

Youth Substance Misuse Team



What is the role of a Youth Substance Misuse Officer?

The main aim of a Youth Substance Misuse Officer's role is to engage with young people under the age of 18 who show substance misuse needs, with a particular emphasis on alcohol, cannabis and New Psychoactive Substances (NPS).

How do you refer?

We are a first point of contact for young people in crisis in relation to substance misuse. We mainly receive referrals from Health and Police; however referrals can be made by any statutory or voluntary agency. But if you are unsure on the suitability then please call for a discussion.

What does a Youth Substance Misuse Officer do?

Once a referral is received an officer will complete an assessment of the young person's alcohol/substance use/misuse, usually within the family home, with the aim to deliver appropriate education, harm reduction advice, relating to alcohol/substance misuse and related risk taking behaviour.

Self Refer

If you're worried about your own or one of your mates' drug or alcohol use, we can help. We could support you on a one-to-one voluntary basis and can listen to your worries. You don't have to have an addiction but something might have happened that's worried you while you were drinking or using drugs. Contact your area worker for help.

What if more help is required?

The Youth Substance Misuse team are part of a multi-agency approach therefore if it is identified that further work is required, an Early Help Assessment will be carried out to ensure the young person receives the correct support and achieves the best outcome.

Contact details:

Westmorland & Furness

YouthSubstanceMisuse.WAF@cumbria.gov.uk