



FEWER DRUG ADDICTS ARE SHOOTING UP

England is leading the way on reducing the harm caused by injecting drug use, according to a report from the National Treatment Agency for Substance Misuse (NTA). Continued investment by successive governments in drug treatment over the past 30 years means England now has one of the lowest rates of HIV among injecting drug users in Western Europe and comparable developing countries. New NTA figures show the number of people coming into treatment who use syringes and needles to inject illegal drugs (mainly heroin) has dropped to its lowest level since 2005. [Read more.](#)

EASTERN RECOVERY WEEK



Hundreds of former drug addicts took part in the NTA Eastern Region's first ever Recovery Week. More than 30 events were held from 25-29 October at treatment centres, prisons and community halls in Norfolk, Bedfordshire, Essex, Suffolk, Hertfordshire and Cambridgeshire

[More information](#)

News in brief

Paul Hayes' speaks to All Party Parliamentary Group on Drug Misuse

Drug treatment is the first step on the road to recovery from addiction - but not where the journey ends, Paul Hayes told MPs and peers at a meeting of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Drug Misuse. [Read more.](#)

Facing the future: Paul Hayes' speaks to Drugscope conference

Harm reduction services will remain a cornerstone of a balanced drug treatment system even as it adopts a more recovery-oriented focus, according to Paul Hayes. [Read more.](#)

'HEROIN WAS MY DRUG OF CHOICE BUT I'D INJECT ANYTHING'



As recent NTA figures show, the number of people coming into treatment who use syringes and needles to inject illegal drugs (mainly heroin) has dropped to its lowest level since 2005. 'Paul', a former IDU, tells us how his life has changed for the better.

[More information](#)

SKILLS CONSORTIUM LAUNCHED



The Substance Misuse Skills Consortium launched on 22 November with an online gateway, the Skills Hub, offering easy access to hundreds of resources to help front line drug and alcohol workers improve services and achieve better results for those in their care.

[More information](#)

Useful Links

- [Substance Misuse Skills Consortium](#)
- [Guardian Microsite](#)
- [DDN SU Directory](#)
- [Rehab Online](#)

INTERNATIONAL HARM REDUCTION ACADEMY GRADUATES: SIX MONTHS ON



This summer saw a number of NTA-sponsored ex-service users graduate from the inaugural class of the International Harm Reduction Academy. Read how, six months on, two of the graduates are using what they learnt.

[➔ More information](#)