

Site

London Probation Service

Name of project / initiative

Sagamore Project

Overview

The Sagamore Project is a joint initiative involving probation, the police, the prison service, and courts, as well as sexual health and addiction services, focusing on chemsex and related problem behaviour – including drugs offences (possession, supply, and production), offences related to procuring and supplying drugs (eg acquisitive crime and violence), and offences committed using or under the influence of drugs (eg sexual offences, violence and unsafe sexual practices), while many of the drugs themselves are dangerous in their own right. The team offer support and advice on chemsex and appropriate disposals, interventions, and support services, to the courts, police, and prisons, as well as to probation caseworkers, so all those on the front-line can better understand and deal with what they are faced with, and the associated risks can be better managed. They also collate data and information on chemsex and groups involved, and report relevant intelligence to the National Crime Agency to assist them in their policing of chemsex and related crime.

Its impact

The team have uncovered a large subculture involved in chemsex, including two major groups of organised criminality. They believe their work leads to improvements in the way the issue, and risk, is managed across the criminal justice system, as well as in the support offered to those involved.

What's special about it

The team believe this is a unique initiative at present.

Wider applicability

The team believe that similar initiatives would be of benefit across the UK.

For more information:

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