

# CABINET AGENDA



**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2006**

**at 9:00 a.m.**

**in Committee Room B**

MEMBERS: CABINET:

The Mayor, Stuart Drummond

Councillors Hargreaves, Hill, Jackson, Payne, Tumilty and R Waller

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**

**3. MINUTES**

- 3.1 To receive the Record of Decision in respect of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2006 (previously circulated)

**4. BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK**

No items

**5. KEY DECISIONS**

No items

**6. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION**

- 6.1 Turning Point's "Bottling it up" Campaign – *Head of Community Safety and Prevention*

**7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

No items

**8. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

No items

**9. REPORTS FROM OVERVIEW OF SCRUTINY FORUMS**

No items

# CABINET REPORT

20 July 2006



**Report of:** The Head of Community Safety & Prevention

**Subject:** TURNING POINT'S "BOTTLING IT UP" CAMPAIGN

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## SUMMARY

### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek support from the Cabinet to Turning Point's campaign for a national inquiry into the effect of parental alcohol misuse on children and families.

### 2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

Report contains brief details of the services provided by Turning Point, national statistics on alcohol misuse and its effects on children. It includes comment on some developing local services.

### 3. RELEVANCE TO CABINET

A range of Council services and staff may have contact with people who misuse alcohol.

### 4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non key

### 5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Cabinet and Council

### 6. DECISION REQUIRED

Support for registered charity's campaign.

**Report of:** The Head of Community Safety & Prevention

**Subject** TURNING POINT'S "BOTTLING IT UP" CAMPAIGN

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**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To seek support from the Cabinet to Turning Points campaign for a national enquiry into the effect of parental alcohol misuse on children and families.

**2. BACKGROUND**

Turning Point is a registered charity. It provides services for people with complex needs, including those affected by drug and alcohol misuse, mental health problems and those with a learning disability. Twenty thousand young people benefit from Turning Point's services each year.

**3. "BOTTLING IT UP" CAMPAIGN**

The "bottling it up" campaign is calling on the Government to hold a national enquiry into the effect of parental alcohol misuse on children and families. Up to one in eleven children in the UK live with parents who misuse alcohol. These children suffer from a range of problems which affect their health and behaviour. The life of the whole family is disputed.

These are some shocking statistics contained in the Turning Point report which was produced to support the "bottling it up" campaign.

- Approximately 3.8 million people in England and Wales are dependant on alcohol
- Alcohol causes 22,000 deaths each year and 1,000 suicides
- Alcohol misuse by parents was identified as a factor in over 50% child protection cases
- Around one third of all domestic violence incidents are linked to alcohol misuse
- Five times as many children could be affected by parental alcohol problems as by parental drug misuse.

### 3. LOCAL PROVISION

The Safer Hartlepool Partnership is leading the development of the Hartlepool Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy. This development has focused on alcohol consumption, violence, crime and the wider anti-social effects of alcohol communities. It does not include the needs of children and families, although it would be possible to enhance the strategy to take account of these needs.

Currently there is no specific Government funding available for alcohol treatment, but locally we have managed to appoint two staff at the Whitby Street Community drugs centre with alcohol expertise, and GPs now have a contract clause to deliver brief treatment interventions to their patients. Other initiatives in Hartlepool will be contributing to reducing the impact of alcohol misuse on families, but this is happening because other problems, such as domestic violence, have been identified.

In my role as chair of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership, I will be seeking to ensure that the needs of children and families is included within the developing Alcohol Strategy. I will also be seeking support from the Partnership for the “bottling it up” campaign.

### 4. RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet is recommended to support Turning Point’s campaign.

The Cabinet is recommended to refer the report to full Council, to seek its support.

Contact Officer Alison Mawson, Head of Community Safety & Prevention

Background Papers Turning Point report “Bottling it up” 2006