each of these thematic areas.

The targeted consultation covers a broad range of themes and respondents should feel free to answer as many, or as few, questions as they wish to. The overall focus and scope of the strategy will be all illegal drugs. However, for those activities where a joint drugs and alcohol approach is appropriate, this is recognised, particularly in the areas of prevention, treatment and recovery. The strategy will take a broad approach to preventing and reducing substance misuse of whatever type. With regards to devolved powers, the coverage of the new Drug Strategy is as follows:

- Health, education, housing and social care - confined to England
- Policing and the Criminal Justice System - England and Wales.
- The work of the Department for Work and Pensions - England, Wales and Scotland.

Your completed consultation document can be either completed online or emailed to the Home Office Co-ordinator at: Nigel.Lawrence@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk