

Q5 MAPPING PROVISION –DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ALL THE RELEVANT SERVICES IN YOUR AREA AND WHERE THE GAPS ARE?

THE IMPACT OF GEOGRAPHY

In order to get a realistic impression of how geography will impact on the viability of setting up an FDAC, it is helpful to collect information on where cases are likely to originate from, and consider the location of courts and services together with issues of transport, as follows:

- Location or locations of cases
- Location of possible courts
- Possible locations for FDAC team
- Map of local services
- Transport routes and types of transport
- Length and cost of journeys.

LOCATION OF THE COURT(S)

Special attention will be needed to decide where best to locate the FDAC court in areas covering rural or widespread populations. For example, in Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes they decided to have two locations for FDAC: one at the care centre, and the other at a magistrates' court a different town to ensure that parents from areas far away from the care centre will have less difficulty travelling to court regularly. In the South West they had a FDAC hearings in three different courts, a central location for the FDAC team but local facilities available for the team to use for assessments, meetings and key work sessions with parents.

ACCESSIBILITY AND TRANSPORT FOR PARENTS

Thought will need to be given to transport for parents, especially given the frequent court attendance needed. In Buckinghamshire/Milton Keynes a scheme of volunteer drivers run by a voluntary organisation has been extended to cover parents needing help to get to court. In almost all other FDACs local authorities provide families with travel expenses and travel warrants.

WHAT RELEVANT SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE IN YOUR AREA?

The FDAC teams will provide some of the interventions that parents are assessed as needing. They will also be helping parents' access local services and so you will need to develop a clear picture of the relevant services that are available in the area and where they are located. You will want to build up a picture of where services are located, what referral systems are used, what thresholds and exclusions apply, how many people can be catered for and the speed of entry to the service. Doing this exercise will also draw attention to any services that are not provided locally.

The information you will need:

- the range of community and residential adult drug and alcohol treatment services (detox, prescribing, rehab)
- the psychosocial services for parents to achieve and maintain abstinence from street drugs & alcohol
- the services working with parents and children where parental substance misuse is an issue
- specialist midwifery services for pregnant women affected by substance misuse
- specialist health services for adults affected by substance misuse
- types of adult and child/adolescent mental health services and access issues
- talking therapies for individuals/couples/families affected by parental substance misuse/domestic violence/mental health issues
- parent support groups run by voluntary organisations
- support to women and children affected by domestic abuse
- psychosocial interventions to prevent intimate partner abuse
- services for domestic abuse perpetrators
- family support services
- hostels and housing support
- help with education, training & work
- child-centred interventions and activities
- job centres and advice agencies
- existing mentor schemes, and
- volunteer transport schemes.