

Dun Laoghaire Refugee Project Substance Misuse Policy

The Dun Laoghaire Refugee Project is a voluntary group established to assist Asylum Seekers, especially those who came to Ireland as Unaccompanied Minors, to adapt to Irish society by :

- Providing advice, guidance and some financial support to access appropriate services**
- Assisting participants in progressing their application for status in Ireland**
- Providing appropriate information and guidance that will help participants to integrate into Irish society**

It is a current reality that young people in our society are presented with many challenges that affect their health and well being. Exposure to alcohol and drug abuse is part of this reality. The young men and women who are involved with the DRP are no less subject to these challenges than their Irish counterparts. Indeed, the uncertainty surrounding their future in Ireland may well make them even more vulnerable.

This policy will apply to Asylum Seekers, participants, volunteers and visitors to the centre in the event of unlawful manufacture or, sale, purchase, consumption and possession. This policy will be disseminated to all.

If a volunteer has reasonable cause to suspect a participant has engaged in the misuse of alcohol or illegal substances s/he will :

- Consult with another volunteer**
- Offer support to the participant by obtaining relevant information and helping them to access the appropriate services**

Participants and volunteers who are perceived to be in danger of developing alcohol or drug abuse problems will be offered support and guidance.

Anyone with concerns in relation to this matter is advised to speak with a volunteer.

Any participant or volunteer who is found to be involved in the trafficking or the supply of illegal substances will be offered no support or help by the DRP in dealing with the consequences of their actions.

The DRP will, at regular intervals provide participants with a seminar/ discussion group on the reality of alcohol and substance use in Ireland.

Every effort will be made to maintain confidentiality. However, the DRP has an obligation to report any illegal activity to the appropriate civil authority.

The DRP undertakes to evaluate policies at regular intervals and update in line with legislation.

