

MEDIA STATEMENT



Tuesday, 13 November 2018

City leads collaborative approach in tackling alcohol and other drugs in the community

The City of Bunbury has been pivotal in the formation of a group focussed on raising awareness about the impact alcohol and other drugs have on the community.

In March this year Bunbury City Council endorsed the Bunbury Alcohol and Other Drugs Management Plan (BAODMP). The plan forms part of the City's Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan 2015-2020 in consultation with key alcohol and drug services in Bunbury, its surrounds and the community.

It seeks to reduce the level of harmful alcohol and other drug use within the community by:

- Actively supporting partnerships between community and service providers to identify and address local issues
- Provide a means to coordinate, implement and evaluate evidence-based strategies, whole of community approach in a timely and appropriate manner, and
- Guiding the allocation of resources to implement priority actions and strategies
- Promoting the Choose Respect ethos through all strategies and actions within the community

Since the plan's endorsement service providers have come together to form the Alcohol and Other Drugs Management Plan Reference Group.

The group has been made up of relevant service representatives from the Mental Health Commission, St John of God South West Community Alcohol and Drug Services, WA Country Health Services – South West, WA Primary Health Alliance, Police, City of Bunbury, South West Aboriginal Medical Services, Red Cross, Doors Wide Open, Breakaway Aboriginal Corporation, Accord West, Cancer Council WA, Peer Based Harm Reduction, School Drug Education and Road Aware, Headspace, Roadwise and Local Drug Action Group.

The group will be responsible for the endorsement and management of the BAODMP and meets bi-monthly.

Bunbury Mayor Gary Brennan welcomed the formation of the group.

"This is an important first step in beginning to action the Bunbury Alcohol and Other Drugs Management Plan," Mayor Brennan said.

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“This collaborative approach will ensure the right people with the right skills and knowledge are on board in order to help raise awareness as well as minimise the impacts drugs and alcohol have on the community.”

To view the BAODMP please follow the link

<http://www.bunbury.wa.gov.au/pdf/Community/AODMP%20Plan%202018-2020.pdf>

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