

It's been a hectic year so far and DTMU has experienced some changes. The Eastern Region has successfully started its own unit, new staff have arrived at DTMU, and team members have left for pastures new. The increased dataset of 29 fields and Young People's data are now being collected. There are more changes to come, with the NDTMS dataset increasing in importance for measuring performance. We hope you'll find this newsletter a useful snapshot of the latest developments and news connected to NDTMS!



## Monitoring... Team News

- In May, Kellie Peters was officially appointed as Manager of DTMU.
- Following on from this appointment, Regina Lally was appointed as the NDTMS Liaison Officer for the South East Region in July.
- Isobel Perry, Information Analyst, left DTMU in May to join the Public Health Resource Unit as a Public Health Analyst. We wish Isobel all the best for the future. The Information Analyst post is currently vacant.
- Laura Kesseboom joined DTMU in July as the Drug Intervention Record Administrator.
- Regina and Mike are available for site visits and training. Please contact them on 01865 334734 to arrange a suitable time.

## THANK YOU!

- We recognise that a lot of hard work has gone into improving the quality of the data over the past year. We'd like to thank you all for your hard work, especially in relation to the Audit that took place over the summer. At a pressured time of year, we appreciate the time and effort that it took to get this right. Thanks everyone.
- Thank you for returning the information required for the IT report. As a region, we were one of the few that completed this exercise on time. The report was sent to all DAATs and should have played a part in the 6 monthly reviews with the NTA.



## Monitoring... News

### *IT Software Roadshow Guildford, 12<sup>th</sup> December*

DTMU are organising an IT Software Roadshow. This event will provide you with the opportunity to see some of the IT Systems that are available and question the Software Providers about their products and their capabilities.

The programme will include presentations from Software Providers, DTMU and the Regional NTA Office. This event is essential for anyone considering investing in a new system in the near future. Staff from both DAATs and Agencies are invited to attend.

*Please contact Regina Lally or Mike Sheel for further information*

### *DAT Information Analyst Forums*

DTMU organise meetings for DAT information managers and analysts. The last meeting took place on 23<sup>rd</sup> November. If you would like to be kept informed of future dates, please contact Kellie Peters.

### *Substance Misuse Report for South East*

This is due to be released in Spring 2006.

### *Rough Guide to NDTMS Submissions*

This is a **must** for anyone who is involved in sending monthly submissions to DTMU. The Rough Guide is available **NOW** and is totally free!

*Please contact one of the team to receive your copy.*



### **2005-6 Reporting Dates**

Reporting dates for 2005-6 are as follows:

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December\***

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June

Please make a note of these dates!

**\*Due to the December bank holidays, the NTA have brought the upload date forward by 3 days. DTMU are absorbing this, so there is no change to your submission date. However, this is an absolute deadline. Please ensure your data quality is as good as possible, as there won't be time for Sue to send out verification reports and amendments to be made prior to upload to the NTA**

### **Latest from the NTA**

- The NTA released 04-05 DAT figures on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2005.
- The 29 field dataset has been collected since April 2005. Please ensure you populate all fields where possible.
- Young People's data collection began in April 2005. You should receive your LDP Young Peoples' reports from the NTA.
- ***New data fields to be introduced.*** From April 2006, the dataset will expand to 47 fields. Please go to the NDTMS section of the NTA's website for the relevant documentation. The NTA are currently working with Software Providers to ensure systems will be able to deliver for the April submission. DTMU will be providing training on the new fields from January onwards. If you have any queries on the new fields, please do contact one of the DTMU team.

## **Monitoring... Useful Information**

### **Focus on Data Quality**

Part of DTMU's service level agreement with the NTA requires that 95% of all the records uploaded to the central database are valid. October submissions for the South East were 96.3% valid, which is the first time we reached our target this year. Thank you all for your hard work in improving your data quality.

DTMU will be identifying areas where data quality can be further improved and will work to support you on achieving this.

### **Drug Intervention Records**

All non-intensive DIP areas should be sending their activity and contact DIR forms to Laura Kesseboom at DTMU. Please contact Laura on 01865 334731 if you have any queries regarding DIR.

### **Monitoring... your satisfaction**

If you have any suggestions on ways to improve this newsletter or services you would like us to offer, please do let us know. This will be open to contributions from those in the region. Contact Regina Lally for further information.

### **Information available on request**

- DTMU leaflet on its role in the regions and key services available.
- Leaflet on confidential information and the data protection act
- Rough Guide to NDTMS Submissions

### **Useful websites**

[www.sepho.org.uk](http://www.sepho.org.uk)

**Sepho has a new website – take a look!**

[www.nta.nhs.uk](http://www.nta.nhs.uk)

### **Events**

12<sup>th</sup> December 2005: IT Software Roadshow

9<sup>th</sup>–10<sup>th</sup> March 2006: National Treatment Conference, Glasgow

### **Contact Details**

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