

DRUGS AWARENESS SURVEY REPORT - January 2000.

This report looks at approximately 300 Drugs Awareness Survey questionnaires, collected between July 1998 and October 1999. The majority of these were completed at local community events and CDEP training sessions in the boroughs of Lewisham, Lambeth and Southwark. By the nature of the survey's distribution, the sample was self-selecting.

The questionnaire is split into seven sections. These include: demographic information; awareness of drugs; opinions on drug education in general and specifically for children and young people; and personal experience of drugs. The report will discuss the data under each of these sections and summarise key findings. The following two sections compare data from parents with the overall sample and compare responses from different ethnic groups within the sample. Key points arising from this data will also be summarised. The final section makes recommendations for future use of the survey.

'About You'.

This section asked respondents for demographic information. The sample was 52% female and 48% male. A majority of 43% of respondents were in the 31-50 year old age group, followed by 33% aged 21-30. The chart below shows the percentages of each age group.

In terms of ethnicity, 75% of respondents identified as 'white', 7% as 'black Caribbean' and another 6% as 'black African' or 'black other'. 4% of respondents were 'Irish'. (See chart overleaf). Other ethnic groups to appear in the statistics were 'Bangladeshi', 'Turkish Cypriot' and 'Turkish', but these amounted to less than 1% in each category. Groups that appeared in the self-defining 'any other ethnic group' category, in any significant number, were 'Black British' and 'mixed race'.

The site at which the questionnaires were collected was recorded in most cases. This showed that approximately 60% were from the borough of Lewisham with the vast majority of the remainder being from Lambeth. One hundred questionnaires were distributed before CDEP began work in Southwark and Lambeth, which would account, in part, for this imbalance. Also, CDEP attended two large community events in the borough of Lambeth during this time.

In answer to the question 'How would you describe your social class?', 54% of respondents identified as 'working class' and 45% as 'middle class'.

'What You Know About Drugs'.

This section aimed to ascertain levels of knowledge about drugs. Respondents were asked 'At present, how much do you think you know about drugs and the effects of taking them?' The majority felt they knew 'quite a lot'. This was followed by 29% saying they knew 'not very much'.

Respondents were then asked how they knew about people using drugs in their area. 'Direct knowledge or experience' was the highest response 34%, followed by 'General word of mouth' 30%, Family/friends 20%, Neighbours 10%, Local press/radio/TV 17%, National press/radio/TV 8%. Other ways of gaining this information were: work/colleagues, e.g: "young people I work with", and general observation, e.g. "observe drug users in and around the Catford area".

Respondents were then given a list of statements and asked whether they were 'true' or 'false'. The results were as follows:

'Amphetamine is usually injected ': The majority of respondents thought this statement was 'false'. True 10%, False 76%, Don't know 14%

'Ketamine is normally used as an anaesthetic for operating on animals ': The majority of respondents thought this statement was 'true'. True 51%, False 7%, Don't know 41%

'It is illegal to sniff solvents on the streets ': The majority of respondents thought this statement was 'true'. True 53%, False 28%, Don't know 19%

'You get addicted to heroin the first time you take it': The majority of respondents thought this statement was 'false'. True 23%, False 67%, Don't know 10%

'Magic mushrooms grow wild in many parts of the UK': The majority of respondents thought this statement was 'true'. True 81%, False 6%, Don't know 13%

'Crack is a form of cocaine ': The majority of respondents thought this statement was 'true'. True 94%, False 3%, Don't know 3%

'It is possible to drink so much alcohol that you overdose and die ': The majority of respondents thought this statement was 'true'. True 90%, False 7%, Don't know 2%

'Tobacco kills more people than any other drug in the UK': The majority of respondents thought this statement was 'true'. True 85% False 7% Don't know 8%

'Heroin is more addictive than the nicotine in cigarettes ': The majority of respondents thought this statement was 'false'. True 30% False 53% Don't know 17%

'What You Think About Drug Education'.

Almost all respondents thought drug education was important. A majority of 88% thought it was 'very important' and 11% that it was 'important'.

They were then asked who they thought drugs education should be for. A majority thought that everyone should be educated. In terms of specific categories, secondary school pupils were put at the top of the list, followed by parents. Young people scored the next highest. The table below shows percentages for each group. Those mentioned in the 'other' category were 'politicians', 'academics' and 'police'.

Primary 45% | Drug users 46% | Social workers 43% | Secondary 61% | Parents 54%
Doctors 44% | Young people 52% | Teachers 47% | Everyone 77%

In answer to the question 'Who do you think should be responsible for educating people about drugs?' schools and colleges scored highest, followed by parents. Doctors/health workers were next in line. The table below shows percentages for each group. Groups mentioned in the 'others' category were: ex drug users; teachers; religious leaders; "drugs projects/street drug agencies"; "aware people. People open to all the angles". Several respondents thought everyone should be involved, or "as many folk as possible " or that there should be "a multi-pronged approach ".

Central government 57% | Doctors/health workers 63% | Local council 41% | Police 31%
| Schools/colleges 75% | Parents 66% | Social services 41% | Others 14%

The next question asked respondents if they felt they knew enough about drugs to take part in educating others about them: 59% said 'no' and 41% 'yes'.

Respondents were then invited to write what they thought was the 'most important drug education message'. The majority of the comments concerned accurate education and information. Several people specified that this should include both legal and illegal drugs. Comments included: "Education is power. Information is a must"; "People need to have awareness of the effects of all drugs, illegal and legal and need to acknowledge the risks and benefits honestly"; "Knowledge of the facts, not impressionistic opinions"; "That drugs have a range of uses and like any substance, they can be used appropriately and inappropriately."

Several answers fell into the 'just say no' or 'drugs kill' category and also included comments about legal drugs, for example: "Legal drugs need to be properly dealt with too" and "I hate the hypocrisy about drugs being bad but alcohol OK". The other main category concerned moderation and harm minimisation, for example: "if you 're going to take drugs, learn the effects and how to take them safely"; "be aware of risks, be sensible, look after yourself"; "..how to care for yourself when taking drugs"; "Moderation! Find out what you are taking"; "I believe nothing will stop people taking drugs, so being made aware of cause and effect is important".

'Drug Education for Children and Young People'.

Parents/carers accounted for 46% of respondents and 69% said they had regular contact with children. The chart below shows the distribution of the ages of these children.

Ages of Children

Under 5 17%, 5-12 20%, teenagers 9%, grown up 2%, mixed ages 58%.

When asked if they had any special concerns about drugs and these children, 51% of respondents said 'yes'. They were then invited to comment on the sort of things that concerned them.

There were several comments concerning the numbers of young people taking drugs and the availability of drugs. Many parents/carers were concerned about the harmful effects "on health and mental stability" and about the risks of addiction. One respondent was concerned that children are "not aware of basic first aid in case of rare accidents".

Children being subject to peer pressure, particularly those who "tend to lack personal power" was another concern for several respondents. Many felt drugs and alcohol being socially acceptable and seen as "cool" or "fashionable" exacerbated this. Respondents were also concerned that their children might end up with a criminal record if they become involved in drug taking.

Many parents/carers were worried about their children not having access to "unbiased information" or that they receive "mixed messages". One respondent made the point that children "tend to ignore ... alarmist, sensationalist information". Many feel that drug education in schools is inadequate. Another concern of parents/carers is that they do not know how to deal with drug issues or discuss drugs with their children. There were also some comments concerning parental drug and alcohol use. These included both drug/alcohol use of respondents themselves and use by other parents, for example in their child's school.

Respondents were then asked if they felt they needed help in dealing with issues around drugs with these children. 38% said 'yes'. Again they were invited to write about the sort of help they would like.

The majority wanted access to information and education. Specific areas mentioned were: "recognising effects of use and where support can be given"; "incidence of drug taking and locations of dealing"; "what long term effects are"; "danger signs, practical ways of helping drug users". Others mentioned training, such as workshops involving parents and

children. Several respondents wanted advice on how to offer knowledge and support to children and young people "in an unfrontational manner or 'nagging' adult way".

'Your Experience of Drugs'.

Respondents were given a list of a number of 'street' drugs and asked if they had ever used any of them. Cannabis had been used by 70% of respondents. 20% of respondents had not used any of the drugs. The table below gives percentages of respondents having used each drug.

Amphetamines (speed etc.)	45%
Cocaine	37%
Cannabis	70%
Ecstasy	35%
Crack	11 %
Ketamine	12%
Heroin	10%
Methadone	5%
LSD (acid)	41%
Poppers (amyl nitrate)	35%
Magic mushrooms	39%
Other	10%
Aerosols/glue/solvents	13%
None	20%

Asked about their smoking habits, 77% of respondents had smoked cigarettes at some time and 45% currently smoked. The chart below shows the average number of cigarettes smoked each day.

How many cigarettes on average do you smoke each day?

1-5	23%
6-10	28%
11-15	14%
16-20	20%
21-24	7%
26-30	4%
31-35	2%

Alcohol had been used by 97% of respondents and 79% currently drank alcohol. When asked if they had ever been 'really drunk' 85% said 'yes'. The chart below shows current levels of consumption.

Which of the following best describes the way that you drink alcohol?

Heavily	1%
Socially	40%
Regularly	20%
Occasionally	38%

'What You Think About Drugs'.

In this section, respondents were asked whether they agreed or disagreed (on a 5-point scale) with a list of statements.

'Doctors must be encouraged to prescribe drugs for those who are addicted to them ': The majority of respondents agreed with this statement.

Agree/strongly agree 48% Disagree/strongly disagree 29%

'All use of illegal drugs is misuse ': The majority of respondents disagreed with this statement.

Agree/strongly agree 25% Disagree/strongly disagree 67%

'We need to accept that using illegal drugs is a normal part of some people's lives': The majority of respondents agreed with this statement.

Agree/strongly agree 76% Disagree/strongly disagree 18%

'The legalisation of drugs would lead to an increase in misuse ': The majority of respondents disagreed with this statement.

Agree/strongly agree 27% Disagree/strongly disagree 55%

'The way of decreasing the number of people using drugs is to increase security at ports and airports': The majority of respondents disagreed with this statement.

Agree/strongly agree 27% Disagree/strongly disagree 57%

'Police time would be better spent trying to catch suppliers than on clamping down on users ': The majority of respondents agreed with this statement.

Agree/strongly agree 76% Disagree/strongly disagree 8%

'If people were better educated about the risks of taking drugs, many would not take them': The majority of respondents agreed with this statement.

Agree/strongly agree 64% Disagree/strongly disagree 19%

'More harm is caused by some drugs being illegal than by the drugs themselves': The majority of respondents agree with this statement.

Agree/strongly agree 78% Disagree/strongly disagree 8%

'Kits that test the content of 'street' drugs should be available to users': The majority of respondents agreed with this statement.

Agree/strongly agree 81% Disagree/strongly disagree | 10%

Key Findings:

- The majority of respondents were female, white and aged between 31 and 50.
- The majority of respondents said they knew 'quite a lot' about drugs and the effects of taking them. This was borne out in their responses to whether certain statements were true or false.
- 99% of respondents thought drug education was important.
- Asked who they thought drug education should be for, secondary school pupils were top of the list, followed by parents.
- In terms of who should be responsible for educating people about drugs, schools and colleges scored highest, followed by parents. The majority of respondents did not feel they knew enough about drugs to take part in educating others about them. Asked what they thought the 'most important drug education message' was, comments concerned accurate information and education and harm minimisation. 46% of respondents were parents/carers and 69% had regular contact with children.
- 51% of the above had 'special concerns' about drugs and these children. These included: drugs being easily obtained, physical and mental health; peer pressure and inadequate drug education in schools. Some respondents had concerns as to their abilities and knowledge in dealing with and discussing drug issues with children.
- In terms of respondents own drug use, 70% had used cannabis and 20% had never used drugs. 45% currently smoked and 79% currently drank alcohol.

ĩ When asked to agree or disagree with a list of statements, the most significant responses were as follows: 81% agreed that kits to test the content of 'street' drugs should be available to users; 78% agreed that more harm is caused by some drugs being illegal than by the drugs themselves; 76% agreed that police time would be better spent trying to

catch suppliers than on clamping down on users; 76% agreed that we need to accept that using illegal drugs is a normal part of some people's lives.

PARENTS.

This section compares data from parents/carers with the total sample.

'About you'.

A majority 60% of parents were female, compared to 46% in the whole sample. A comparison of age showed that 65% of parents were in the 31 -50 age group and 15% were aged 21-30, compared with 43% and 33% respectively in the total sample.

In terms of ethnicity, 69% of parents identified as white, compared to 75% in the total sample and 13% of parents identified as black Caribbean compared to 7% in the total sample.

'What You Know About Drugs'.

When asked ' At present, how much do you think you know about drugs and the effects of taking them?' the majority of respondents in the total sample felt they knew 'quite a lot'. Although the distribution of responses was similar for parents, 5% more parents thought they knew 'not very much'.

	Total sample	Parents
A lot	23%	21%
Quite a lot	44%	41%
Not very much	29%	34%
Hardly anything	4%	3%

Parent's responses to the list of statements requiring a 'true' or 'false' answer were similar to the overall sample in most cases. The only significant difference was the response to the statement: 'Ketamine is normally used as an anaesthetic for operating on animals. '10% fewer parents than the total sample answered this statement correctly.

'What You Think About Drug Education'.

In line with the total sample, 99% of parents thought education about drugs was 'important' or 'very important'.

When asked whom they thought drugs education should be for, a higher percentage of parents responded positively to every category compared to the total sample. Significantly more parents thought drugs education should be for primary school pupils.

	Total sample	Parents
Primary school pupils	45%	56%
Secondary school pupils	61%	64%
Young people	52%	54%
Drug users	46%	51 %
Parents	54%	57%
Teachers	47%	52%
Social workers	43%	49%
Doctors/health workers	44%	48%

In answer to the question 'Who do you think should be responsible for educating people about drugs?' although the distribution of percentages was similar for parent's answers as for the whole sample, 'local council' and 'parents' scored significantly higher.

	Total sample	Parents
Central government	57%	62%
Local council	41%	48%
Schools/colleges	75%	80%
Social services	41%	42%
Doctors/health workers	63%	62%
Police	31%	34%
Parents	66%	73%

When asked if they felt they knew enough about drugs to take part in educating others about them, 39% of parents said 'yes' as compared with 41% of the total sample.

'Your Experience of Drugs'.

The percentages of parents using 'street drugs' were less than the total sample by an average of 7%. The percentage of parents currently smoking was 5% less than the total sample and those that currently drank alcohol was 3% less.

'What You Think About Drugs'.

Although again parents agreed or disagreed with the same statements as the whole sample, more parents agreed with some statements. The most notable were:

'All use of illegal drugs is misuse ': 10% more parents agreed with this statement.

'Police time would be better spent on trying to catch suppliers than on clamping down on users': 9% more parents agreed with this statement.

'If people were better educated about the risks of taking drugs, many would not take them ': 13% more parents agreed with this statement.

Key Findings:

- More parents were female and in the 31-50 year old age group than the total sample.
- More black Caribbean respondents were parents than the total sample.
- Slightly more parents felt they knew 'not very much' about drugs than the total sample.
- The response of parents to the importance of drug education was in line with the total sample. However, more parents thought it should be for primary school pupils and more parents thought local councils and parents should be responsible for educating people about drugs.
- Slightly fewer parents felt they knew enough about drugs to educate others about them, than the total sample.
- Use of 'street drugs' was less amongst parents than the total sample and slightly fewer parents smoked and drank alcohol.
- More parents agreed with the following statements than the total sample:

'All use of illegal drugs is misuse'; 'Police time would be better spent on trying to catch suppliers than on clamping down on users'; 'If people were better educated about the risks of taking drugs, many would not take them '.

ETHNICITY.

This section compares data across ethnic groups. Although the categories of Bangladeshi, Turkish Cypriot and Turkish appeared in the statistics, they accounted for too few respondents to draw any significant conclusions. (Bangladeshi: 2 respondents; Turkish Cypriot: 2 respondents; Turkish: 1 respondent) The categories: 'White'; 'Irish'; 'Black African'; 'Black Caribbean' and 'Black other' will therefore be discussed in this section.

'About you'.

In the categories 'White' and 'Irish', slightly more respondents were male than female, but in all three other categories; over 70% of respondents were male.

The following table shows the percentage of parents/carers and those that have regular contact with children, by ethnic group.

	White	Irish	Black African	Black Caribbean	Black other
Parent/carer	42%	36%	25%	91%	150%
Regular contact	42%	54%	43%	100%	100%

The majority of respondents in the 'Black African' category described themselves as 'middle class' whereas in all other ethnic groups, the majority described themselves as 'working class'.

'What You Know About Drugs'.

When asked 'At present, how much do you think you know about drugs and the effects of taking them?' the majority of respondents in the 'White' category felt they knew 'quite a lot'; the 'Irish' category felt they knew 'a lot'. However, in all the other ethnic categories, the majority felt they knew 'not very much'.

	White	Irish	Black African	Black Caribbean	Black Other
A lot	20%	46%	14%	10%	27%
Quite a lot	47%	38%	29%	32%	36%
Not very much	28%	8%	57%	53%	36%
Hardly anything	4%			5%	

Responses to the list of statements requiring a 'true' or 'false' answer were similar across ethnic groups, in the case of solvents, crack, alcohol and tobacco. However, there were some variations in knowledge in the statements regarding amphetamines, heroin, magic mushrooms and ketamine. These are shown in the tables overleaf:

'Amphetamine is usually injected'

	White	Irish	Black African	Black Caribbean	Black other
True	8%		50%	14%	18%
False	80%	79%		52%	64%
Don't know	12%	21%	50%	29%	18%

'Ketamine is normally used as an anaesthetic for operating on animals '

	White	Irish	Black African	Black Caribbean	Black other
True	52%	71%	20%	33%	30%
False	6%	14%		14%	10%
Don't know	41%	14%	80%	52%	60%

'You get addicted to heroin the first time you use it'

	White	Irish	Black African	Black Caribbean	Black other
True	21%	14%	50%	48%	18%
False	69%	79%	50%	48%	64%
Don't know	10%	7%		5%	18%

'Magic mushrooms grow wild in many parts of the UK'

	White	Irish	Black African	Black Caribbean	Black other
True	83%	100%		62%	73%
False	6%		17%	9%	
Don't know	11%		83%	29%	27%

'Heroin is more addictive than the nicotine in cigarettes'

	White	Irish	Black African	Black Caribbean	Black other
True	28%	36%	57%	45%	45%
False	54%	64%	29%	35%	27%
Don't know	18%		14%	20%	27%

'What You Think About Drug Education'.

The vast majority of all ethnic groups thought education about drugs was 'important' or 'very important'.

When asked whom they thought drugs education should be for, 'White' 'Irish' and 'Black other' respondents put the category of secondary school pupils highest. 'Black Africans' put 'young people' at the top of the list and 'Black Caribbean's' put primary school pupils at the top. The table overleaf gives a breakdown of the figures.

	White	Irish	Black African	Black Caribbean	Black Other
Primary school pupils	45%	47%	14%	70%	54%
Secondary school pupils	62%	53%	29%	61%	64%
Young people	53%	47%	43%	56%	45%
Drug users	48%	47%	14%	43%	45%
Parents	56%	53%	29%	56%	54%
Teachers	50%	47%	29%	43%	36%
Social workers	45%	33%	14%	52%	36%
Doctors/health workers	46%	47%	29%	43%	36%

In answer to the question 'Who do you think should be responsible for educating people about drugs?' 'White', 'Black Caribbean' and 'Black other' respondents thought that schools and colleges were the most important. 'Black Africans' rated schools/colleges, doctors and parents equally high. 'Irish' respondents thought doctors/health workers should be most responsible.

	White	Irish	Black African	Black Caribbean	Black Other
Central government	58%	53%	29%	56%	45%
Local council	41%	53%	29%	35%	27%
Schools and colleges	76%	57%	57%	83%	64%
Social services	41%	47%	43%	35%	36%
Doctors/health workers	63%	80%	57%	65%	54%
Police	29%	33%	43%	35%	27%
Parents	66%	53%	57%	74%	54%

Responses to the question 'Do you feel you know enough about drugs now to take part in educating other people about them?' varied across ethnic groups. The following table shows the percentage of each group that answered 'yes'.

	White	Irish	Black African	Black Caribbean	Black other
other	41%	50%	29%	19%	45%

'Your Experience of Drugs'.

The following table shows use of 'street' drugs by ethnic group.

	White	Irish	Black African	Black Caribbean	Black Other
Amphetamines	48%	53%		14%	18%
Solvents	15%	13%			9%
Cannabis	72%	80%		52%	64%
Cocaine	39%	60%		9%	9%
Crack	10%	27%		9%	
Ecstasy	35%	53%		14%	18%
Heroin	10%	7%		5%	
Ketamine	11%	27%		5%	
LSD	43%	60%		14%	18%
Methadone	5%	7%		5%	
Mushrooms	43%	47%		14%	9% Poppers
	38%	47%	14%	18%	

The following table shows percentages of respondents who currently smoke and currently drink alcohol, by ethnic group.

	White	Irish	Black African	Black Caribbean	Black Other
Smoke	44%	50%	50%	19%	56%
Drink	83%	79%	33%	60%	55%

'What You Think About Drugs'.

The following tables show responses by ethnic group to a list of statements.

'Doctors must be encouraged to prescribe drugs for those who are addicted to them,

	White	Irish	Black African	Black Caribbean	Black Other
Agreed	48%	50%		50%	18%
Disagreed	28%	43%	60%	25%	64%

'All use of illegal drugs is misuse'

	White	Irish	Black African	Black Caribbean	Black Other
Agreed	22%	21%	83%	41%	27%
Disagreed	71%	71 %		47%	45%

'We need to accept that using illegal drugs is a normal part of some people's lives'

	White	Irish	Black African	Black Caribbean	Black Other
Agreed	80%	79%	67%	44%	45%
Disagreed	14%	14%	33%	44%	45%

'The legalisation of drugs would lead to an increase in misuse'

	White	Irish	Black African	Black Caribbean	Black Other
Agreed	27%	14%	43%	32%	50%
Disagreed	56%	57%	14%	47%	40%

'The way of decreasing the number of people using drugs is to increase security at ports and airports'

	White	Irish	Black African	Black Caribbean	Black Other
Agreed	26%	7%	43%	47%	55%
Disagreed	57%	86%	43%	35%	36%

'Police time would be better spent on trying to catch suppliers than on clamping down on users': 9% more Parents agreed with this statement.

	White	Irish	Black African	Black Caribbean	Black Other
Agreed	76%	77%	100%	82%	82%
Disagreed	18%	8%		6%	9%

'If people were better educated about the risks of taking drugs, many would not take them': 13% more parents agreed with this statement.

White	Irish	Black	Black	Black
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			African	Caribbean	Other
Agreed	64%	64%	86%	55%	73%
Disagreed	18%	36%	14%	22%	18%

'More harm is caused by some drugs being illegal than by the drugs themselves'

	White	Irish	Black African	Black Caribbean	Black Other
Agreed	79%	93%	83%	59%	64%
Disagreed	8%			6%	27%

'Kits that test the content of 'street' drugs should be available to users'

	White	Irish	Black African	Black Caribbean	Black Other
Agreed	85%	92%	40%	60%	30%
Disagreed	7%	18%	40%	27%	60%

Key findings:

- the ethnic categories 'Black African', 'Black Caribbean' and 'Black other', over
- of respondents were male, compared to the overall sample which was 52%
- female.
- Less 'Black African' respondents, but more 'Black Caribbean' respondents were
- parents/carers than the total sample.
- The majority of 'Black African', 'Black Caribbean' and 'Black other' respondents
- felt they knew 'not very much' about drugs and the effects of taking them,
- compared to the majority of those in the 'White' and 'Irish' categories who
- thought they knew 'quite a lot' or 'a lot'.
- Although knowledge about alcohol, tobacco, solvents and crack was similar across
- ethnic groups, there were significant variations in knowledge about heroin, magic
- mushrooms and ketamine.
- ï There were variations amongst ethnic groups as to whom drugs education should be for and who should be responsible for providing it. E.G. 'Black Caribbean' respondents thought that primary school pupils should be educated, whereas the majority of respondents in the other ethnic groups felt that secondary school pupils or young people were the priority. There were significant variations amongst ethnic groups regarding drug use. Most notably, none of the 'Black African' respondents said they had used any 'street drugs'.

- The most notable variations in opinion between ethnic groups were in response to the following statements:
- 'Doctors must be encouraged to prescribe drugs for those who are addicted to them'
'All use of illegal drugs is misuse' 'The legalisation of drugs would lead to an increase in misuse' 'The way of decreasing the number of people using drugs is to increase security at ports and airports' 17

Recommendations for future use of the survey.

CDEP's use of the survey created some practical problems for its analysis. Several questionnaires were missing information on the 'site' and 'date' of collection. This is essential to ascertain in which borough, at which event and when questionnaires were collected. Also, several questionnaires were reproduced with altered question order. These were unusable, as the statistical package used to analyse the data requires question order to be uniform. It is therefore recommended that changes made to questionnaires are discussed with the evaluator, or whoever is to analyse the data, before being implemented.

The questionnaire was originally designed for use in Lewisham. As such, it contains a section on 'Drugs in Lewisham' which is specific to Lewisham residents or those working in the borough. Ideally, questionnaires pertinent to the boroughs of Lambeth and Southwark, or a questionnaire for use across all three boroughs, needs to be produced.

It should be noted that all ethnic groups other than those defining themselves as 'White' were significantly under-represented. As was mentioned in previous recommendations, thought should be given to alternative strategies for gathering this type of data and adapting the questionnaire. For example, the questionnaire could be translated into various languages and particular groups targeted.

As CDEP's work programmes and sites have changed considerably since the introduction of the survey, some discussion and thought is needed as to how the survey is to be used in future and for what purpose.