

Working Together for Mental Health – Cross Government and Cross Sector Approaches

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Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol Issues

The prevalence of mental health and alcohol and drug conditions amongst inmates costs the Government approximately \$40,000 per year per inmate. This money would be better targetted at the development of comprehensive services that prevent people with a dual diagnosis from ending up in the prison system.

Group Recommendations:

1. Allocation of resources for integrated approaches to dual diagnosis across the sectors and Government Departments.
2. Review of the structure of mental health and drug and alcohol services in terms of program design.
3. Increase engagement with families of people with a dual diagnosis.
4. Greater emphasis should be placed on, and resources made available to, shared case management.
5. Increased sharing of assessment tools and treatment approaches across mental health and alcohol and other drug services.
6. Better integration of approaches through the continual professionalisation of the alcohol and other drug workforce and mental health workforce.