

The **Association for Criminal Justice Research & Development** are delighted to host the

ACJRD 27th Annual Conference 2024

'Continuing the Conversation – The Future of Drug Policy in Ireland'



09.00 - 09.30 Conference Registration

Morning Plenaries

09.30 - 09.40 **Welcome and Conference Outline**

Maura Butler, Chairperson, ACJRD

09.40 - 10.00 **Balancing Policing of Organised Crime & Drug Decriminalisation Policies**

Assistant Commissioner Justin Kelly, An Garda Síochána

10.00 - 10.20 **The Drug Treatment Court, a Community Court in Action**

Judge Patricia McNamara

10.20 - 10.40 **A Comprehensive Care Model - Prisoner Rehabilitation & Reintegration**

Dr. Emma Regan, Director of Care & Rehabilitation, Irish Prison Service

10.40 - 11.00 **Questions & Answers**

11.00 - 11.20 **Official Launch of Conference - Address by Minister Colm Burke**

Minister of State for Public Health, Wellbeing & the National Drugs Strategy

11.20 - 12.50 **Thematic sessions – see overleaf for details**

12.50 - 13.30 Lunch

13.30 - 14.00 Networking and Engagement with Conference Exhibitors

Afternoon Plenaries

14.00 - 14.20 **An International Perspective on the Decriminalisation of Drugs - the Portuguese Experience**

Captain Filipe Correia Paulino, Chief of the Information & Criminal Investigation Section, Portugal

14.20 - 14.40 **The 5 Major Flaws in Current Drugs Policies – and How to Rectify Them**

David Nutt, Prof. of Neuropsychopharmacology, Imperial College London

14.40 - 15.00 **Recommendations to Balance Decriminalisation, Diversion & Deterrence**

Paul Reid, Chairperson of the Citizens' Assembly on Drugs Use

15.00 - 15.10 **Questions & Answers**

15.10 - 15.30 **Policing drug markets, 'wicked' problems and complex harms**

Dr. Johnny Connolly, Research Evidence into Policy, Programmes and Practice (REPPP) project

15.30 - 15.50 **Addiction, Drug Use, Crime & Recovery**

Ger Redmond, ex-prisoner, now Professional Athlete

15.50 - 16.00 **Questions & Answers**

16.00 - 16.40 **'Lived Experience' Panel**

16.40 - 16.45 **Conference Closing**

Wednesday, 12th June 2024

9.30am - 4.30pm (registration 9am)

Camden Court Hotel, Dublin 2

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11.15 - 12.45 Thematic sessions

Delegates choose one Thematic Session

Format: 20 minutes per speaker presentation x 3 + 30 minutes discussion

Session One: Support Services for Drug Addiction – The Status Quo

- a. **Frontline Addiction and Rehabilitation Support with Effective Interagency Approaches**
Louise Mahoney, General Manager, Red Door Project and Peter Heeney, support staff with lived experience
- b. **Support for those Experiencing Drug-related Intimidation & Violence**
Kevin Byrne, Project Officer, Drug Related Intimidation & Violence Engagement (DRIVE)
- c. **Interventions to Empower Families Impacted by Substance Misuse & Safe Injection Facilities**
Eddie Mullins, CEO, Merchants Quay Ireland and Andy O'Hara, CEO of UISCE

Session Two: Prevention – Policies & Practice

- a. **Giving Voice to Diversity in Criminological Research: 'Nothing about Us without Us'**
Dr. Richard Healy, Research Officer, Service Users Rights in Action (SURIA), who also has lived experience
- b. **Women in Addiction, Issues of Domestic Violence and other Criminality**
Rachel Fayne, Coordinator of the Davina Project (SAOL Project) and Anna Prince, lived experience Peer Worker

Session Three: Moving Towards Decriminalisation & Desistance

- a. **Supports, Programmes, Activities & Counselling**
Orla Brennan, Supervisor of Pre-Release Programme at Wheatfield Prison
- b. **Harms of Adolescent Alcohol and Drug Use: Links to Criminal Justice**
Professor Andrew Percy, Professor of Quantitative Criminology, School of Social Science, Education and Social Work, Queen's University Belfast
- c. **Informing Preventative Measures - Socio-demographic Characteristics of People Who Die from Drug Poisoning**
Dr. Suzi Lyons, Senior Researcher, Health Research Board

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