

**TACKLING
DRUGS
CHANGING
LIVES
IN OLDHAM**

Oldham Drugs and Alcohol Action Team
'Oldham DAAT promotes Equality and Diversity in all its services'

**Young People
Specialist Substance Misuse Treatment
Needs Assessment 2007/08**

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Executive Summary

The purpose of this Needs Assessment is to share with the partnership the extent and nature of the needs of problematic substance misuse amongst young people in Oldham, and then to use these findings to inform the treatment for 2008/09.

The following is a summary of the findings:

Referrals:

- Oasis@connexions received 141 referrals in 06/07. An increase of 16.5% (20 referrals) from 2005/06. The main referral source in 2006/07 was 'YOS and Criminal Justice' at 45, this accounted for 32% overall.
- Of the 141 referrals to Oasis@connexions 65% were male and 82% were white, the majority of referrals were aged 14 – 18 as this accounts for 88%.
- The main drug of choice for all those referred was Cannabis which accounted for 50% this is then followed by Alcohol at 40%.

Treatment:

- 174 young people were in treatment in Oldham in 2006/07, compared to 149 in 2005/06, a 16.7% increase.
- Of the 174 young people in treatment 1 client has been in treatment for over 2 years, and the only clients stating that they inject.
- 63% of clients in treatment were male, and 83% stated that their ethnicity was 'white'.
- There were 39 young people in 2006/07 accessing services at Oasis@connexions for parental/guardian/sibling substance misuse.

Treatment Exits:

- There were 125 discharges from Oasis@connexions in the period 06/07.
- Of those discharged 62% (78) were classed as 'Unplanned', 30% (37) were 'Planned', and 10 (8%) were 'Referred on'.
- Of the 10 'Referred On' 7 (70%) were '18+' and clients within the Transitional Service.

Alcohol Consumption

- 21% of 14 to 17 year olds surveyed stated that they never drink alcohol (NW 17%);
- 35% claim to drink alcohol at least once a week (NW 44%);
- The proportion of 14 to 17 year olds stating that they never drink alcohol has risen by 6%;

Purchasing Alcohol

- 15% of 14 – 16 year olds claim to buy their own alcohol in comparison to the North West 28%;
- Those who purchase alcohol by the frequency that they binge drink, the results show that those who regularly binge drink (defined as drinking five drinks or more on one occasion at least once a week) are more likely to purchase their own alcohol;
- 69% of 14 to 17 year olds claim to purchase their alcohol from off licenses;
- Females are more likely to buy their alcohol from pubs and clubs than males, where males are more likely to purchase from off licenses;
- 54% of those purchasing alcohol have been asked for ID;

General Attitudes and Behaviour

- Young females tend to worry more (42% female/25% male) than young males about getting their drinks spiked;
- Females are more likely to ensure that they are not alone when drinking (92% female/78% male);
- 57% of those who regularly binge drink agree that they drink because there is nothing else to do;
- 25% of 14 to 17 year olds who drink alcohol admit to having been violent whilst drunk;
- 14% claim to have been in a car with a young person who had been drinking;
- 11% indicated that they had regretted having sex after drinking alcohol;

Understanding of the Law

- The majority of 14 to 17 year olds are generally aware of the law relating to buying' selling and consuming alcohol;

Smoking Habits

- 17% of 14 to 17 year olds claim to smoke;
- Of the 17% of smokers, 48% are regular binge drinkers;
- 62% of smokers claim to have asked siblings or friends to purchase cigarettes for them.

The Need for Young People's Substance Misuse Treatment Services:

Percentage of young people admitting to using illicit substances in the last 6 months:

11 – 15 year olds – 6.0% (Baseline – 7.4%) 2005/06

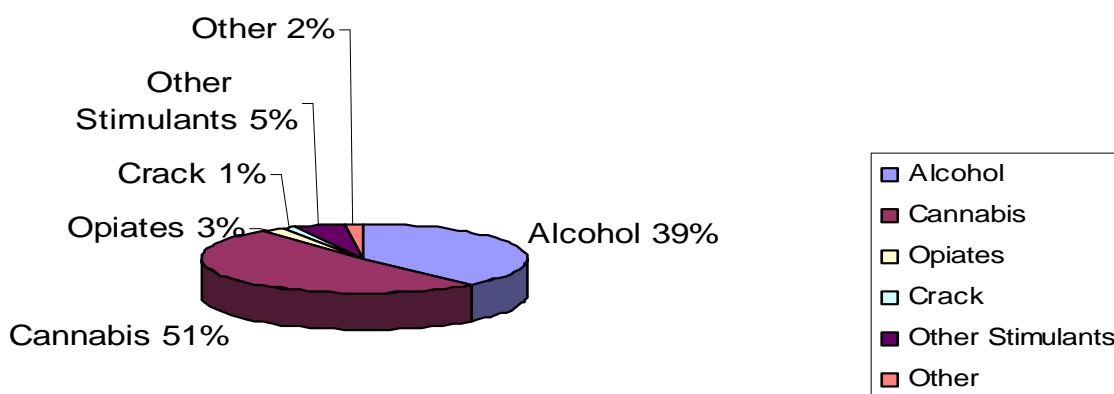
Therefore with a total number of 61,200, 0 – 19 years olds in Oldham, and 8,500 vulnerable young people, we can estimate that 510 could need treatment for illicit drug use.

The Need for alcohol education, prevention and treatment

Alcohol use is far more widespread and generally more common amongst young people, hence it is much more difficult to estimate what is required in terms of services. However; with 38.7% of 11 – 15 year olds stating that they consumed alcohol in the last month, we can estimate from 8,500 vulnerable 0 – 19 years olds that ***as many as 3,289 young people living in Oldham may at some point need some intervention around alcohol use.***

What do we know about young people in treatment in Oldham?

- Referrals into Tier 3 treatment are increasing. 121 in 2005/06, increasing to 141 in 2006/07.
- Numbers receiving Tier 2 services are increasing. 2005/06, 894 clients received Tier 2 services, increasing to 1100 in 2006/07.
- Young Offenders account for just under one third (32%) of referrals in 2006/07.
- 30% of referrals into young people’s treatment came from Education.
- Services are meeting the needs of the young Black and Minority Ethnic population.
- Referrals from Looked After Children and Health appear to be low.
- Cannabis and Alcohol are stated as the main drugs of use for young people in treatment. The majority of clients in treatment were either primary Cannabis or Alcohol users. 4% of clients were recorded as using Class A drugs - Opiates and Crack.



- A higher proportion of males than females in treatment. 63% Male/37% Female. Although disproportionate the ratio of females is greater than adult females in treatment (26%).

- 16% of clients in treatment stated that they are from a Black and Minority Ethnic Group.
- Of the 10 'Referred On' clients from Oasis@connexions 7, (70%) were '18+' and clients within the Transitional Service.

Priorities for the Young People's Treatment Plan 2008/09:

- Develop targeted alcohol prevention, education and treatment services.
- All young people referred for specialist substance misuse treatment should have a comprehensive assessment undertaken within five working days of referral.
- Increase the percentage of young people who are assessed as requiring specialist substance misuse treatment to commence treatment within 10 working days of the comprehensive assessment (currently 64% in 2006/07 for YOS clients).
- All young people in specialist substance misuse treatment should have a care plan specifically related to their substance misuse treatment needs.
- There are disparities in the number of referrals made to Oasis@connexions and with those in actual treatment. Some work needs to take place to undertake some analysis of which clients are engaging with the service, who are not engaging, and what is the profile of these client groups i.e. male/female/BME/alcohol/stimulants users.
- A 50% increase in young people leaving treatment in an agreed and planned way.
- Of all the referrals made to Oasis@connexions we need to undertake some analysis of which clients are engaging with the service, who are not engaging, and what is the profile of these client groups i.e. male/female/BME/alcohol/stimulant users?
- Build links with the Emergency Department at Royal Oldham Hospital to ensure that young people admitted with substance misuse issues are referred appropriately to young people's substance misuse services.

Introduction

The National Treatment Agency for the first year requires each partnership to undertake a Young People Specialist Substance Misuse Treatment Needs Assessment from 2006/07 data to inform the treatment process for the following year 2008/09. That is:

‘Those young people (under the age of 18) who experience current harm as a result of substance misuse which significantly disrupts the young person’s functionality. Substances are defined as illegal drugs, illicit prescription drugs, alcohol, and volatile substances.’

Specialist substance misuse treatment definition:

“Young people’s specialist substance misuse treatment is a care planned medical, psychosocial or harm reduction intervention aimed at alleviating current harm caused by a young person’s substance misuse.”

The outcome of this needs assessment will contribute to the Children and Young People’s Plan to deliver effective services to young people to ensure achievement of the *Every Child Matters* outcomes for children.

This needs assessment will bring together information that is available in the local area about the delivery of services that form the specialist substance misuse treatment system for young people.

Purpose

The purpose of the needs assessment is to share with the partnership the extent and nature of the needs of problematic substance misuse amongst young people in Oldham, and to then use these findings to inform the treatment for 2008/09.

As this is the first year of conducting a needs assessment for young people we need to:

- To establish the range of needs currently being met by services; and
- Identify the gap between the needs of the target population and current service provision.

Analysis will then enable key questions to be asked:

- Does the range of provision meet identified local needs?
- Is there evidence of unmet need which remains to be addressed?
- Can what has been commissioned be improved upon in terms of accessibility, effectiveness, and cost-efficiency?
- What should be the priorities for young people’s treatment for the future?

Data Sources

All data used within this needs assessment is taken from 2006/07 and 2005/06 NDTMS, and local Performance Management Framework 2006 – 2007. In this period Oldham DAAT undertook some work on monitoring and identified some reporting issues which now have

been rectified. It would also be useful to have an overview of 2nd drug of choice to give a better representation of actual drugs used for 2006/07.

Treatment System Map 2006/07

The treatment system map identifies the numbers and case mix of young people that are entering into, exiting and moving between services.

New Referrals in 06/07: 141

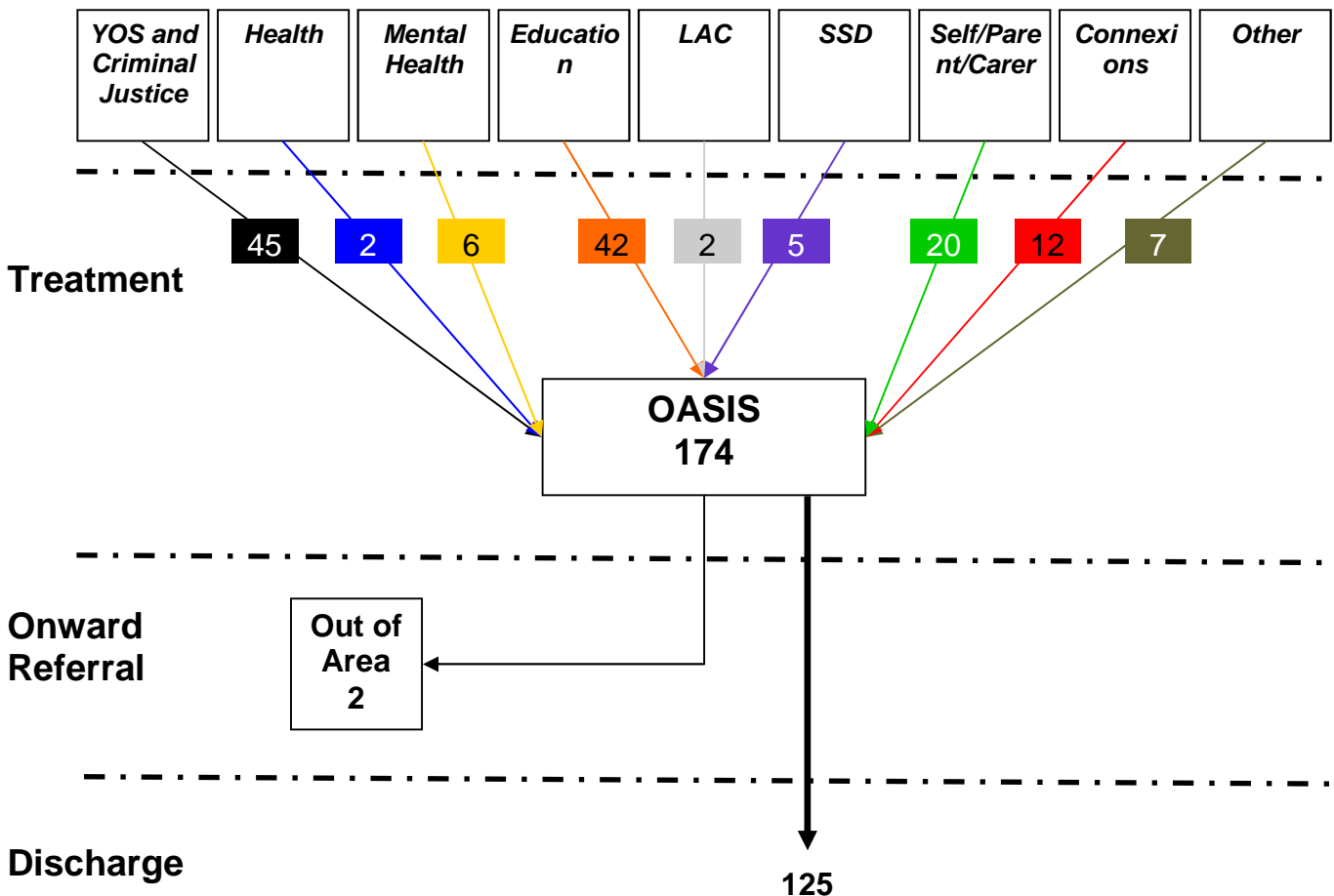
YOS and Criminal Justice: 45
 Health: 2
 Mental Health: 6
 Education: 42
 LAC: 2
 SSD: 5
 Self/parent/carer: 20
 Connexions: 12
 Other: 7

In Treatment 06/07: 174

All Discharges: 125

Planned: 37
 Unplanned: 78
 Referred On: 10

Referral



Overview Referral Source:

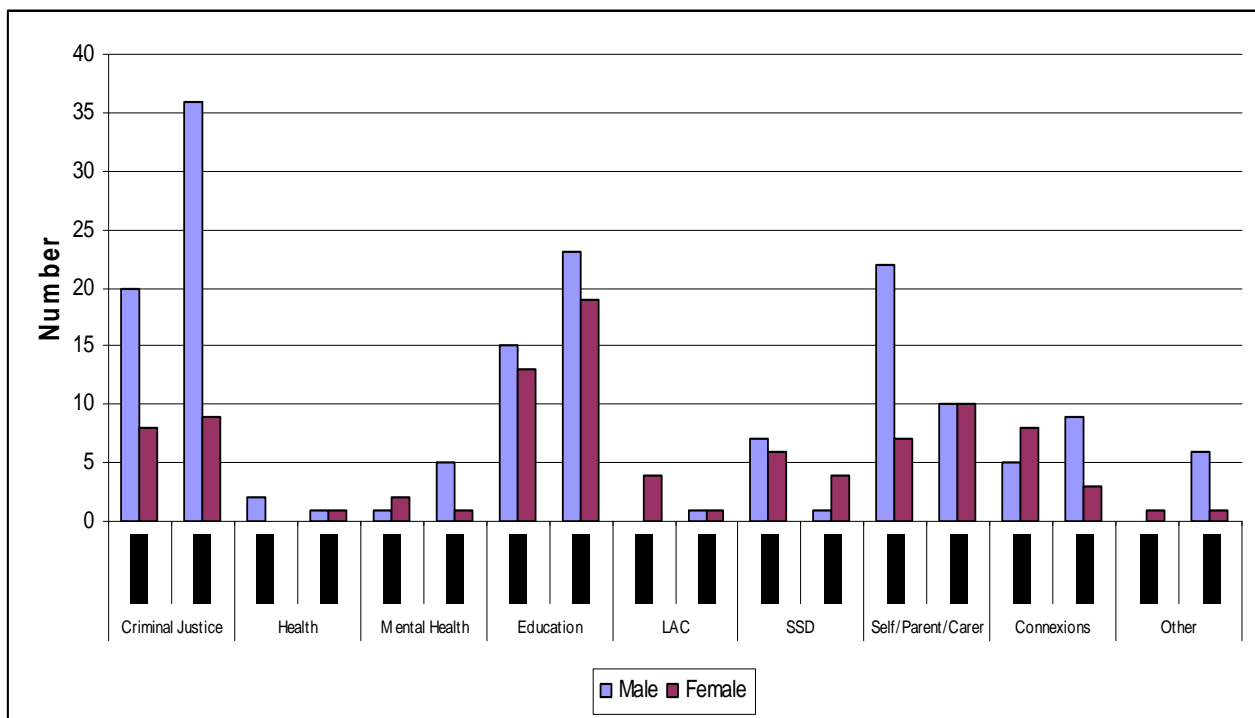
Oasis@connexions received 141 referrals in 06/07. An increase of 16.5% (20 referrals) from 2005/06. The main referral source in 2006/07 was 'YOS and Criminal Justice' at 45, this accounted for 32% overall. This was followed by Education, which accounted for 42, 30% of the overall figure. This figure is not broken down into referrals from schools and the Pupil Referral Unit, so it is difficult to identify gaps in service referrals. Third to this was referrals from 'Self/Parent/Carer' with 20, 14% of the overall numbers, fourth were referrals from Connexions with 12, 9%, Other with 7, 5%, 6 referrals from Mental Health, 4% leaving, Health and Looked After Children with 2 referrals each, accounting for 2%. It is not clear if referrals from 'Health' are inclusive of the Emergency Department within NDTMS. Anecdotal evidence however; suggests that there are very few referrals from the Emergency Department into Oasis@connexions.

Of the 141 referrals to Oasis@connexions 65% were male and 82% were white, the majority of referrals were aged 14 – 18 as this accounts for 88%.

The main drug of choice for all those referred was Cannabis which accounted for 50% this is then followed by Alcohol at 40%.

Referrals into Oasis@connexions 2006/07 showed 65% were male this is a slight increase compared to 05/06 which was 60%, with an obvious 5% decrease in referrals for females. 82% of referrals were 'white' followed by 18% 'Black and Minority Ethnic' compared to 93% 'white' followed by 8% for 'Black and Minority Ethnic' in 2005/06. The majority of referrals fell within the 14 – 18 years age group (89%); however, 8% of referrals fell within the 13 age group, and 4% under 13 years.

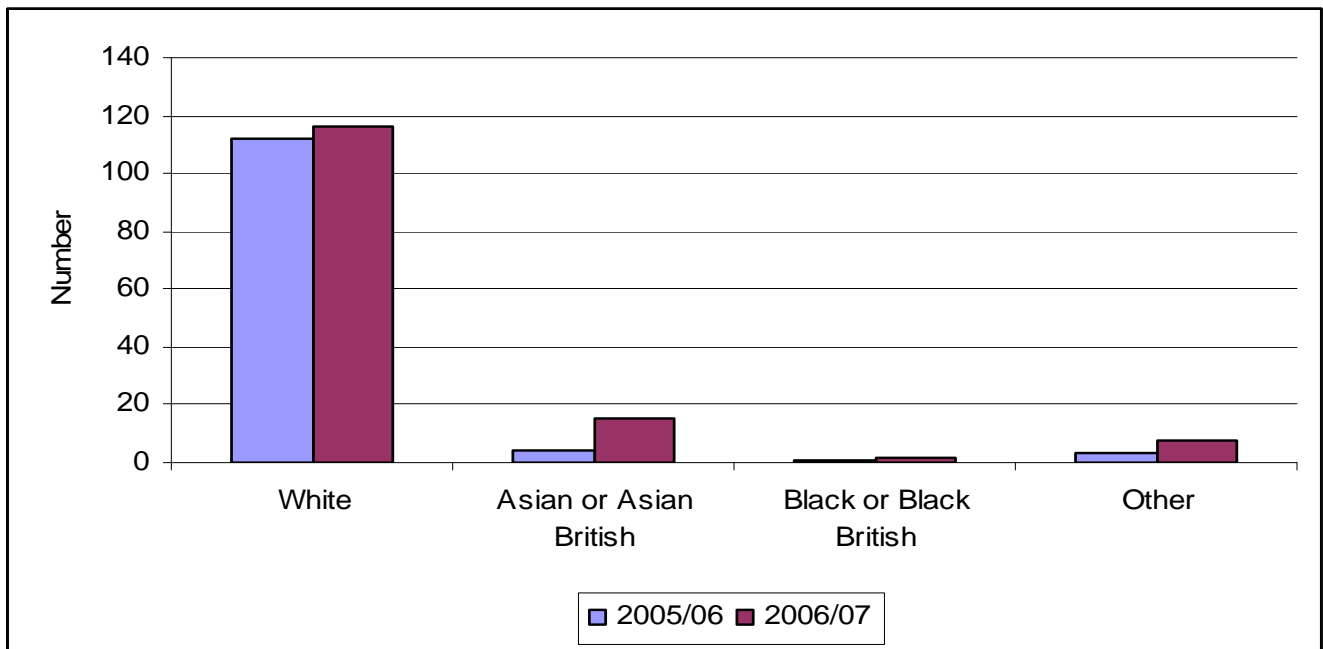
Gender by referral source:



This shows us that the referral source 'Education' presents more females than any other referral source year on year closely followed by referral source 'YOS and Criminal Justice' and

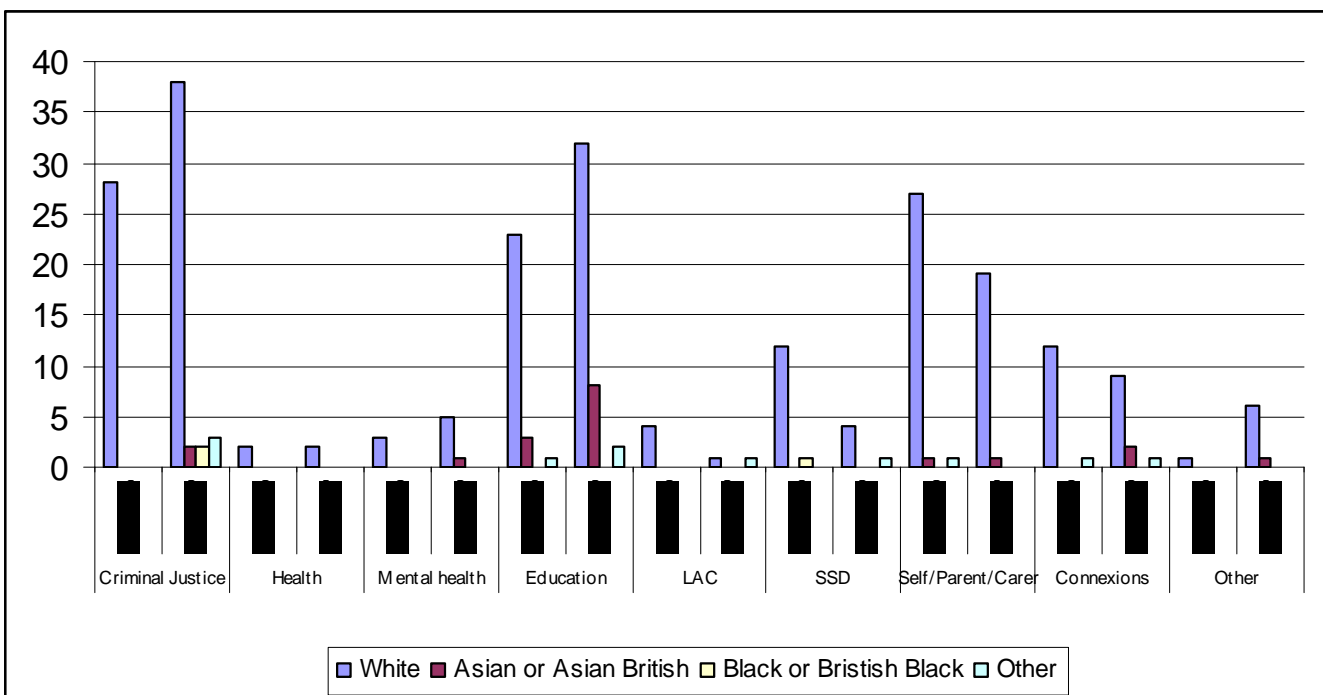
'Self/Parent/Carer'. However; the second largest referrer of males after 'Criminal Justice' is 'Education'. In 2005/06, 22 male referrals were made by 'Self/Parent/Carer', with a decrease of 12 referrals (10) in 06/07.

Referral by Ethnicity:



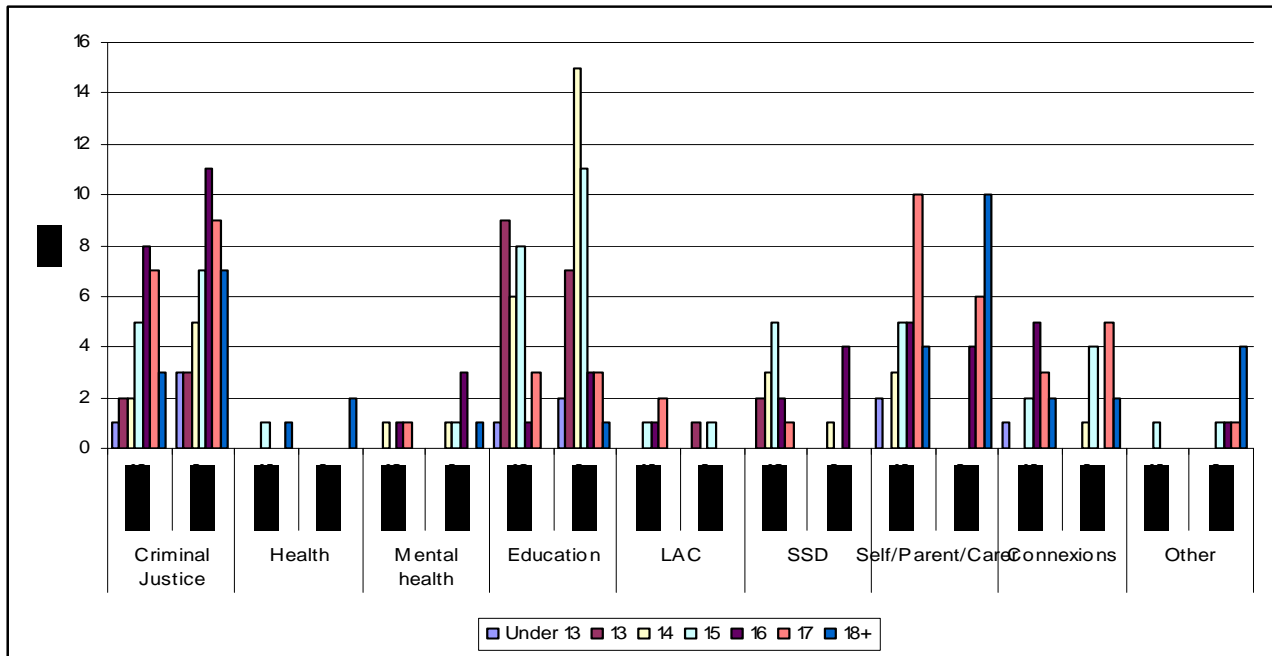
We can see from the above that there have been increases in referral from all Ethnic Groups, however; there has been a marked increase of 11 referrals from 'Asian or Asian British'. It is important to draw attention here to the health service provided by the Positive Steps Health Team whose health checks will be picking up an increased number of BME and female young people.

Ethnicity by referral source:



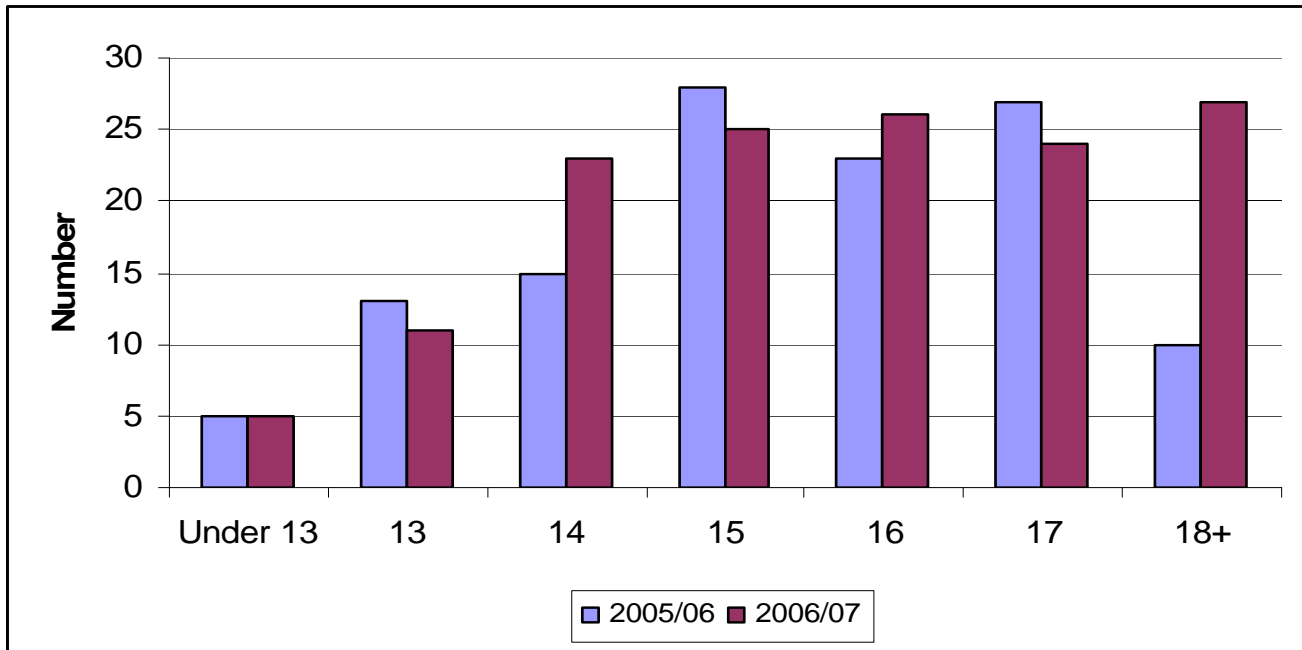
We can see that 'White' is the majority ethnicity across all referral sources, however; more people from other ethnicities present via the 'Education' referral source. We can also see an increase in all referrals from 'Asian or Asian British', 'Black or Black British', and 'Other' within 'Criminal Justice'.

Age groups by referral agency:



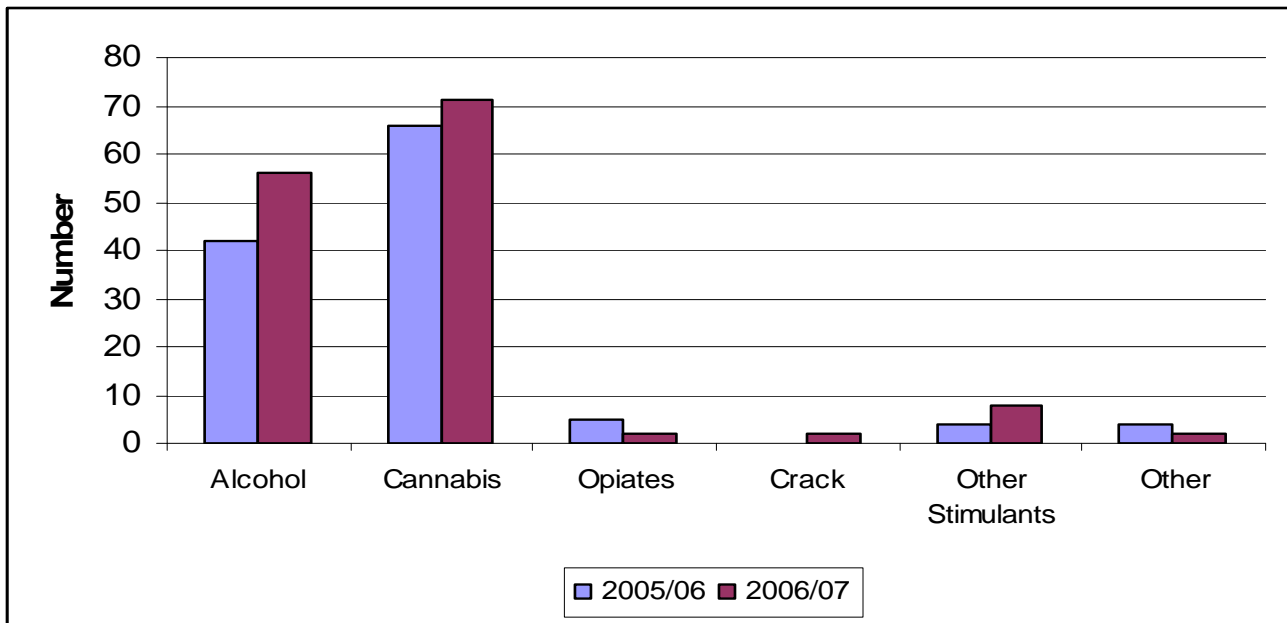
In 2006/07 the referral routes 'YOS and Criminal Justice' and 'Education' have seen an increase in the number of people presenting in all age groups compared to the 2005/06, whereas 'Mental Health' has seen an increase in 15/16/18+ year olds from 2005/06 to 2006/07. Referral routes 'LAC', 'SSD', 'Self/Parent/Carer', and 'Connexions' have all seen a reduction. Although referrals identified above from 'Health' are low, it is important to mention that the Health Team based at Positive Steps Oldham actually makes a considerable amount of referrals to Oasis@connexions, this is an area of work for the next Needs Assessment to inform commissioning of the existing Health Team.

Age Groups for all referrals:



Referrals for '14' year olds has increased by 8 (53%) from 2005/06 to 2006/07, and a 170% (17) increase in referrals for '18+' year olds.

Main Drug of Choice by Referral:

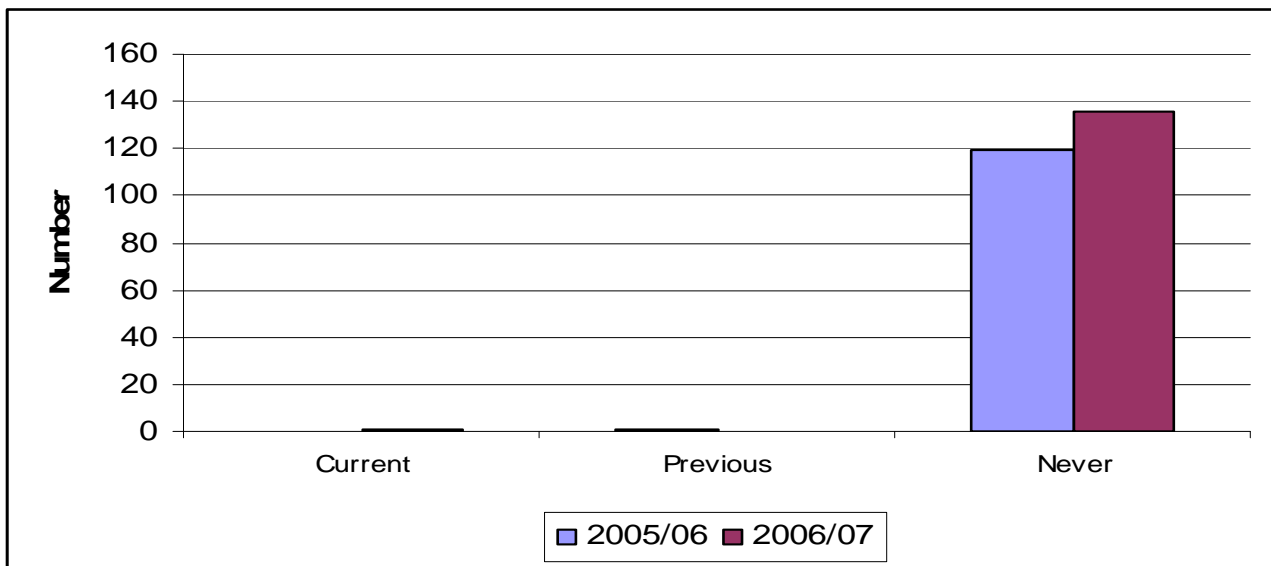


This shows that 'Cannabis' is the main drug of choice for clients in both 2005/06 - 66 (55%) and 2006/07 - 71 (50%). Although there has a 5% decrease of 'Cannabis' referrals against all other drugs the number of referrals has increased by 5, (7.5%) in 2006/07.

'Alcohol' is the second main drug of choice with 56 referrals in 2006/07, an increase of 33% (14 referrals) from 2005/06. 'Alcohol' now equates to 40% of all referrals compared to 35% in 2005/06. There were 5 referrals to Oasis@connexions in 2005/06 for 'Opiates', decreasing to

2 referrals in 2006/07. It is concerning to see that 2 referrals were made for 'Crack' in 2006/07, and a 100% increase in 'Other Stimulants' from 4 in 2005/06 to 8 in 2006/07.

Injecting Status by Referral:



The above demonstrates that there was 1 'Current' Injector in 2006/07, with no 'Previous' Injectors. The percentage of clients stating 'Never' remains at 99% for both 2005/06, and 2006/07.

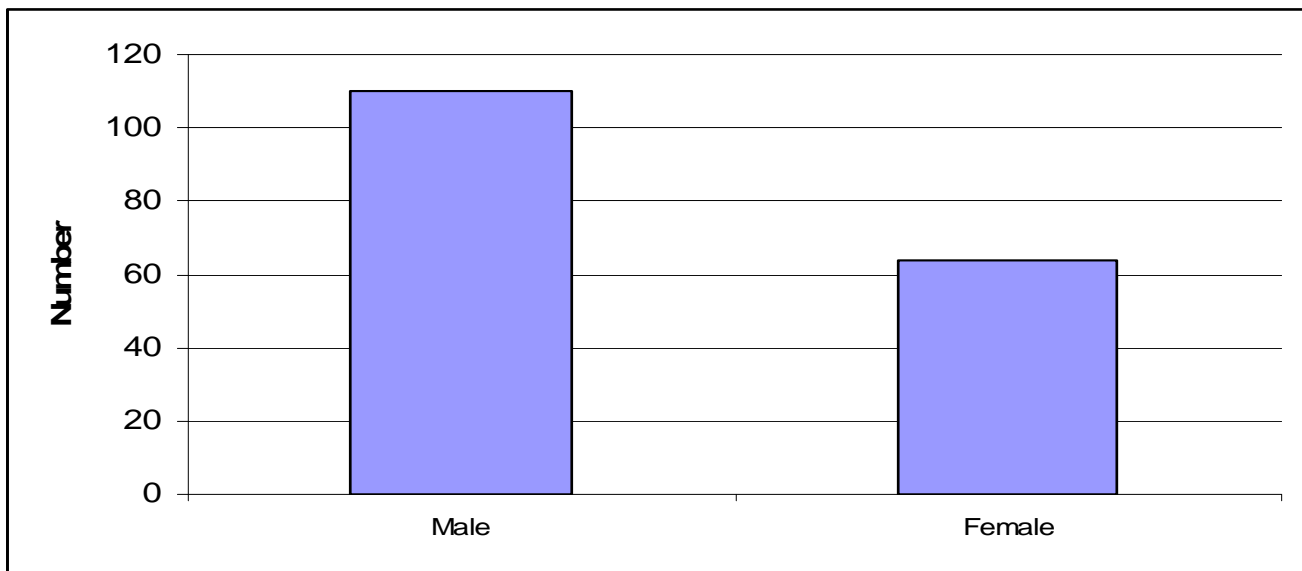
Overview In Treatment:

174 young people were in treatment in Oldham in 2006/07, compared to 149 in 2005/06, a 16.7% increase. Of the 174 young people in treatment 1 client has been in treatment for over 2 years, and the only clients stating that they inject. 63% of clients in treatment were male, and 83% stated that their ethnicity was 'white'.

Young people's stated 'main drug' of choice is 'Cannabis' 51%, and 'alcohol' at 39%. 21% of clients in treatment are 18+ years old, followed by 20% being '16' years old.

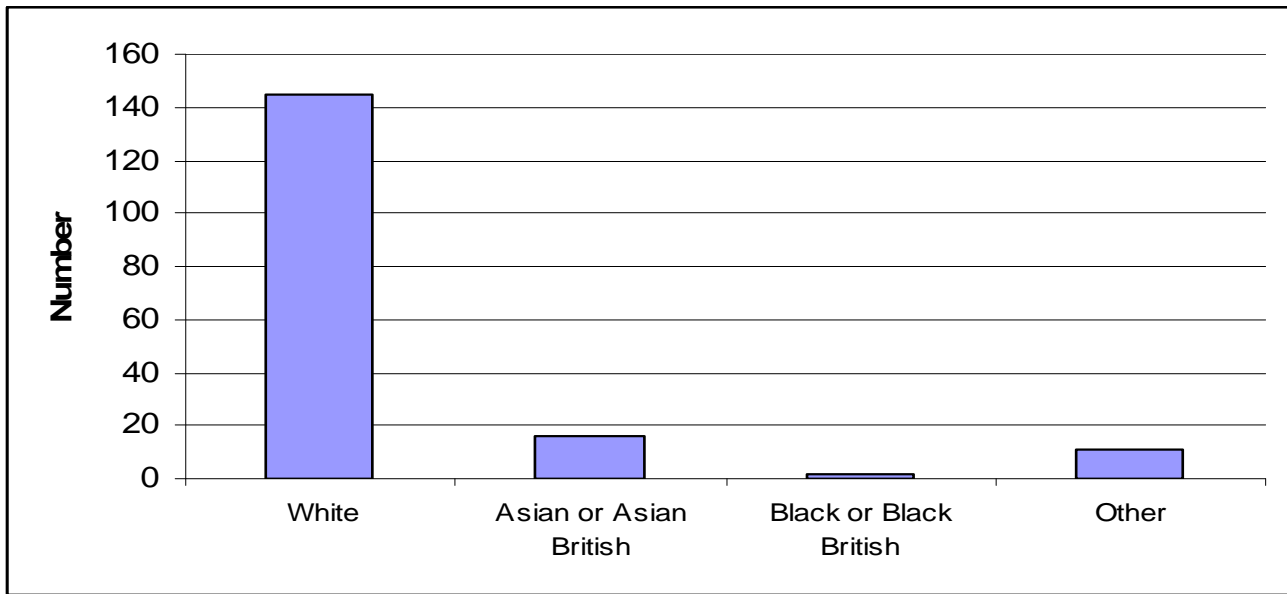
Oasis@connexions is seeing an increasing number of young people accessing services for parental/guardian/sibling substance misuse.

In Treatment Gender:



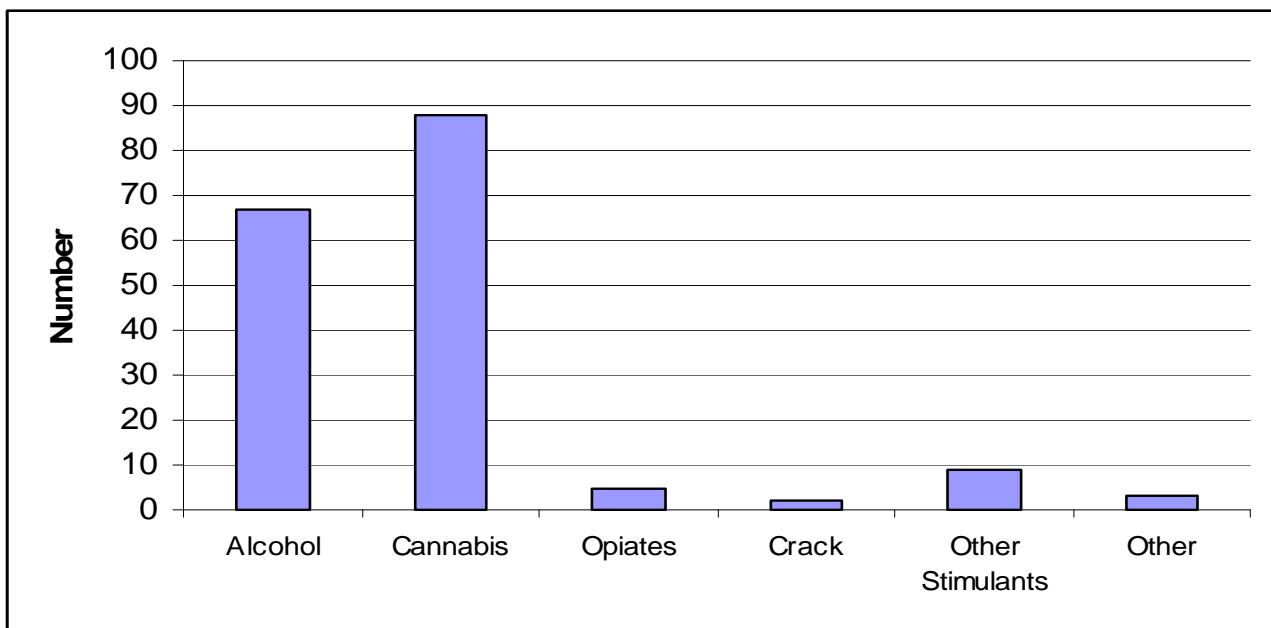
In 2006/07, there were 110 'males' (63%) and 64 'females' (37%) in treatment at Oasis@connexions.

Ethnicity In Treatment:



We can see from the table above that Ethnic Group 'White' accounts for 145, (83%) of clients in treatment, with 16% from 'Black and Minority Ethnic'.

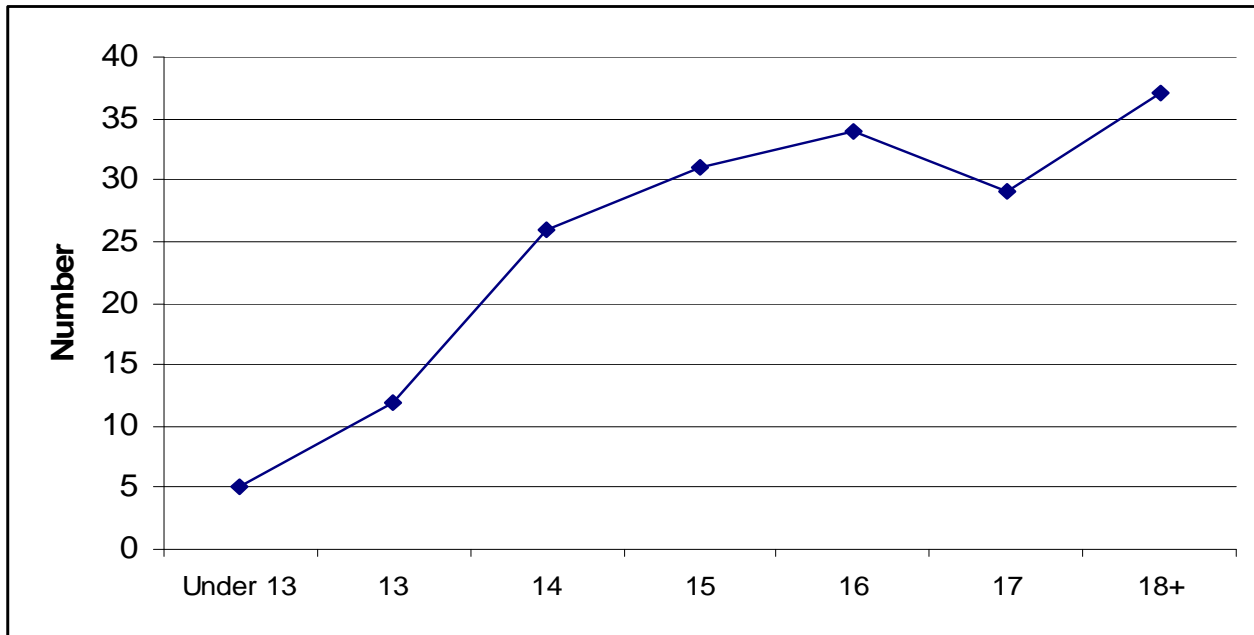
Main Drug of choice in Treatment:



The main drug of choice for young people in treatment is; Cannabis (51%), followed by Alcohol (39%), Other Stimulants, (5%), Opiates (3%), Other (2%), and Crack (1%).

Future Needs Assessment's should provide evidence of second substance of use to ensure that we are getting an accurate picture of substances being used by young people.

Age on 30th September 2006:



Of the 'In Treatment' population the majority of clients come from the '18+' year group (21%), followed by '16' year olds accounting for 20%, and following closely with '15' year olds with 18% , '17' year olds with 17%, and '14' and unders 13 equating to 25% of the total client group.

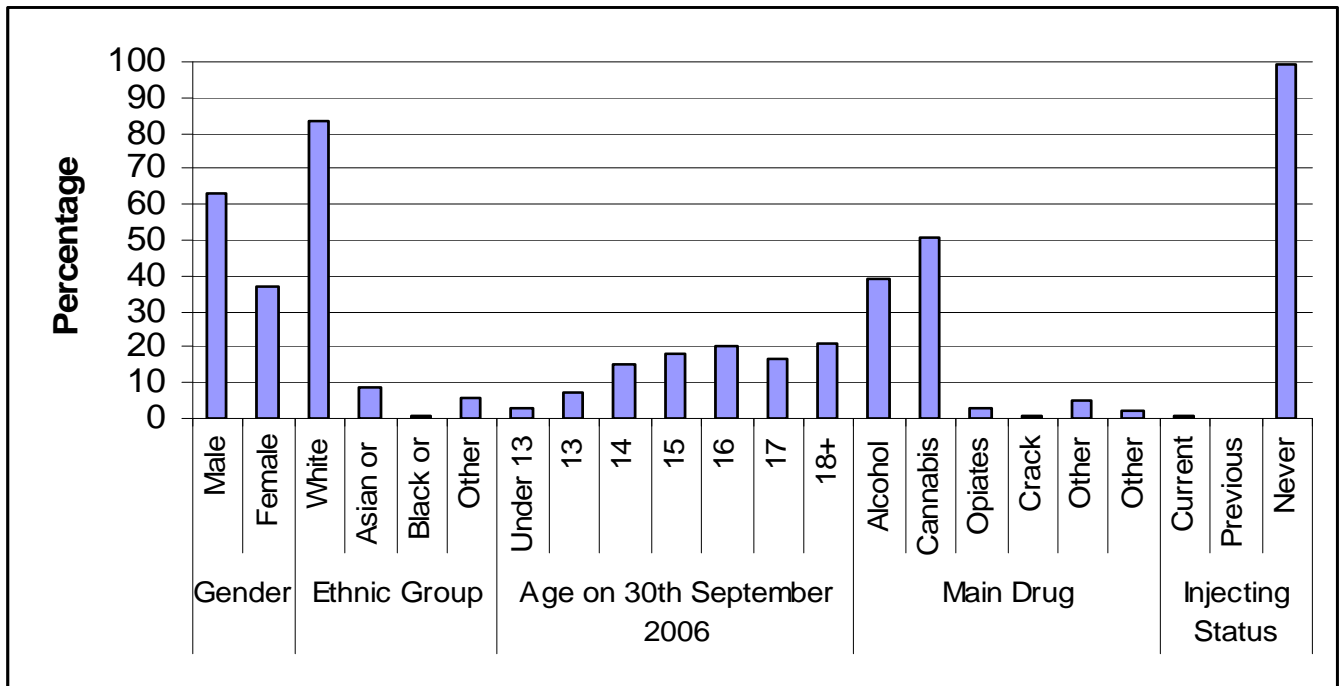
Injecting Status In Treatment:

In 2006/07 the young people's service treated 1 client who was injecting. This client also was in treatment for over 2 years. 99% of clients stated that they had never injected.

Children of Substance Misusing Others:

There were 39 young people in 2006/07 accessing services at Oasis@connexions for parental/guardian/sibling substance misuse.

In Treatment Profile for Oldham Oasis@connexions:



Movement within the Treatment System:

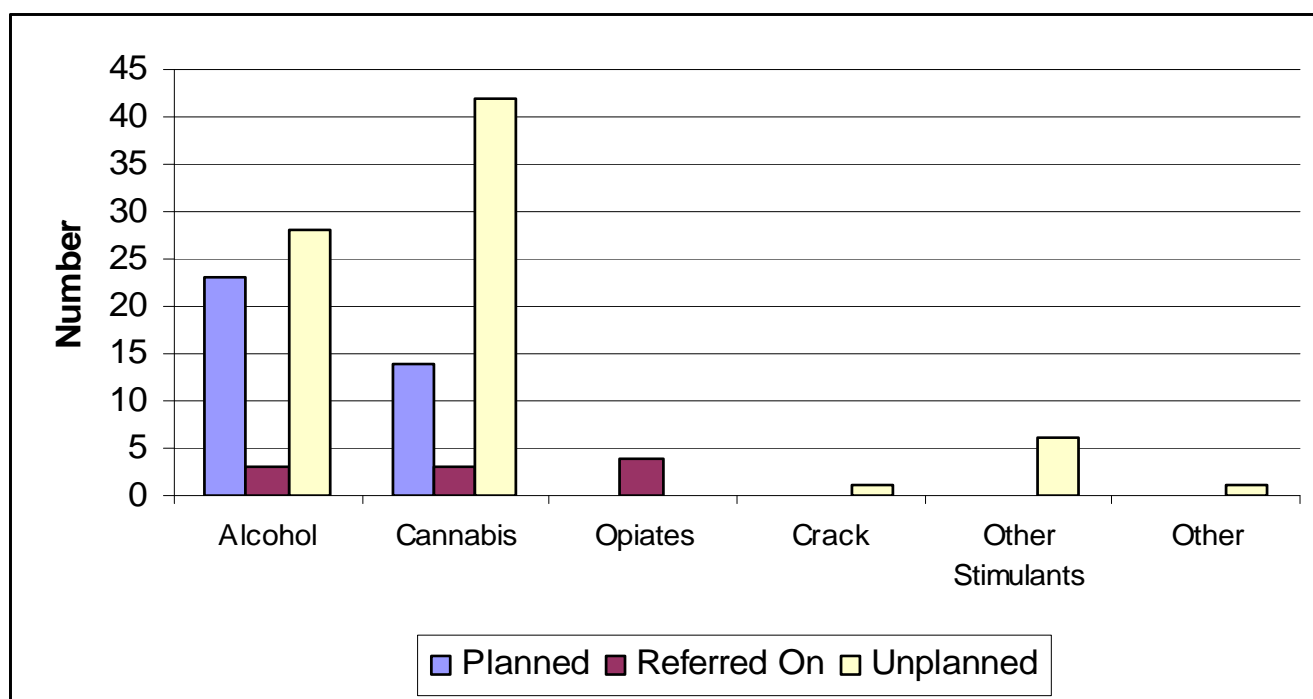
In 2006/07 2 clients were transferred between agencies. One client was transferred from ADS (Addiction and Dependency Solutions) to Oasis@connexions for Crack use, and the other client was transferred to another borough for Cannabis use.

There are also 2 clients from Oldham accessing treatment at Early Break Bury & Rochdale.

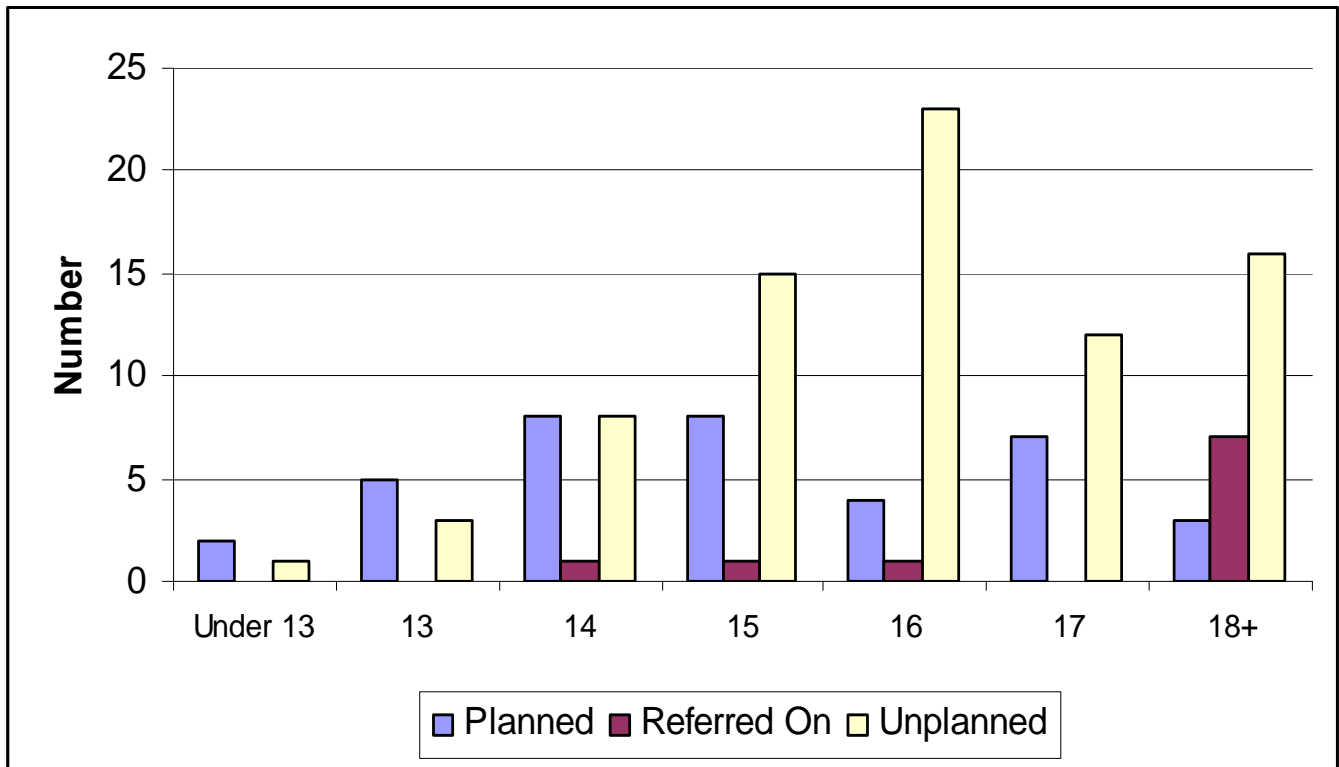
Overview Treatment exits:

There were 125 discharges from Oasis@connexions in the period 06/07. Of those discharged 62% (78) were classed as 'Unplanned', 30% (37) were 'Planned', and 10 (8%) were 'Referred on'. Of the 10 'Referred On' 7 (70%) were '18+' and clients within the Transitional Service.

The main drug of choice on discharge stated was Cannabis 59 (47%), and 43% stating Alcohol 54 (43%). Most of these discharges were unplanned at 62% (78), with Cannabis having the highest number of 'Unplanned' 54% (42) discharges. Of all 'Unplanned' discharges 86% of clients stated their ethnicity as 'White', and 62% were male. Of all the clients with a 'Planned' discharge 62% (23) stated that their main drug of choice 'Alcohol' compared to 38% (14) being Cannabis. The majority of discharges came from '16' year olds 28 (22%), followed closely by '18+' year olds at 26 (21%). Again, the greatest 'Unplanned' discharges were in the age bracket of '16' at 29% (23).



The above shows that 30% (37) clients had 'Planned' Discharges from Oasis@connexions and these mostly came from clients using Alcohol. 4 Opiate clients were referred onto other agencies and 1 Crack client left the service 'Unplanned'. Other Stimulants 'Unplanned' Discharges accounted for 8% of all Discharges. Of those discharged as 'Planned' 70% were male, and 62% (23) stated their main drug of use as 'Alcohol'.



Out of the 125 discharges Oasis@connexions made the majority of 'Unplanned' discharges came from clients who were '16' years of age 23 (29%), followed by 16 (21%) of '18+' year olds. The majority of 'Planned' discharges were made with '14' and '15' year olds at 22% at each age bracket. One reason for the high level of 'Unplanned' discharges may be because young people are being referred to Oasis@connexions with no real commitment to engaging. Where young people are referred, and; do not engage, they are input as an 'Unplanned' discharge on NDTMS.

At this point we must also make some considerations of the following:

- Of all the referrals made to Oasis@connexions we need to undertake some analysis of which clients are engaging with the service, which clients are not engaging, and what is the profile of these client groups i.e. male/female/BME/alcohol/stimulant users?

Young People and Alcohol

The table below shows rates of alcohol specific hospital admissions for 16 and unders for each Government Office Region and England as a whole. Data refers to years 2002/03 to 2004/05 (April to March for each year). Over the period there has been an overall increase in rates of 9.86% for boys and 23.97% for girls. The difference between sexes is of particular importance, relates to other issues including increases in STIs, and is largely consistent with patterns in national surveys that show girls' drinking has more or less caught up with boys.

Highest overall rate 2002-03 to 2004-2005 Figures for the Top 10% Local Authorities by rate for age 16 and under Hospital Admissions for Alcohol Specific Conditions

Males	rate per 100,000 per year	Females	rate per 100,000 per year
COPELAND	215.11	COPELAND	246.00
ALLERDALE	165.10	ISLE OF WIGHT UA	242.81
DARLINGTON UA	151.01	SEDFIELD	171.51
EASTBOURNE	136.16	DARLINGTON UA	170.60
WIRRAL	125.92	ALLERDALE	160.64
ISLE OF WIGHT UA	125.29	EASTBOURNE	157.47
SCARBOROUGH	115.80	WEAR VALLEY	154.89
HASTINGS	114.97	SOUTH TYNESIDE	152.34
KERRIER	109.19	HASTINGS	146.84
BARROW-IN-FURNESS	106.91	CHESTERFIELD	145.64
WEAR VALLEY	104.61	PENWITH	144.58
CARRICK	104.06	WEYMOUTH & PORTLAND	143.18
NORTH TYNESIDE	103.63	KINGSTON UPON HULL, CITY OF UA	140.18
SUNDERLAND	99.85	REDDITCH	137.87
MOLE VALLEY	94.61	ROTHER	137.45
ROCHDALE	94.24	WARRINGTON UA	129.70
IPSWICH	94.08	EASINGTON	125.89
OLDHAM	92.32	HALTON UA	123.62
EPSOM & EWELL	92.26	WEST LANCASHIRE	123.05
ROSSENDALE	91.60	PRESTON	122.76
REDDITCH	90.24	BASSETLAW	121.40
SOUTH TYNESIDE	89.83	ST HELENS	121.22
THANET	89.81	SUTTON	120.15
ST HELENS	89.64	WIRRAL	120.09
BURNLEY	89.08	CHESTER	118.14
EASINGTON	88.67	HARROGATE	117.27
WEST DORSET	88.21	SUNDERLAND	117.16
BLYTH VALLEY	86.64	ELLESMERE PORT & NESTON	116.72
BARNESLEY	86.01	NORTH DEVON	114.98
SALFORD	86.00	CANNOCK CHASE	114.28
BASSETLAW	85.58	BOURNEMOUTH UA	114.15
NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME	85.38	KERRIER	109.94
KINGSTON UPON HULL, CITY OF UA	85.37	BOLTON	105.67
EXETER	84.53	OLDHAM	105.48
HYNDBURN	83.26	BROMSGROVE	104.28

Young People and Drug/Alcohol Use:

A schools survey is completed by pupils in Oldham Schools in December of each year; the following identifies the key findings for 2006/07:

Percentage of young people admitting to using illicit substances in the last 6 months:

11 – 15 year olds – 6.0% (Baseline – 7.4%) ^{2005/06}

15 year olds – 14.1% (Baseline – 15.1%) ^{2005/06}

Percentage of young people stating they consumed alcohol in the last month:

11 – 15 year olds – 38.7% (Baseline – 42.6%) ^{2005/06}

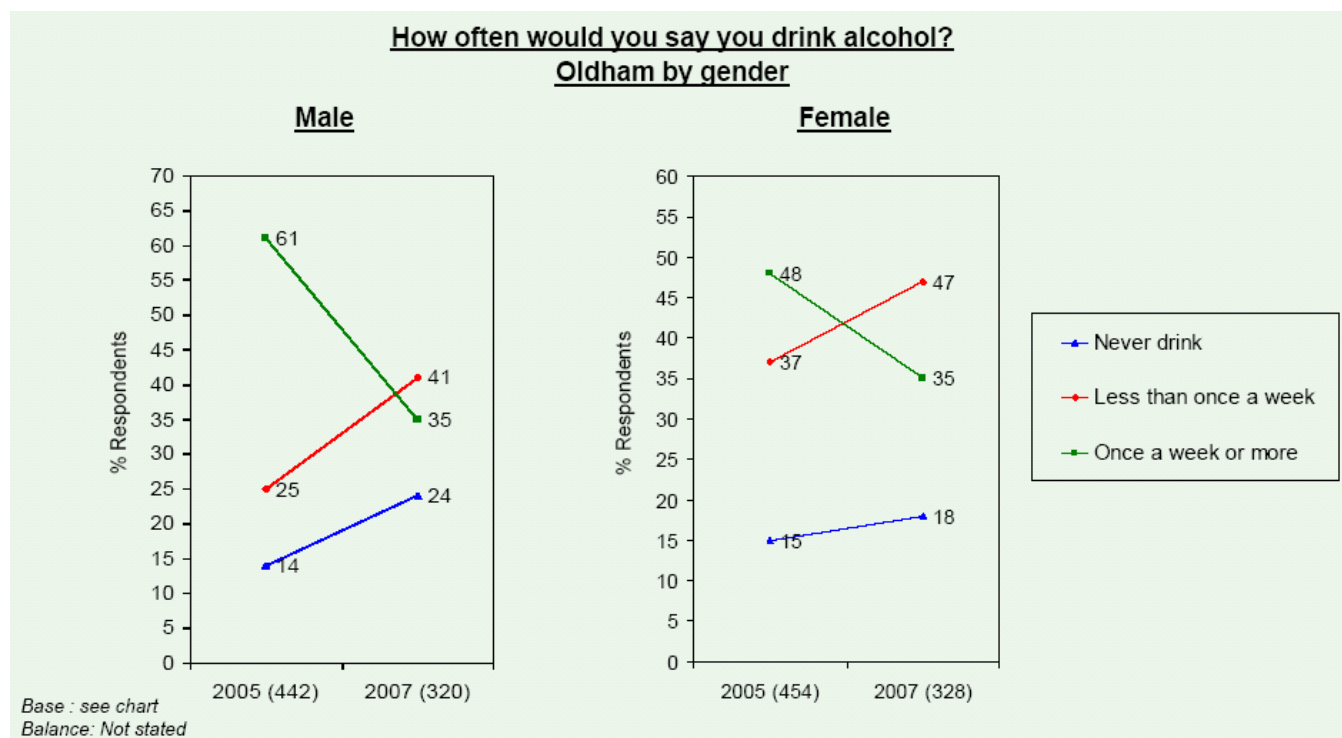
15 year olds – 72.3% (Baseline – 76.4%) ^{2005/06}

Young People and Alcohol Survey Findings June 2007:

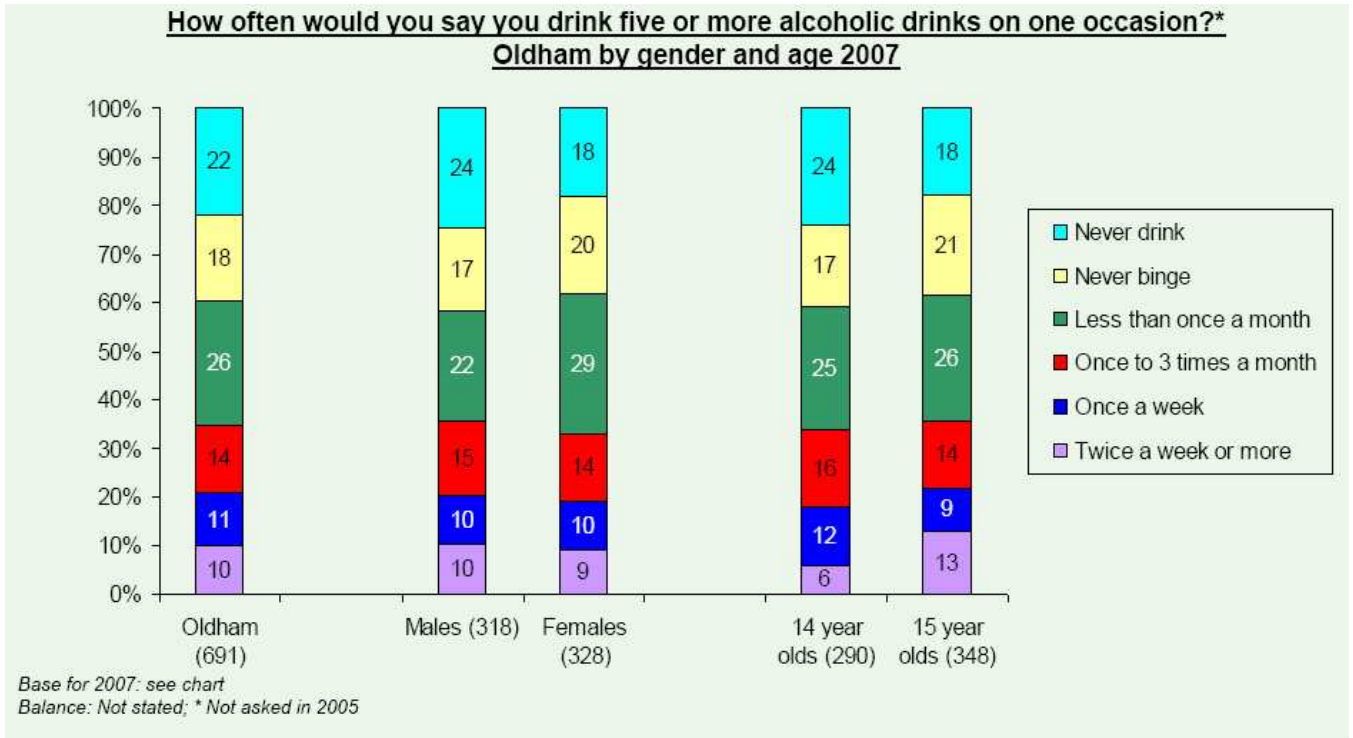
Trading Standards North West (TSNW) commissioned a survey to identify where young people obtain alcohol and cigarettes in order to respond appropriately to need. 696 questionnaires were completed and returned by 15 to 16 years olds in Oldham. The following was found:

Alcohol Consumption

- 21% of 14 to 17 year olds surveyed stated that they never drink alcohol (NW 17%);
- 35% claim to drink alcohol at least once a week (NW 44%);
- The proportion of 14 to 17 year olds stating that they never drink alcohol has risen by 6%;
- The drop in alcohol consumption levels is most marked amongst males;

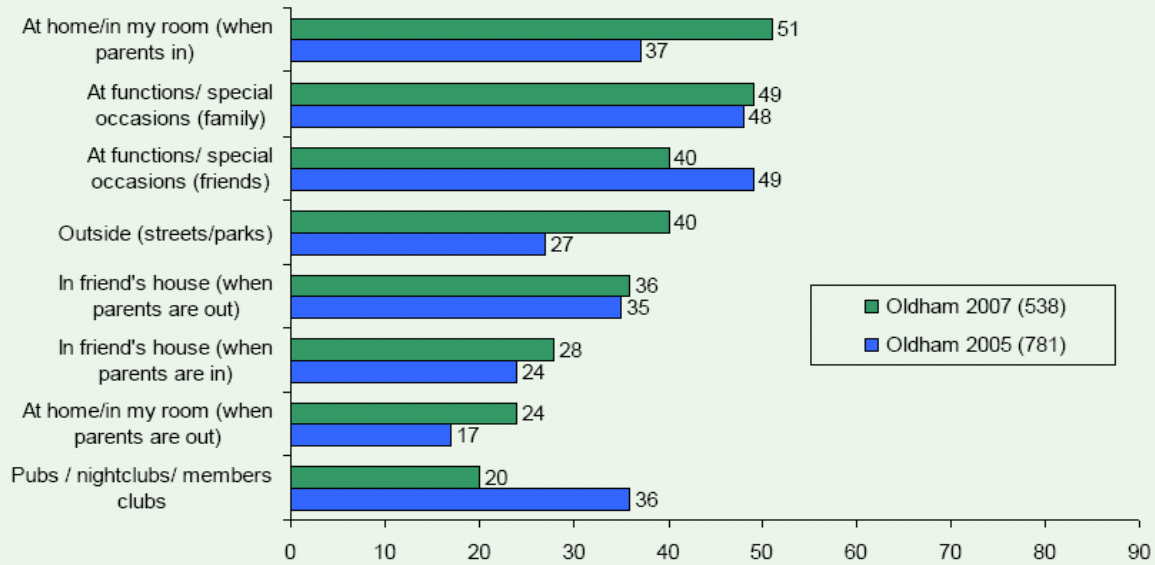


- 40% of 14 to 16 year olds claim to never binge drink (NW 28%);
- 21% claim to binge regularly compared 29% of the North West;
- The propensity and frequency of binge drinking is higher amongst 15 year olds than 14 years olds;



- Regular Binge drinkers are more likely to drink outside or in pubs and clubs than non/infrequent drinkers;
- Young people are drinking alcohol in a wide range of places;

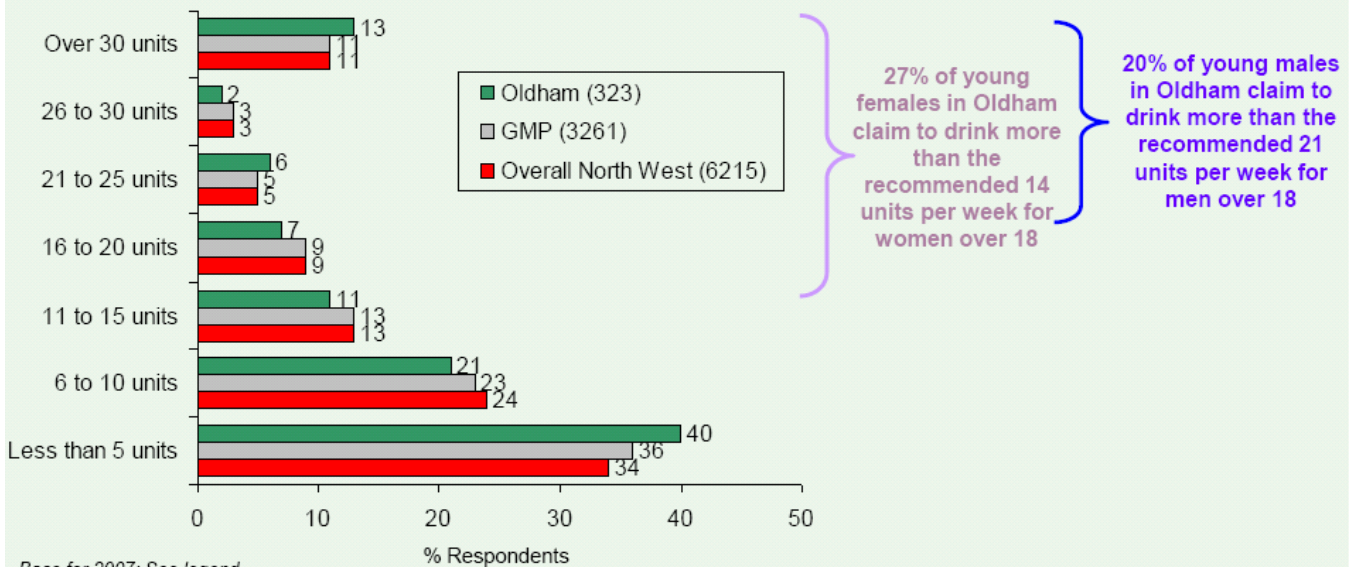
**Where do you *mostly* drink?
Oldham 2007 vs. 2005**



Base: See legend.
Balance: Never drink / Not stated. Multiple responses allowed

- 27% of those who drink alcohol outside state that they drink with a group of more than 20 others, 9% more than the North West average;
- 27% of young females and 20% of young males in Oldham appear to be exceeding the recommended number of units per week for an adult;

In a typical week, how many units do you drink?*
Comparisons by area 2007

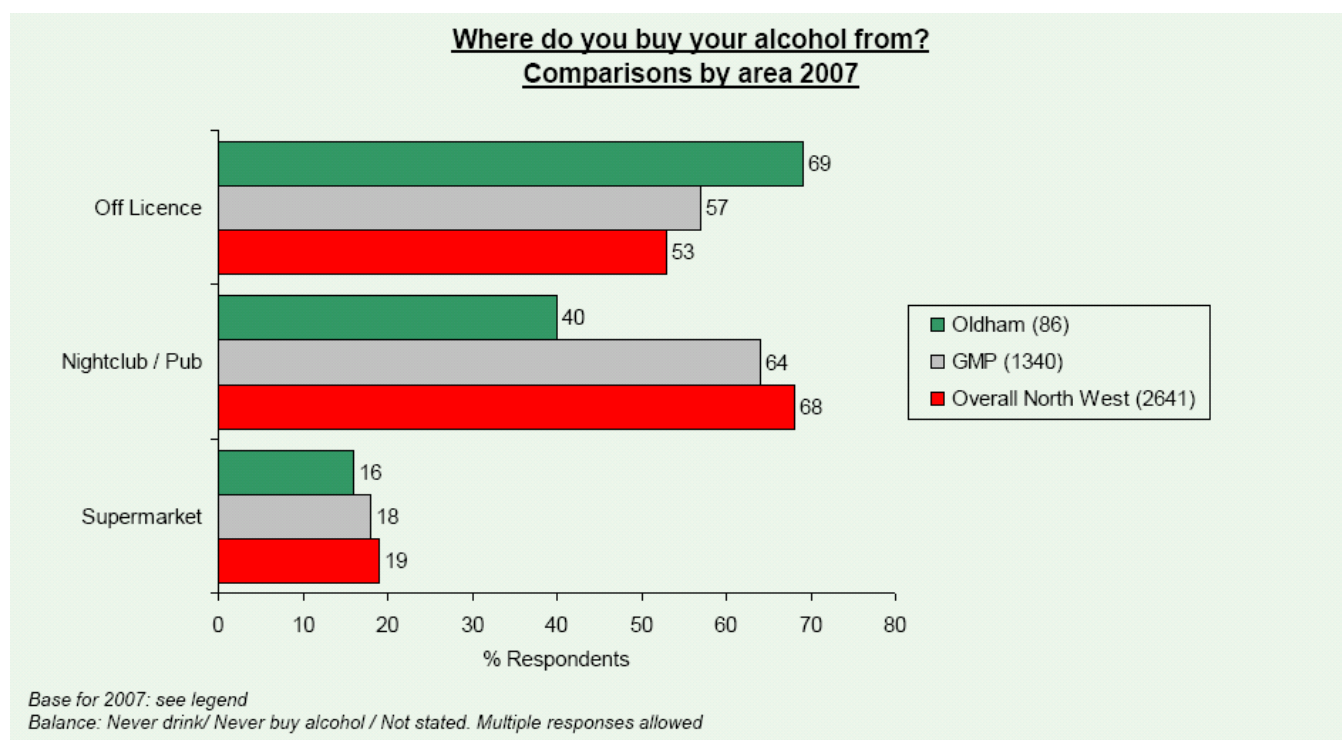


Base for 2007: See legend
Balance: Never drink / Not stated. *Not asked in 2005

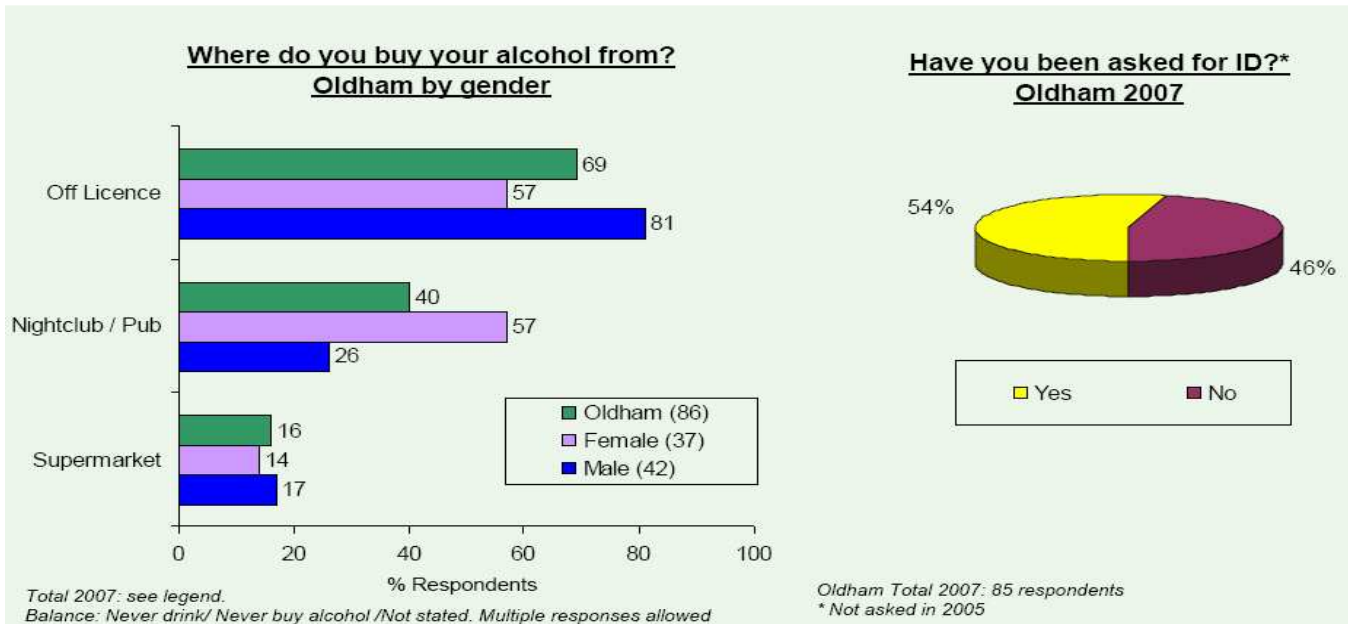
- 42% of 14 to 17 year olds named specific alcopop brands that they prefer with WKD being mentioned most frequently 42%;

Purchasing Alcohol

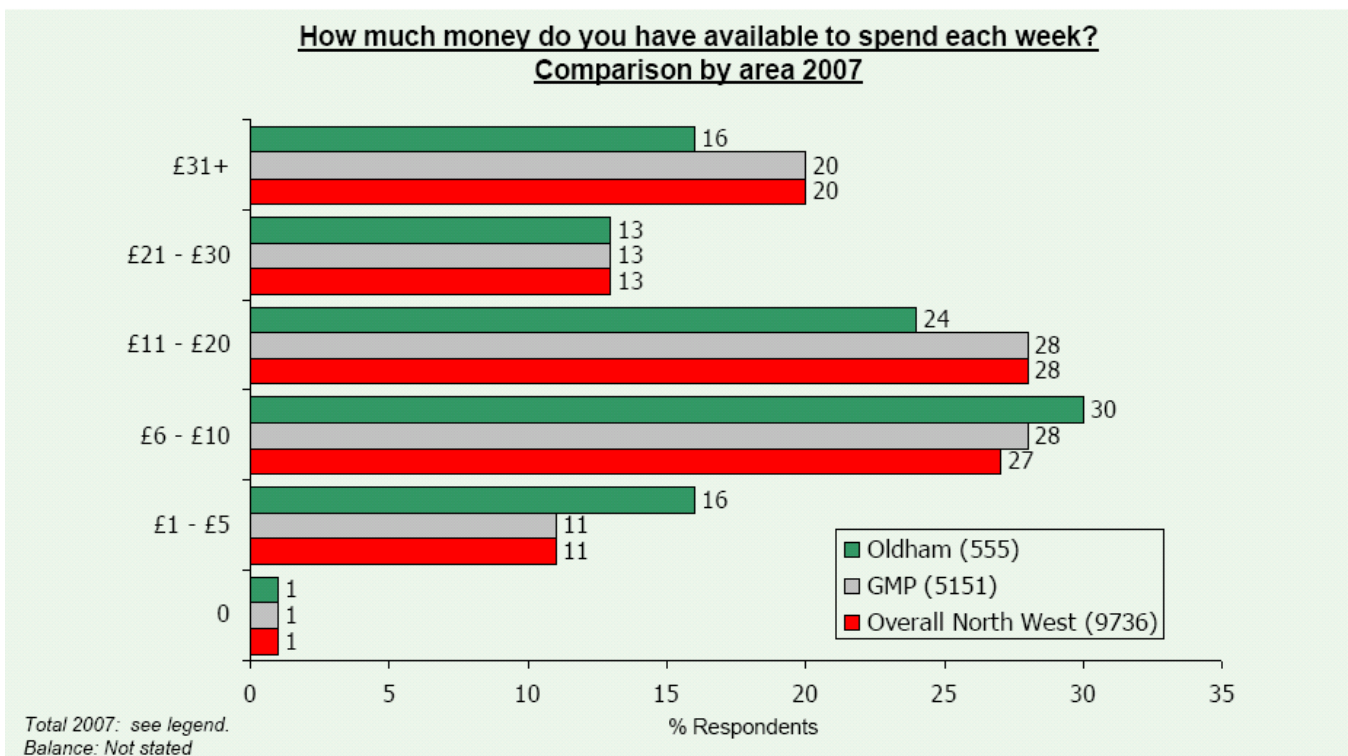
- 15% of 14 – 16 year olds claim to buy their own alcohol in comparison to the North West 28%;
- Those who purchase alcohol by the frequency that they binge drink, the results show that those who regularly binge drink (defined as drinking five drinks or more on one occasion at least once a week) are more likely to purchase their own alcohol;
- 69% of 14 to 17 year olds claim to purchase their alcohol from off licenses;



- Females are more likely to buy their alcohol from pubs and clubs than males, where males are more likely to purchase from off licenses;
- 54% of those purchasing alcohol have been asked for ID;



- 6% of 14 to 17 years old in Oldham claim to have fake ID, often purchased 45% from the internet;
- 14 to 17 year olds are most likely to get their alcohol from friends over 18 (46%) or from parents/guardians (54%);



- The above identifies the amount of money that 14 to 17 year olds have available to spend;
- The majority of 14 to 17 year olds get money from their family: 76% in 2005, rising to 92% in 2007;
- 33% get money from part-time jobs;

General Attitudes and Behaviour

- Young females tend to worry more (42% female/25% male) than young males about getting their drinks spiked;
- Females are more likely to ensure that they are not alone when drinking (92% female/78% male);
- 57% of those who regularly binge drink agree that they drink because there is nothing else to do;
- 25% of 14 to 17 year olds who drink alcohol admit to having been violent whilst drunk;
- 14% claim to have been in a car with a young person who had been drinking;
- 11% indicated that they had regretted having sex after drinking alcohol;

Understanding of the Law

- The majority of 14 to 17 year olds are generally aware of the law relating to buying' selling and consuming alcohol;

Smoking Habits

- 17% of 14 to 17 year olds claim to smoke;
- Of the 17% of smokers, 48% are regular binge drinkers;
- 62% of smokers claim to have asked siblings or friends to purchase cigarettes for them.

The Need for Young People's Substance Misuse Treatment Services:

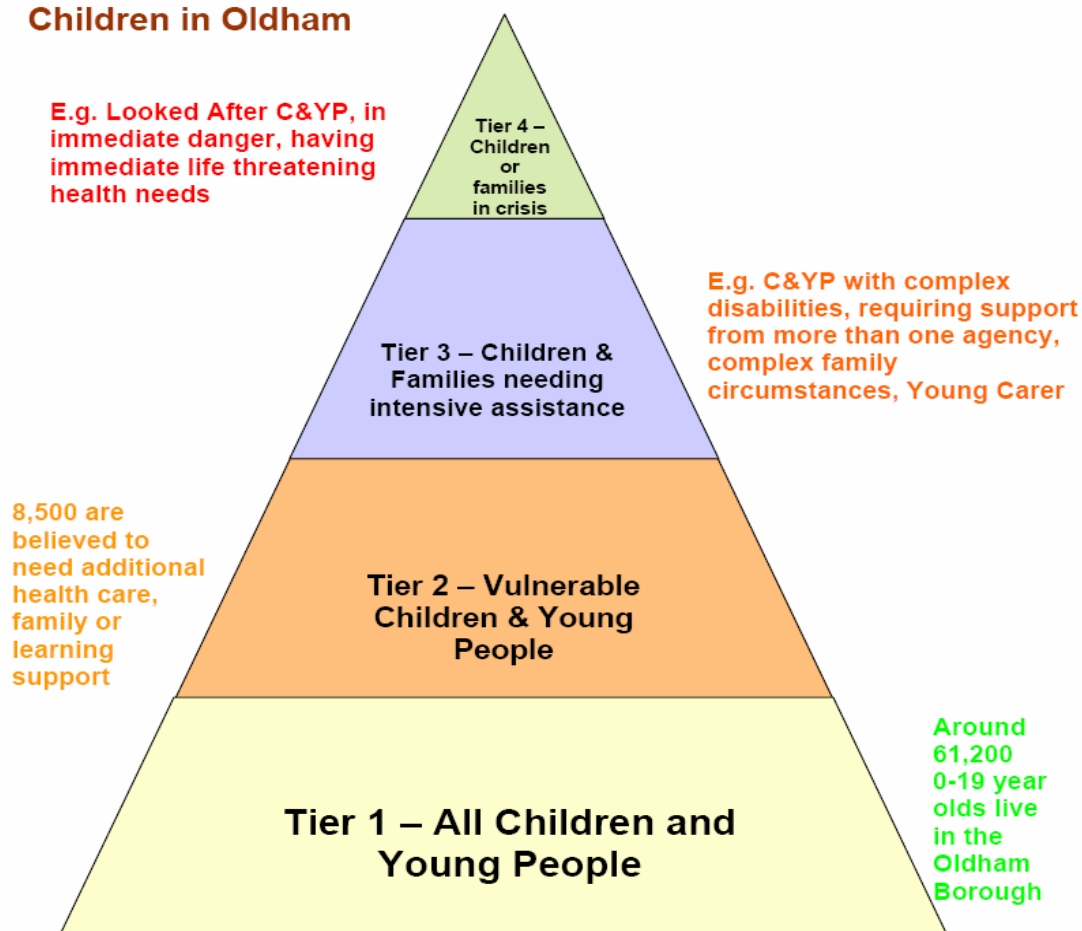
For the adult needs assessment we have estimated that there could be up to 1200 problematic drug users living in Oldham. Currently, there is no such estimate for young people, however; we can use the baseline usage of illicit drugs and alcohol below to extrapolate some estimates about the potential need for drug prevention, education, and treatment amongst the age group of 11 – 15 year olds.

Percentage of young people admitting to using illicit substances in the last 6 months:

11 – 15 year olds – 6.0% (Baseline – 7.4%) ^{2005/06}

Therefore with a total number of 61,200, 0 – 19 years olds in Oldham, and 8,500 vulnerable young people, we can estimate that 510 could need treatment for illicit drug use.

Children in Oldham



The Need for alcohol education, prevention and treatment

Alcohol use is far more widespread and generally more common amongst young people, hence it is much more difficult to estimate what is required in terms of services. However; with 38.7% of 11 – 15 year olds stating that they consumed alcohol in the last month, we can estimate from 8,500 vulnerable 0 – 19 years olds that ***as many as 3,289 young people living in Oldham may at some point need some intervention around alcohol use.***

Young People Treatment Performance Expectations for 2008/09

- At least 90% of young people requiring specialist substance misuse treatment should be catered for in young person's service.
- The range of services available should include at least four modalities as defined with Essential Elements, including community prescribing.
- At least 20% of referrals to specialist substance misuse treatment should be referred by key services for vulnerable young people.
- All young people referred for specialist substance misuse treatment should have a comprehensive assessment undertaken within five working days of referral.
- All young people who are assessed as requiring specialist substance misuse treatment should commence treatment within 10 working days of the comprehensive assessment.
- All young people in specialist substance misuse treatment should have a care plan specifically related to their substance misuse treatment needs.
- All young people who have a history of injecting should be offered a personal Hepatitis C test with appropriate pre- and post-test counselling.
- At least 80% of young people should leave treatment in an agreed and planned way.

The majority of referrals into Oasis@connexions came from 'YOS and Criminal Justice', (32%), and 'Education' (30%). It should be noted here that due to a service being delivered by Oasis@connexions to screen and assess in both of these service areas; there have been a high number of referrals. It is evident that where a service is established to screen and assess young people for substance misuse, the take up is very successful, with services picking up young people at the earliest opportunity.

Priorities for the Young People's Treatment Plan 2008/09:

- Develop targeted alcohol prevention, education and treatment services.
- Increase the number of young people referred for specialist substance misuse treatment receiving a comprehensive assessment within five working days of referral.
- Increase the percentage of young people who are assessed as requiring specialist substance misuse treatment to commence treatment within 10 working days of the comprehensive assessment (currently 64% in 2006/07 for YOS clients).
- All young people in specialist substance misuse treatment should have a care plan specifically related to their substance misuse treatment needs.
- There are disparities in the number of referrals made to Oasis@connexions and with those in actual treatment. Some work needs to take place to undertake some analysis of which clients are engaging with the service, which clients are not engaging, and what is the profile of these client groups i.e. male/female/BME/alcohol/stimulants users.
- A 50% increase in young people leaving treatment in an agreed and planned way.
- Of all the referrals made to Oasis@connexions we need to undertake some analysis of which clients are engaging with the service, who are not engaging, and what is the profile of these client groups i.e. male/female/BME/alcohol/stimulant users?
- Build links with the Emergency Department at Royal Oldham Hospital to ensure that young people admitted with substance misuse issues are referred appropriately to young people's substance misuse services.

Notes

Notes

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