



AUTUMN
2025



Introduction-

Welcome to our Bulletin!

Welcome to the first Argyll & Bute ADP Bulletin. We hope you find it informative and engaging.

If you have any suggestions on what you'd like to see in our Bulletin, please feel free to let us know.

Contact us: nhsh.argyllandbuteadp@nhs.scot



Argyll and Bute ADP



@ArgyllADP

Upcoming Event: Recovery Walk - 27th September

The Scottish Recovery Walk returns this year—and we're excited to share that it's happening in Stirling on Saturday 27th September.

To help make the day accessible to all, the ADP have supported travel arrangements co-ordinated by With You, and would like to thank with you for their work on this. We look forward to seeing everyone there.



#RecoveryWalkScotland

SRC SCOTTISH RECOVERY CONSORTIUM

Update: ADP 2025-27 Strategy

Formally agreed in August, our two-year strategy aims to reduce alcohol and drug-related harm through three pillars:



Prevention: Focus on early intervention, youth education (e.g. Planet Youth), stigma reduction, family support, and improved access in rural areas.



ROSC: Trauma-informed, person-centred care. Priorities include rehab pathways, MAT standards, wraparound support, and lived experience-led ROSC groups shaping local services.



Justice: Promotes diversion from criminal justice, integrating health, housing, and social care. Emphasises compassionate, evidence-based responses to root causes.

By strengthening these three pillars, the ADP aims to create a safer, healthier Argyll and Bute where individuals and families are supported to recover and thrive.



WithYou in Kintyre were in the Scotland on Sunday newspaper this month- on the front page!



ARGYLL & BUTE ALCOHOL AND DRUG PARTNERSHIP BULLETIN

Spotlight - Drug Related Deaths in Argyll & Bute- 2024 Update

13 drug-related deaths were registered in Argyll and Bute in 2024—a slight decrease from 2023, continuing a fluctuating trend. Opioids remain the most common substances involved, followed by cocaine, gabapentinoids, benzodiazepines, and alcohol. Many cases involved poly-drug use, increasing overdose risk and underscoring the need for trauma-informed, joined-up support.

Local specialist services include:

We Are With You - community-based recovery support
DARS - clinical and therapeutic treatment into recovery

More info: [Drug-related deaths in Scotland, 2024 - National Records of Scotland](#)

MAT 8 ROSC Event

On 22nd August, we hosted a collaborative event in Arrochar, bringing together partners, services, and people with lived experience to advance recovery efforts. The focus was on developing Recovery-Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC) and progressing MAT Standard 8, which supports access to housing, welfare, and advocacy. Key outcomes included plans to form local ROSC groups shaped by each community.

The Community Development team



now invites anyone in recovery, services, or local groups to get involved—your voice matters.



Call for Partners!

Have any partners got any information that they'd like to see in this Bulletin?

Anything- good news stories, forthcoming training, upcoming events- let us know! 😊

Update: ADP Community Engagement

In September, the ADP team visited recovery groups in Oban, Dunoon, Rothesay, and Helensburgh to hear directly from individuals in recovery. A key theme was the value of face-to-face support—drop-ins, peer-led groups, and community spaces that foster connection, especially in rural areas where isolation is a challenge. This feedback is shaping future services through our ROSC groups, which co-produce local solutions with lived experience, providers, and partners.

To support ongoing engagement, ADP has appointed local contacts:

Jim McSorley (Bute & Cowal), Sarah Peacock (MAKI & OLI), Laura Stephenson (Helensburgh).



Training Calendar

We're launching an online calendar of free training for professionals and volunteers. Before it goes live, we're inviting partners to share details of any relevant sessions—e-learning, workshops, or specialist training. The calendar will include trusted providers like SDF, plus local options such as CRAFT and Rights-Based Approaches. Please let us know if you have anything coming up.