

Merseyside DIP Re-presentation Report April – December 07

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1.0 Introduction

There is evidence to suggest that acquisitive crime is strongly associated with drug use (Seddon, 2000; Stewart et al, 2000). More specifically, research has suggested that heroin and crack use are linked to offending, with offenders stealing to fund their drug habit (Stewart et al, 2000). One of the main target groups for the Government is persistent drug users (Bennett and Holloway, 2004).

The Drug Interventions Programme (DIP) was first introduced in 2003 to reduce crime and direct drug using offenders out of crime and into treatment. It has been suggested that DIP has subsequently had a considerable effect on achieving this, with a reduction in acquisitive crime seen in the UK since the introduction of DIP (Skodbo et al, 2007). Skodbo et al (2007) suggests that clients who enter DIP are likely to reduce their level of offending. However, it is difficult to make this statement without a substantial control group to compare with. Moreover, there is a lack of substantial research into the effects of DIP; therefore it is hard to suggest that the decrease in drug related crime is due to DIP. Nevertheless, evidence suggests that although offending may reduce, DIP clients often re-enter the criminal justice system after their first arrest.

As part of the Drugs Act 2005 (Home Office, 2005), Test on Arrest replaced Test on Charge in an attempt to get more individuals into treatment quicker. Through Tough Choices individuals arrested for trigger offences such as theft, shoplifting and burglary are drug tested post arrest in an effort to direct drug using offenders out of crime and into treatment (Skodbo et al, 2007).

Researchers have aimed to understand why clients re-offend and are subsequently reconvicted. Drug use is linked to offending rates, with 61% of prolific offenders at risk of re-offending due to drug misuse (Dawson, 2005). Re-offending rates have been previously examined through the number of times offenders were re-convicted in court within two years. Cunliffe and Shepherd (2007) examined the re-offending rates across the UK between 2001 and 2004. Results from their study showed that there was a decrease in the proportion of re-offending between 2002 and 2004. Nevertheless, known re-offending rates were most common when the original offence was acquisitive, either theft or burglary (Cunliffe and Shepherd, 2007). Between 2000 and 2004, re-offending

figures decreased for younger clients (18-20 years old) from 69% to 64%, whereas it increased for older clients (aged 35 or over; 39% to 43%).

The UK Drug Policy Commission (UKDPC; 2008) suggest that six months after contact with DIP, 48% of clients reduced their offending, whilst 28% of clients increased. DIP is attempting to reduce crime by directing clients into treatment, but once people are channelled into treatment it is the effectiveness of intervention that will determine whether they stay engaged and have positive outcomes. Beynon, Bellis and McVeigh (2006) found that there was a gradual increase in the numbers of clients who re-presented in treatment after dropping out between 1998 and 2001/02. Treatment outcomes did not appear to predict long term recovery with clients dropping out and those being discharged drug free demonstrating similar levels of re-presentation to treatment. Therefore, completing a drug treatment programme does not necessarily mean that clients will not reappear in drug treatment services. Moreover, Hser et al (1997) suggest that prior experience with successful treatment can actually predict that clients are more likely to re-enter treatment. As treatment outcome does not appear to predict re-entry, other characteristics must play a critical role.

Aims and Objectives

The main aim of this report was to ascertain how many times individuals have re-entered the DIP process in Merseyside between April and December 07. The secondary aim was to examine the specific characteristics of drug using offenders that re-present in order to help D(A)ATs target their work on clients most in need and most likely to continue to be damaging to communities.

2.0 Methodology

Drug Testing Data

Drug testing data provided by Merseyside Police was used to compare characteristics of clients arrested and tested once against clients who were tested more than once between April and December 07 (Liverpool, Sefton and Wirral DIP) or September and December 07 (Knowsley and St Helens DIP). Test on Arrest was only introduced in September 07 in Knowsley and St Helens and as a result, four months of data was analysed for this report.

For each D(A)AT area clients were split (via aggregation in SPSS) into a group who re-presented (more than one test during period) and a group who did not. The characteristics of clients at their first tests (or only test if they are from the non re-presenting group) were compared, including demographic information, drug test results and offences committed. Drug testing data was also used to assess how many clients who had a positive test result went on to have another positive test between April and December 07 for all Merseyside DIP areas.

Drug Interventions Records (DIRs)

Drug Interventions Records (DIRs) were used as a second data source to compare characteristics of assessed clients who re-presented and clients who did not between April and December 07. Clients entering DIP for the first time or re-entering the programme after a period of absence are assessed and a record of this assessment is taken on the DIR. The following analysis was performed by D(A)AT area of contact, rather than residence for all clients assessed by DIP staff in Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton, St Helens and Wirral DIP. For each D(A)AT area, clients were split (via aggregation in SPSS) into a group who re-presented (more than one assessment during period) and a group who did not. The characteristics of clients at their first assessment (or only assessment if from the non re-presenting group) were compared including demographic information, offences recorded, drug use and injecting behaviour, accommodation and employment status. Drug use and injecting behaviour were only analysed for clients who had used drugs in the month prior to assessment.

DIRs were also used to assess how many clients who had a care plan went on to have another care plan completed between April and December 07 for all Merseyside DIP areas.

Analysis was also performed to determine the number of clients who were transferred into the DIP teams from prison more than once during the period. Activity Forms were used to identify the total number of clients who had a successful transfer from prison completed who subsequently re-presented between April and December 07.

Please note, for some analysis particularly for Knowsley, the numbers of clients discussed were very small and so conclusions should be drawn with caution.

The following sections detail each of the five Merseyside D(A)AT consecutively. Proportions relating to client characteristics including ethnicity, accommodation and employment on the DIRs have been calculated by the number of responses, not the total number of clients. All other proportions have been calculated from the total number of clients unless stated. For all figures, percentages have been rounded to one decimal place and therefore occasionally figures will add up to more than 100%.

3.0 Knowsley

3.1 Drug Testing Data

Table K1 – Frequency of re-representation of clients who had a successful drug test completed

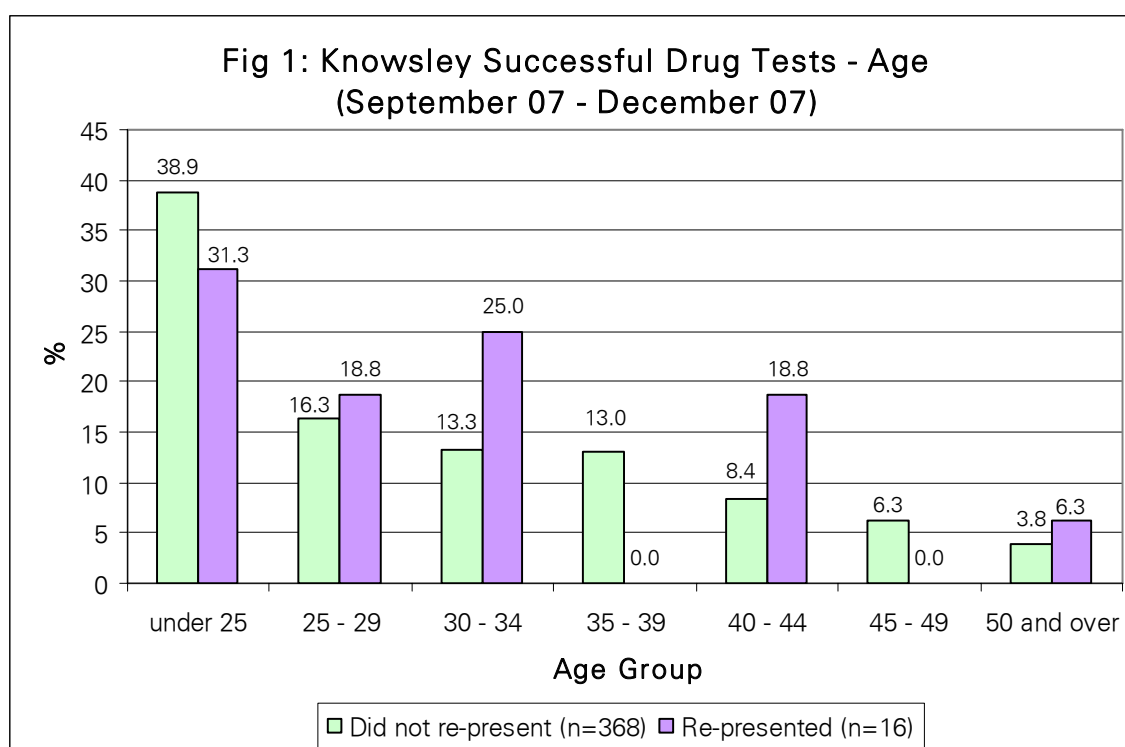
Re-representation	Frequency (n=384)
Never	368 (95.8%)
2 times	14 (3.6%)
3 times	1 (0.3%)
4 times	1 (0.3%)

The majority of clients (95.8%) did not re-present between September and December 07.

Table K2 – Re-representation of clients by gender

	Did not re-present (n=368)	Re-presented (n=16)
Female	71 (19.3%)	1 (6.3%)
Male	297 (80.7%)	15 (93.8%)

Just under a fifth of clients who did not re-present were female (19.3%). Only one client who re-presented was female (6.3%).



Generally clients who re-presented were older than those who did not. Just under a third (31.3%) of clients who re-presented were under 25 compared to those who did not re-present (38.9%). A quarter of all clients (25.0%) who re-presented between September and December 07 were between 30 and 34 years old.

Table K3 – Re-presentation of clients by ethnicity

	Did not re-present (n=367)*	Re-presented (n=16)
Black	2 (0.5%)	0
White	360 (98.1%)	16 (100.0%)
Other	5 (1.4%)	0

*One client who did not re-present did not provide information regarding their ethnicity.

All clients who re-presented were white.

Table K4 – Re-presentation of clients by offence

Offences	Did not re-present (n=368)	Re-presented (n=16)
Burglary	35 (9.5%)	4 (25.0%)
Fraud	24 (6.5%)	1 (6.3%)
Going equipped	6 (1.6%)	0
Handling stolen goods	10 (2.7%)	1 (6.3%)
MDA offences	79 (21.5%)	1 (6.3%)
Non-Trigger Offences	24 (6.5%)	1 (6.3%)
Robbery	13 (3.5%)	0
Theft	173 (47.0%)	7 (43.8%)
Vehicle Taking	4 (1.1%)	1 (6.3%)

The most common offence for both client groups was theft (47.0% did not re-present, 43.8% re-presented). A quarter of clients (25.0%) who re-presented committed burglary, a higher proportion than among those clients who did not re-present (9.5%).

Table K5 – Test Result

	Did not re-present (n=368)	Re-presented (n=16)
Both (Cocaine and Opiates)	36 (9.8%)	3 (18.8%)
Cocaine	114 (31.0%)	4 (25.0%)
Opiates	8 (2.1%)	2 (12.5%)
Negative	210 (57.1%)	7 (43.8%)

Clients who re-presented were more likely to test positive compared to clients who did not re-present. A quarter of re-presented clients (25.0%) tested positive for cocaine compared to just under a third of those who did not re-present (31.0%).

Table K6 – Frequency of re-presentation of clients who tested positive

Re-presentation	Frequency (n=169)
Never	160 (94.7%)
Once	8 (4.7%)
Twice	1 (0.6%)

Of the 169 clients who tested positive only nine re-presented (5.3%), eight testing positive on a further single occasion (4.7%) and one on a further two occasions (0.6%) between September and December 07.

3.2 Assessments (DIRs)

Table K7 – Frequency of re-representation of clients who had an assessment completed

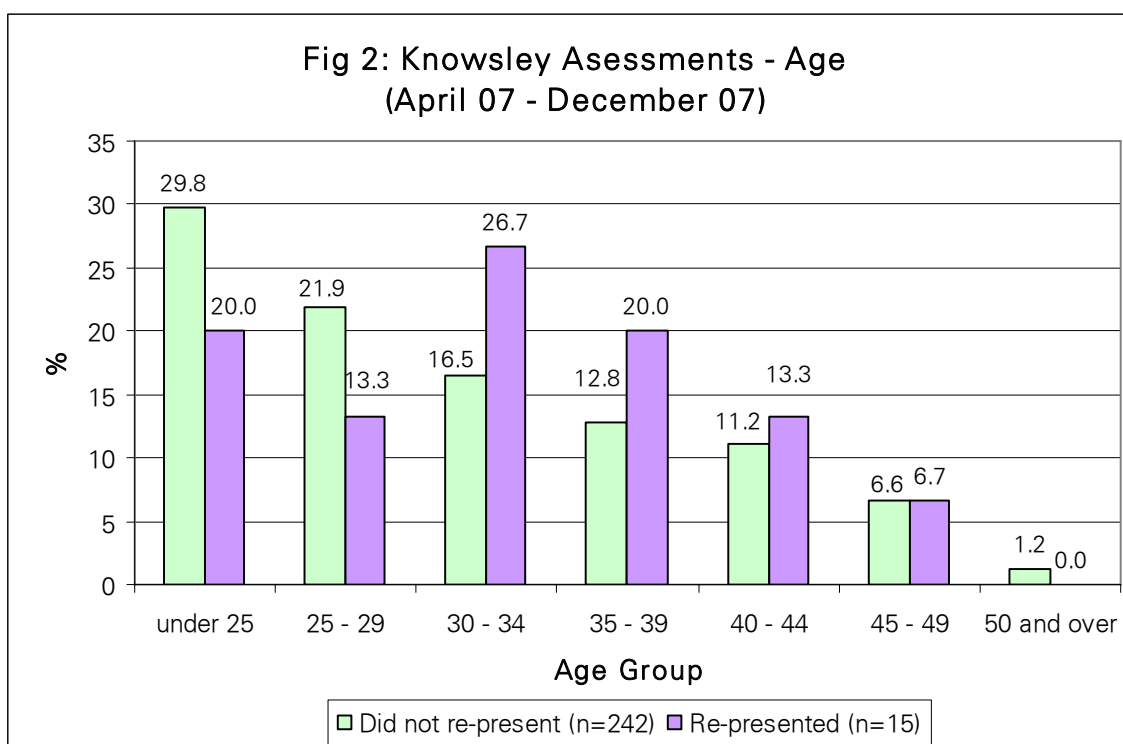
Re-representation	Frequency (n=257)
Never	242 (94.2%)
Once	12 (4.7%)
2 times	3 (1.2%)

Only 5.8% of assessed clients re-presented between April and December 07. Of the 15 re-presenting clients, 12 re-presented once with a further three re-presenting twice.

Table K8 - Re-representation of clients by gender

	Did not re-present (n=242)	Re-presented (n=15)
Female	28 (11.6%)	3 (20.0%)
Male	214 (88.4%)	12 (80.0%)

A fifth of all clients assessed who re-presented were female (20.0%).



Clients who re-presented were generally older than those who did not. A lower proportion of clients assessed who re-presented (33.3%) were under 30 years of age, compared to those who did not re-present (51.7%). Just under half (46.7%) of all clients assessed who re-presented were between 30 and 39 years of age. This was much higher than among clients who did not re-present (29.3%).

Table K9 - Re-presentation of clients by ethnicity

	Did not re-present (n=241)*	Re-presented (n=15)
Black	1 (0.4%)	0
White	238 (98.8%)	15 (100.0%)
Other	2 (0.8%)	0

*One client who did not re-present, did not provide information regarding their ethnicity.

The majority of all clients assessed who did (98.8%) and did not re-present (100.0%) were white.

Table K10 – Re-presentation of clients by offence

	Did not re-present (n=239)*	Re-presented (n=15)
Breach	9 (3.8%)	0
Burglary	19 (7.9%)	1 (6.7%)
Criminal Damage	8 (3.3%)	0
Fraud	9 (3.8%)	0
Handling	4 (1.7%)	2 (13.3%)
MDA Offences	74 (31.0%)	2 (13.3%)
Motoring Offences	5 (2.1%)	0
Possession of Offensive Weapon	1 (0.4%)	1 (6.7%)
Public Order Offence	4 (1.7%)	0
Robbery	9 (3.8%)	2 (13.3%)
Shoplifting	44 (18.4%)	5 (33.3%)
Theft	16 (6.7%)	2 (13.3%)
Theft - Car	26 (10.9%)	2 (13.3%)
Warrant	7 (2.9%)	2 (13.3%)
Wounding or Assault	16 (6.7%)	0
Other	8 (3.3%)	2 (13.3%)

*Three clients who did not re-present did not provide information regarding their offence.

A higher proportion of re-presenting clients committed shoplifting (33.3%) compared to clients who did not re-present (18.4%).

Table K11– Drug use in past month (n=246) †

	Did not re-present (n=231)*	Re-presented (n=15)
Amphetamine	5 (2.2%)	2 (13.3%)
Benzodiazepine	8 (3.5%)	1 (6.7%)
Cannabis	62 (26.8%)	3 (20.0%)
Crack	57 (24.7%)	8 (53.3%)
Cocaine	148 (64.1%)	4 (26.6%)
Ecstasy	9 (3.9%)	1 (6.7%)
Heroin	67 (29.0%)	9 (60.0%)
Methadone	17 (7.4%)	1 (6.7%)
Other Drug	6 (2.6%)	0

† Proportions of drug use will not add up to 100% as clients can identify use of more than one drug at assessment.

*11 clients who did not re-present were removed from analysis as they did use drugs in last month before assessment.

Analysis showed that clients who did not re-present were more likely to use cocaine (64.1%) than any other drug, whereas clients who re-presented were most likely to use heroin (60.0%). Furthermore, clients who re-presented were more likely to use crack (53.3%), than clients who did not re-present (24.7%).

Table K12 – Lifetime injecting (n=246)

Did not re-present (n=231)*	Re-presented (n=15)
32 (13.9%)	2 (13.3%)

*11 clients who did not re-present were removed from analysis as they did use drugs in last month before assessment.

The proportion of assessed clients who did (13.3%) and did not re-present (13.9%) who had ever injected was similar.

Table K13 - Re-presentation of clients by accommodation

	Did not re-present (n=239)*	Re-presented (n=14)**
Hostel	4 (1.7%)	0
Own property	18 (7.5%)	1 (7.1%)
Rented	101 (42.3%)	5 (35.7%)
Settled with Friends	2 (0.8%)	1 (7.1%)
Sleep on different friend's floor every night	3 (1.3%)	1 (7.1%)
Staying with friends/family as a short terms guest	39 (16.3%)	3 (21.4%)
Other	72 (30.1%)	3 (21.4%)

*Three clients who did not re-present did not provide information regarding their accommodation.

**One client who re-presented did not provide information regarding their accommodation.

Just over a third of clients (35.7%) who re-presented were in rented accommodation at the time of assessment, whereas just over four in ten clients (42.3%) who did not re-present were in rented accommodation.

Table K14 - Re-presentation of clients by employment

	Did not re-present (n=239)*	Re-presented (n=15)
Economically Inactive	7 (2.9%)	0
Pupil/Student	3 (1.3%)	0
Regular Employment	66 (27.6%)	2 (13.3%)
Unemployed	159 (66.5%)	13 (86.7%)
Other	4 (1.7%)	0

*Three clients who did not re-present did not provide information regarding their employment status.

A higher proportion of clients who re-presented (86.7%) were unemployed at the time of their assessment compared to those who did not re-present (66.5%). Moreover, there was a lower proportion of clients who re-presented (13.3%) who were in regular employment compared to those who did not re-present (27.6%).

3.3 Care Plans

Table K15 – Frequency of re-presentation of clients who had a care plan completed

Re-presentation	Frequency (n=64)
Never	63 (98.4%)
2 times	1 (1.6%)

One client received a care plan more than once (1.6%) between April and December 07.

3.4 Transfers from Prison

Table K16 – Frequency of re-presentation of clients who had a successful transfer completed

Re-presentation	Frequency (n=53)
Never	48 (90.6%)
2 times	5 (9.4%)

Almost 10% of clients had a successful transfer completed more than once (9.4%).

3.5 Knowsley Summary

Drug Testing Data

- Of the 384 clients who had a successful drug test completed, only 16 (4.2%) had at least one more drug test completed between September and December 07.
- Analysis showed that clients who re-presented were less likely to be female than clients who did not re-present.
- Clients who re-presented were older. Just under a third of clients who re-presented were under 25 compared to just under four in ten of those who did not re-present.
- Offences committed were similar in both groups with theft being the most common. Re-presenting clients were more likely to commit burglary than their non re-presenting counterparts.
- Clients who re-presented were more likely to test positive than those who did not re-present.

Assessments (DIRs)

- Of the 15 clients who re-presented, 12 clients re-presented once (4.7%) with three clients re-presenting twice (1.2%) between April and December 07.
- Those that re-presented were older than those who did not re-present.
- A third of re-presenting clients committed shoplifting compared to just under a quarter of those who did not re-present.
- Assessed clients who re-presented were more likely to use crack and heroin compared to those who did not re-present. A lower proportion of cocaine users were found among re-presenting clients than among clients who did not re-present.
- Similar proportions of clients in both groups had injected in their lifetime.
- Re-presenting clients were more likely to be unemployed at the time of assessment compared to those who did not re-present.
- The accommodation status of the two groups was relatively similar; however, there was a slightly higher rate of rented accommodation among those who did not re-present, compared to those who re-presented.

4.0 Liverpool

4.1 Drug Testing Data

Table L1 – Frequency of re-presentation of clients who had a successful drug test completed

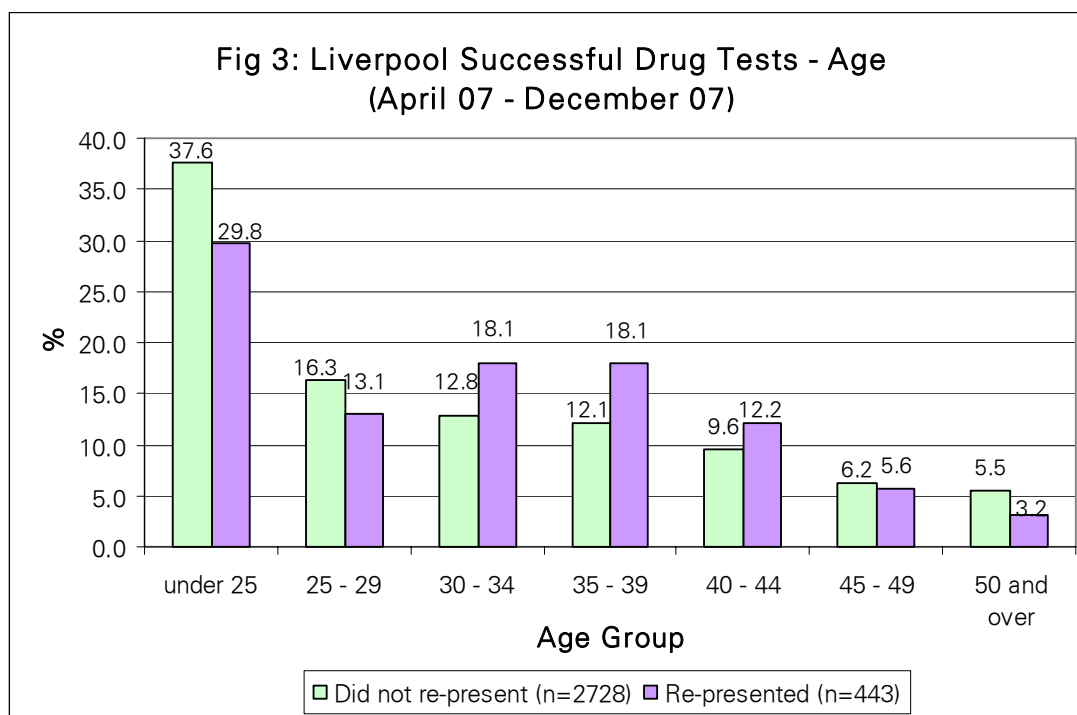
Re-presentation	Frequency (n=3171)
Never	2728 (86.0%)
Once	293 (9.2%)
2 times	91 (2.9%)
3 times	32 (1.0%)
4 times	12 (0.4%)
5 times	7 (0.2%)
6 times	3 (0.1%)
7 times	1 (<0.1%)
8 times	1 (<0.1%)
9 times	1 (<0.1%)
10 times	2 (0.1%)

The majority of clients only had one test completed (86.0%) between April and December 07. There were 443 clients who had a successful drug test completed who subsequently re-presented at least once (14.0%) between April and December 07. Of those clients who re-presented, 293 clients re-presented once during the time period (9.2%), with a further 91 clients re-presenting twice (2.9%). Clients re-presented a maximum of 10 times during nine months reported.

Table L2 - Re-presentation of clients by gender

	Did not re-present (n=2728)	Re-presented (n=443)
Female	598 (21.9%)	76 (17.2%)
Male	2130 (78.1%)	367 (82.8%)

A lower proportion of clients who re-presented were female (17.2%) compared to those who did not re-present (21.9%).



Clients who re-presented were generally older than those who did not re-present. Just under three in ten (29.8%) clients who re-presented were under 25 compared to just under four in ten (37.6%) of those who did not. Of those clients who re-presented, just over a third (36.2%) were aged between 30 and 39, compared to just under a quarter of clients (24.9%) who did not re-present.

Table L3 - Re-presentation of clients by ethnicity

	Did not re-present (n=2669)*	Re-presented (n=439)**
Black	44 (1.6%)	4 (0.9%)
White	2502 (93.7%)	421 (95.9%)
Mixed	67 (2.5%)	10 (2.3%)
Other	56 (2.1%)	4 (0.9%)

*59 clients who did not re-present did not provide information regarding their ethnicity.

**Four clients who re-presented did not provide information regarding their ethnicity.

The majority of clients among those who did (95.9%) and did not re-present (93.7%) were white.

Table L4 - Re-presentation of clients by offence

	Did not re-present (n=2728)	Re-presented (n=443)
Begging	34 (1.2%)	29 (6.5%)
Burglary	325 (11.9%)	61 (13.8%)
Deception	55 (2.0%)	6 (1.4%)
Fraud	77 (2.8%)	2 (0.5%)
Going equipped	9 (0.3%)	9 (2.0%)
Handling stolen goods	78 (2.9%)	5 (1.1%)
MDA offences	622 (22.8%)	51 (11.5%)
Non-Trigger Offences	34 (1.2%)	3 (0.7%)
Robbery	127 (4.7%)	24 (5.4%)
Theft	1318 (48.3%)	249 (56.2%)
Vehicle Taking	49 (1.8%)	4 (0.9%)

There was a higher proportion of clients who re-presented (56.2%) who had committed theft than those who did not re-present (48.3%). The opposite was evident with MDA offences in that there was a higher proportion of those who did not re-present (22.8%) than those who re-presented (11.5%) who had committed this type of offence. Furthermore, there were higher proportions of clients who had re-presented who committed begging (6.5%) and burglary (13.8%), than those who did not re-present (1.2% and 11.9% respectively).

Table L5 – Test Result

	Did not re-present (n=2728)	Re-presented (n=443)
Both (Cocaine and Opiates)	375 (13.7%)	177 (40.0%)
Cocaine	673 (24.7%)	88 (19.9%)
Opiates	126 (4.6%)	30 (6.8%)
Negative	1554 (57.0%)	148 (33.4%)

Re-presenting clients were more likely to test positive at their first test (66.6%) than their non re-presenting counterparts (43.0%). Clients who re-presented were more likely to test positive for both cocaine and opiates (40.0%) and opiates only (6.8%) compared to those who did not re-present (13.7% and 4.6%). In contrast, a lower proportion of clients who re-presented tested positive for cocaine only at their first test (19.9%) compared to those who did not re-present (24.7%).

Table L6 - Frequency of re-presentation of clients who tested positive

Re-presentation	Frequency (n=1515)
Never	1263 (83.4%)
Once	160 (10.6%)
2 times	58 (3.8%)
3 times	16 (1.1%)
4 times	9 (0.6%)
5 times	2 (0.1%)
6 times	3 (0.2%)
7 times	1 (0.1%)
8 times	1 (0.1%)
9 times	1 (0.1%)
10 times	1 (0.1%)

The majority of clients who tested positive did not re-present (83.4%). Of the 252 clients who tested positive, 160 (10.6%) re-presented once between April and December 07, with 58 clients re-presenting twice (3.8%). The maximum number of times clients re-presented and tested positive was 10.

4.2 Assessments (DIRs)

Table L7 – Frequency of re-representation of clients who had an assessment completed

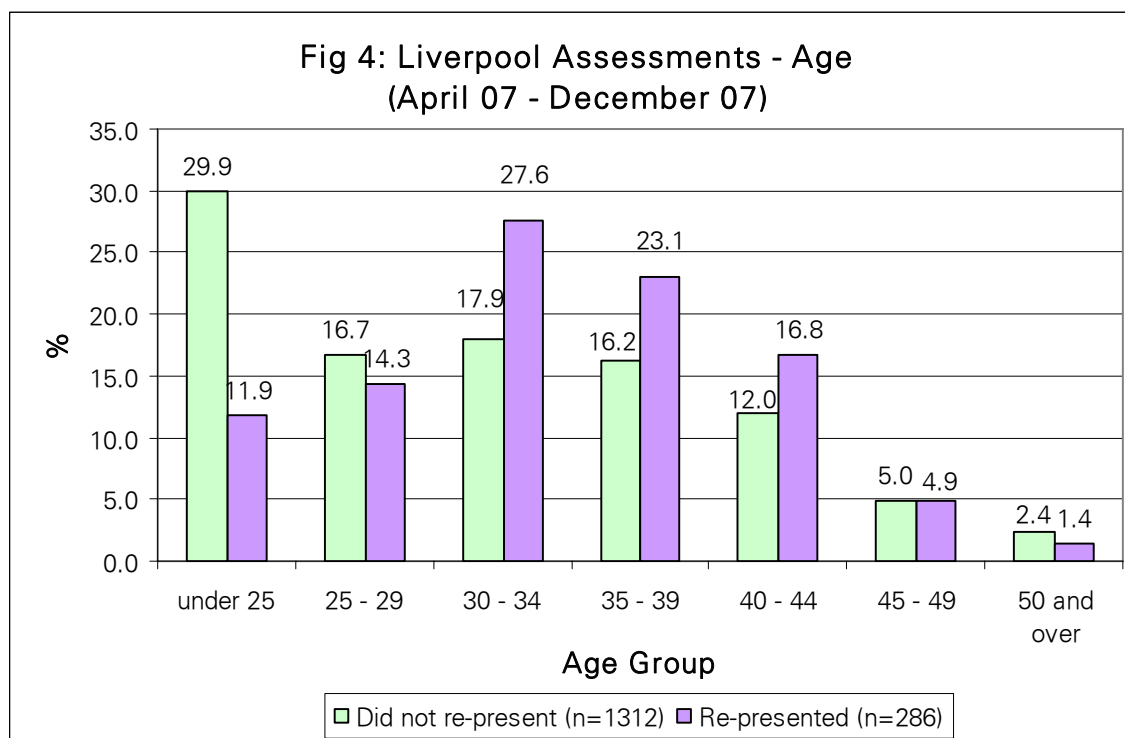
Re-representation	Frequency (n=1598)
Never	1312 (82.1%)
Once	187 (11.7%)
2 times	58 (3.6%)
3 times	29 (1.8%)
4 times	4 (0.3%)
5 times	7 (0.4%)
9 times	1 (0.1%)

Just under a fifth of all assessed clients (17.9%) re-presented between April and December 07. Assessed clients re-presented a maximum of 9 times (1 client). Of the 286 clients who re-presented, 187 clients re-presented once (11.7%), with 58 clients re-presenting twice (3.6%).

Table L8 - Re-representation of clients by gender

	Did not re-present (n=1312)	Re-presented (n=286)
Female	239 (18.2%)	69 (24.1%)
Male	1073 (81.8%)	217 (75.9%)

Just under a quarter of all assessed clients who re-presented were female (24.1%), compared to just under a fifth of those who did not re-present (18.2%).



Clients who re-presented were generally older than those who did not re-present. A considerably lower proportion of clients who re-presented were under 25 years of age

(11.9%) compared to those who did not re-present (29.9%). Moreover, there was a much higher proportion of clients who re-presented (67.5%) than those who did not re-present (46.1%) who were between 30 and 44 years old.

Table L9 - Re-presentation of clients by ethnicity

	Did not re-present (n=1306)*	Re-presented (n=284)**
Black	37 (2.8%)	9 (3.2%)
Mixed	28 (2.1%)	12 (4.2%)
White	1231 (94.3%)	262 (92.3%)
Other	10 (0.8%)	1 (0.4%)

*Six clients who did not re-present did not provide information regarding their ethnicity.

**Two clients who re-presented did not provide information regarding their ethnicity.

The majority of all clients assessed, both those who did not re-present (94.3%) and those who did (92.3%), were white.

Table L10 – Re-presentation of clients by offence

	Did not re-present (n=1309)*	Re-presented (n=282)**
Begging	19 (1.5%)	14 (5.0%)
Breach	42 (3.2%)	20 (7.1%)
Burglary	123 (9.4%)	20 (7.1%)
Criminal Damage	10 (0.8%)	1 (0.4%)
Fraud	25 (1.9%)	1 (0.4%)
Handling	33 (2.5%)	3 (1.1%)
MDA Offences	403 (30.8%)	33 (11.7%)
Motoring Offences	18 (1.4%)	2 (0.7%)
Possession of Offensive Weapon	8 (0.6%)	4 (1.4%)
Public Order Offence	21 (1.6%)	3 (1.1%)
Robbery	69 (5.3%)	13 (4.6%)
Shoplifting	258 (19.7%)	117 (41.5%)
Theft	100 (7.6%)	21 (7.4%)
Theft - Car	139 (10.6%)	20 (7.1%)
Warrant	57 (4.4%)	27 (9.6%)
Wounding or Assault	30 (2.3%)	2 (0.7%)
Other	32 (2.4%)	8 (2.8%)

*Seven clients who did not re-present did not provide information regarding their offence.

**Four clients who re-presented did not provide information regarding their offence.

A larger proportion of clients who re-presented committed shoplifting (41.5%) compared to those who did not re-present (19.7%). Moreover, higher proportions of re-presenting clients had committed begging (5.0%) and breach offences (7.1%) compared to their non re-presenting counterparts (1.5% and 3.2% respectively). Clients who re-presented were less likely than their counterparts who did not re-present to have committed MDA offence (11.7% compared to 30.8%). A higher proportion of re-presenting clients committed car theft (10.6%) compared to their non re-presenting counterparts (7.1%).

Table L11 – Drug use in past month (n=1466) †

	Did not re-present (n=1186)*	Re-presented (n=280)**
Amphetamine	10 (0.8%)	1 (0.4%)
Benzodiazepine	23 (1.9%)	11 (3.9%)
Cannabis	256 (21.6%)	18 (6.4%)
Cocaine	602 (50.8%)	52 (18.6%)
Crack	413 (34.8%)	197 (70.4%)
Ecstasy	26 (2.2%)	1 (0.4%)
Heroin	496 (41.8%)	215 (76.8%)
Methadone	44 (3.7%)	15 (5.4%)
Other Drug	11 (0.9%)	8 (2.9%)

† Proportions of drug use will not add up to 100% as clients can identify use of more than one drug at assessment.

*126 clients who did not re-present were removed from analysis as they did not use drugs in last month before assessment.

**Six clients who re-presented were removed from analysis as they did not use drugs in last month before assessment.

A higher proportion of clients who re-presented had used heroin (76.8%) and crack (70.4%) in the month prior to assessment compared to those who did not re-present (41.8% and 34.8% respectively). However, there were greater proportions of cocaine (50.8%) and cannabis (21.6%) users among those who did not re-present compared to those who did (18.6% and 6.4%).

Table L12 - Lifetime injecting (n=1466)

Did not re-present (n=1186)*	Re-presented (n=280)**
313 (26.4%)	147 (52.5%)

*126 clients who did not re-present were removed from analysis as they did not use drugs in last month before assessment.

**Six clients who re-presented were removed from analysis as they did not use drugs in last month before assessment.

A considerably higher proportion of clients who re-presented (52.5%) reported having ever injecting compared to those who did not re-present (26.4%).

Table L13 - Re-presentation of clients by accommodation

	Did not re-present (n=1290)*	Re-presented (n=284)**
Hostel	42 (3.3%)	21 (7.4%)
Rented	777 (60.2%)	166 (58.5%)
Own property	224 (17.4%)	24 (8.5%)
Settled with Friends	8 (0.6%)	6 (2.1%)
Sleep on different friend's floor every night	19 (1.5%)	7 (2.5%)
Sleep on streets	20 (1.6%)	10 (3.5%)
Staying with friends/family as a short terms guest	100 (7.8%)	31 (10.9%)
Other	100 (7.8%)	19 (6.7%)

*22 clients who did not re-present did not provide information regarding their accommodation.

**Two clients who re-presented did not provide information regarding their accommodation.

There were lower proportions of clients who re-presented in rented (58.5%) or privately owned (8.5%) accommodation at the time of assessment compared to those who did not

re-present (60.2% and 17.4%). Moreover, higher proportions of re-presenting clients lived in a hostel (7.4%) or were staying with friends as a short term guest (10.9%), than among those who did not re-present (3.3% and 7.8% respectively).

Table L14 – Re-presentation of clients by employment

	Did not re-present (n=1285)*	Re-presented (n=285)**
Economically inactive	122 (9.5%)	35 (12.3%)
Pupil/student	24 (1.9%)	0
Regular employment	291 (22.6%)	14 (4.9%)
Unemployment	808 (62.9%)	222 (77.9%)
Other	40 (3.1%)	14 (4.9%)

*27 clients who did not re-present did not provide information regarding their employment status.

**One client who re-presented did not provide information regarding their employment status.

There was a higher proportion of unemployed clients among those who re-presented (77.9%) than those who did not (62.9%). Conversely, clients who did not re-present (22.6%) were more likely to be in regular employment than their re-presenting counterparts (4.9%).

4.3 Care Plans

Table L15 - Frequency of re-presentation of clients who had a care plan completed

Re-presentation	Frequency (n=337)
Never	299 (88.7%)
Once	33 (9.8%)
2 times	4 (1.2%)
3 times	1 (0.3%)

There were 37 clients (9.8%) who had more than one care plan completed between April and December 07. Five clients (1.5%) who had a care plan completed re-presented more than once during this period. Only one client re-presented three times.

4.4 Transfers from Prison

Table L16 - Frequency of re-presentation of clients who had a successful transfer completed

Re-presentation	Frequency (n=256)
Never	237 (92.6%)
Once	17 (6.6%)
2 times	2 (0.8%)

The majority of clients who had a successful transfer from prison completed did not re-present (92.6%). Of the 19 clients who had a successful transfer completed, 17 re-presented once (6.6%), with two re-presenting twice (0.8%).

4.5 Liverpool Summary

Drug Testing Data

- Of the 3171 clients who had a successful drug test completed, 443 (14.0%) re-presented between April and December 07.
- Clients who re-presented were less likely to be female than clients who did not re-present.
- Re-presenting clients were more likely to be older than their non re-presenting counterparts. Furthermore, just over a quarter of re-presenting clients were under 25 at the time of their drug test compared just over a third of those who did not re-present.
- The most common offence committed by clients who re-presented was theft. Re-presenting clients were more likely than their non re-presenting counterparts to have committed theft, begging and burglary but were less likely to have committed MDA offences.
- Clients who re-presented were more likely to test positive than clients who did not re-present. Moreover, re-presenting clients were more likely to test positive for opiates and cocaine combined than those who did not re-present.

Assessments (DIRs)

- Of the 1598 clients who had an assessment completed, 286 re-presented between April and December 07.
- The proportion of female clients was greater among clients who re-presented compared to those who did not re-present.
- Clients who re-presented were older than those who did not re-present.
- Re-presenting clients were more likely to have committed begging, breach offences and shoplifting compared to their non re-presenting counterparts. A different offence profile was found for those who did not re-present, with clients more likely to commit burglary, care theft and MDA offences.
- Clients who re-presented reported potentially more problematic drug use profiles with greater proportions using heroin and crack and a much greater proportion having a history of injecting behaviour. In contrast, rates of use of cocaine and cannabis were much higher among clients who did not re-present.
- Clients who re-presented were less likely to be in potentially more stable accommodation such as rented or owned property than their non re-presenting counterparts.

- Clients who re-presented were more likely to be unemployed at the time of their first assessment than clients who did not.

5.0 Sefton

5.1 Drug Testing Data

Table S1 - Frequency of re-presentation of clients who had a successful drug test completed

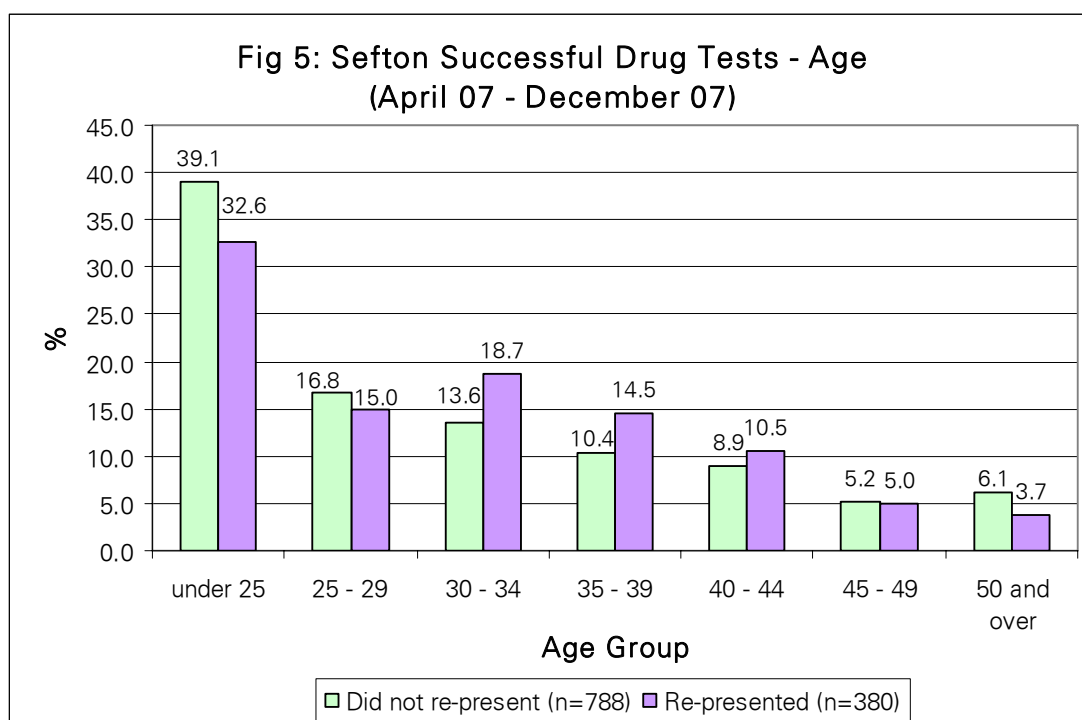
Re-presentation	Frequency (n=1168)
Never	788 (67.5%)
Once	299 (25.6%)
2 times	37 (3.2%)
3 times	20 (1.7%)
4 times	10 (0.9%)
5 times	9 (0.8%)
6 times	3 (0.3%)
7 times	2 (0.2%)

Just under a third of clients who had a drug test completed between April and December 07 re-presented (32.5%). Of the 1168 clients who had a successful drug test completed, just over a quarter (25.6%) re-presented once. There were 81 clients (6.9%) who re-presented more than once during the time period analysed.

Table S2 - Re-presentation of clients by gender

	Did not re-present (n=788)	Re-presented (n=380)
Female	157 (19.9%)	84 (22.1%)
Male	631 (80.1%)	296 (77.9%)

Just under a quarter of clients (22.1%) who re-presented were female, compared to just under a fifth of those who did not re-present (19.9%).



Clients who re-presented were slightly older than their non re-presenting counterparts. Almost a third of clients (32.6%) who re-presented were under 25 years of age compared to 39.1% of those who did not. There was a higher proportion of clients who re-presented (43.7%) than those who did not re-present (32.9%) who were between 30 and 44.

Table S3 – Re-presentation of clients by ethnicity

	Did not re-present (n=787)*	Re-presented (n=380)
White	776 (98.6%)	380 (100.0%)
Other	11 (1.4%)	0

*One client who did not re-present did not provide information regarding their ethnicity.

All clients who re-presented were white (100.0%)

Table S4 – Re-presentation of clients by offence

	Did not re-present (n=788)	Re-presented (n=380)
Burglary	105 (13.3%)	62 (16.3%)
Fraud	14 (1.8%)	9 (2.4%)
Handling stolen goods	9 (1.1%)	10 (2.6%)
MDA offences	141 (17.9%)	43 (11.3%)
Non-Trigger Offences	15 (1.9%)	6 (1.6%)
Robbery	28 (3.6%)	15 (3.9%)
Theft	448 (56.9%)	221 (58.2%)
Vehicle Taking	16 (2.0%)	4 (1.1%)
Other	12 (1.5%)	10 (2.6%)

The most common offence for clients in both groups was theft (58.2% and 56.9%). A lower proportion of re-presenting clients (11.3%) had committed MDA offences compared to those who did not re-present (17.9%). There was a higher proportion of re-presenting clients who committed burglary than their non re-presenting counterparts (16.3% compared to 13.3%).

Table S5 – Test Result

	Did not re-present (n=788)	Re-presented (n=380)
Both (Cocaine and Opiates)	96 (12.2%)	104 (27.4%)
Cocaine	235 (29.8%)	79 (20.8%)
Opiates	27 (3.4%)	20 (5.3%)
Negative	430 (54.6%)	177 (46.6%)

Clients who re-presented were more likely to test positive than clients who did not. Just over a quarter of clients (27.4%) who re-presented tested positive for both cocaine and opiates, compared to 12.2% of clients who did not re-present. Clients who did not re-present were more likely to test positive for cocaine only (29.8%) than their re-presenting counterparts (20.8%).

Table S6 - Frequency of re-presentation of clients who tested positive

Re-presentation	Frequency (n=571)
Never	375 (65.7%)
Once	142 (24.9%)
2 times	19 (3.3%)
3 times	16 (2.8%)
4 times	9 (1.6%)
5 times	6 (1.1%)
6 times	3 (0.5%)
7 times	1 (0.2%)

Just over a third of clients (34.3%) who tested positive re-presented between April and December 07. Of the clients who tested positive, 196 re-presented at least once but no more than seven times, with 142 re-presenting only once during the time period. Just over 5% of clients re-presented two (3.3%) or three times (2.8%) during the time period. Only one client re-presented seven times.

5.2 Assessments (DIRs)

Table S7 - Frequency of re-presentation of clients who had an assessment completed

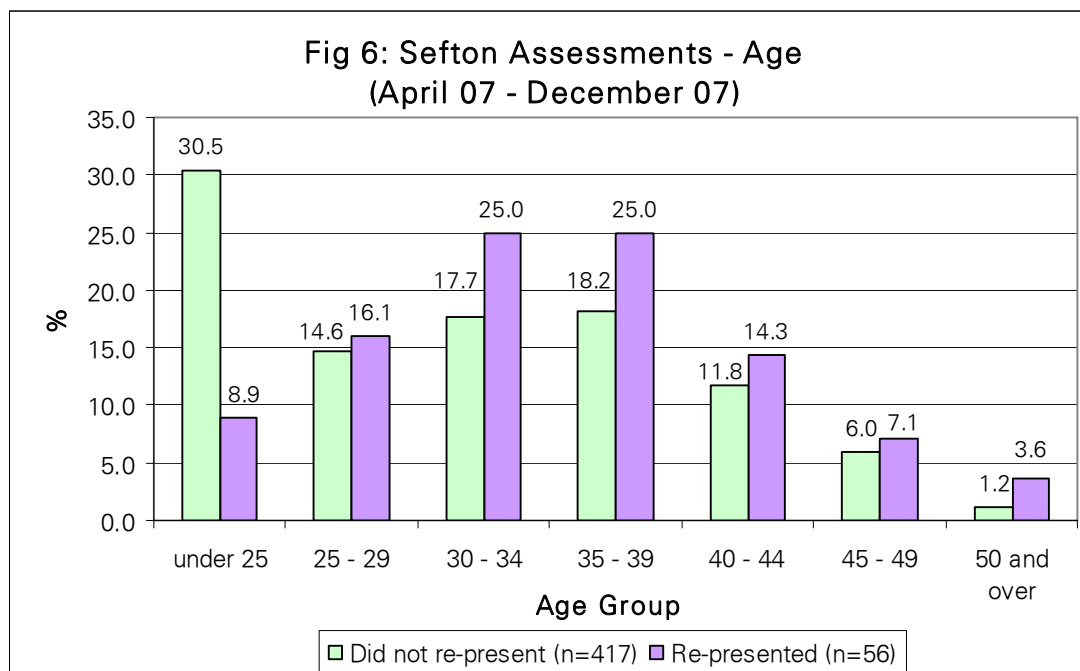
Re-presentation	Frequency (n=473)
Never	417 (88.2%)
Once	43 (9.1%)
2 times	11 (2.3%)
3 times	1 (0.2%)
4 times	1 (0.2%)

Just over a tenth of clients re-presented between April and December 07 after an initial assessment was completed. Assessed clients re-presented a maximum of four times during the analysed time period, with only two clients re-presenting more than twice (0.4%). There were 43 clients (9.1%) who re-presented once between April and December 07.

Table S8 - Re-presentation of clients by gender

	Did not re-present (n=417)	Re-presented (n=56)
Female	93 (22.3%)	17 (30.4%)
Male	324 (77.7%)	39 (69.6%)

Almost a third of all clients assessed who re-presented were female (30.4%) compared to just under a quarter (22.3%) of those who did not re-present.



Generally clients who re-presented were older than their non-re-presenting counterparts. A much lower proportion of assessed clients who re-presented (8.9%) were under 25 years of age, than among those who did not re-present (30.5%). Furthermore, half of the

clients who re-presented (64.3%) were between 30 and 44 years of age compared to only 47.7% of those who did not re-present.

Table S9 - Re-presentation of clients by ethnicity

	Did not re-present (n=414)*	Re-presented (n=56)
Black	3 (0.7%)	0
White	410 (99.0%)	55 (98.2%)
Other	1 (0.2%)	1 (1.8%)

*Three clients who did not re-present did not provide information regarding their ethnicity.

The majority of all assessed clients were white.

Table S10 – Re-presentation of clients by offence

	Did not re-present (n=417)*	Re-presented (n=54)**
Begging	4 (1.0%)	0
Breach	11 (2.6%)	3 (5.6%)
Burglary	44 (10.6%)	4 (7.4%)
Fraud	9 (2.2%)	1 (1.9%)
Handling	5 (1.2%)	3 (5.6%)
MDA Offences	104 (24.9%)	6 (11.1%)
Motoring Offences	4 (1.0%)	0
Possession of Offensive Weapon	1 (0.2%)	0
Public Order Offence	3 (0.7%)	0
Robbery	10 (2.4%)	0
Shoplifting	141 (33.8%)	35 (64.8%)
Theft	33 (7.9%)	4 (7.4%)
Theft - Car	41 (9.8%)	0
Warrant	5 (1.2%)	0
Wounding or Assault	8 (1.9%)	0
Other	9 (2.2%)	0

*Two clients who did not re-present did not provide information regarding their offence.

**One client who re-presented did not provide information regarding their offence.

Almost double the proportion of clients who re-presented had committed shoplifting (64.8%) compared to those who did not re-present (33.8%). A lower proportion of re-presenting clients committed MDA (11.1%) and burglary offences (7.4%) compared to their non re-presenting counterparts (24.9% and 10.6% respectively).

Table S11 – Drug use in past month (n=447) †

	Did not re-present (n=395)*	Re-presented (n=52)**
Amphetamine	3 (0.8%)	0
Benzodiazepine	11 (2.8%)	2 (3.8%)
Cannabis	62 (15.7%)	3 (5.8%)
Crack	124 (31.4%)	24 (46.2%)
Cocaine	205 (51.9%)	11 (21.2%)
Ecstasy	6 (1.5%)	0
Heroin	176 (44.6%)	43 (82.7%)
Methadone	22 (5.6%)	1 (1.9%)
Other Drug	7 (1.8%)	0

† Proportions of drug use will not add up to 100% as clients can identify use of more than one drug at assessment.

*22 clients who did not re-present were removed from analysis as they did not use drugs in last month before assessment.

**Four clients who re-presented were removed from analysis as they did not use drugs in last month before assessment.

There were considerably higher proportions of clients who re-presented who used heroin (82.7%) and crack (46.2%) compared to those who did not re-present (44.6% and 31.4% respectively). Conversely, clients who re-presented were less likely than those who did not re-present to use cocaine (21.2% re-presented, 51.9% did not re-present) and cannabis (5.8% re-presented, 15.7% did not re-present).

Table S12 - Lifetime injecting (n=447)

Did not re-present (n=395)*	Re-presented (n=52)**
113 (28.6%)	30 (57.7%)

*22 clients who did not re-present were removed from analysis as they did not use drugs in last month before assessment.

**Four clients who re-presented were removed from analysis as they did not use drugs in last month before assessment.

Over half of re-presenting clients who used drugs in the last month indicated injecting in their lifetime (57.7%) compared to just over a quarter (28.6%) of those who did not re-present.

Table S13 – Re-presentation of clients by accommodation

	Did not re-present (n=413)*	Re-presented (n=55)**
Hostel	11 (2.7%)	4 (7.3%)
Rented	210 (50.8%)	30 (54.5%)
Own property	71 (17.2%)	4 (7.3%)
Settled with Friends	6 (1.5%)	3 (5.5%)
Sleep on different friend's floor every night	6 (1.5%)	0
Sleep on streets	3 (0.7%)	1 (1.8%)
Staying with friends/family as a short terms guest	54 (13.1%)	7 (12.7%)
Other	52 (12.6%)	6 (10.9%)

*Four clients who did not re-present did not provide information regarding their accommodation.

**One client who re-presented did not provide information regarding their accommodation.

Over half of the clients who re-presented (54.5%) and those that did not (50.8%) were in rented accommodation at the time of assessment. Lower proportions of clients who re-

presented (7.3%) lived in owned property compared to those who did not re-present (17.2%). Higher proportions of re-presenting clients (7.3%) were resident in hostels at the time of assessment than among their counterparts who did not re-present (2.7%).

Table S14 – Re-presentation of clients by employment

	Did not re-present (n=414)*	Re-presented (n=55)**
Economically inactive	38 (9.2%)	7 (12.7%)
Pupil/student	9 (2.2%)	0
Regular Employment	94 (22.7%)	6 (10.9%)
Unemployed	260 (62.8%)	40 (72.7%)
Other	13 (3.1%)	2 (3.6%)

*Three clients who did not re-present did not provide information regarding their employment status.

**One client who re-presented did not provide information regarding their employment status.

A higher proportion of clients who re-presented (72.7%) were unemployed compared to those who did not re-present (62.8%). A greater proportion of clients who did not re-present (22.7%) reported having regular employment compared to those who re-presented (10.9%).

5.3 Care Plans

Table S15 - Frequency of re-presentation of clients who had a care plan completed

Re-presentation	Frequency (n=194)
Never	181 (93.3%)
Once	9 (4.6%)
2 times	4 (2.1%)

The majority of clients who had a care plan completed were not taken onto the caseload via a DIR again (93.3%) between April and December 07. Of the 194 clients who had a care plan completed, 13 re-presented at least once (4.6%) and four twice (2.1%).

5.4 Transfers from Prison

Table S16 - Frequency of re-presentation of clients who had a successful transfer completed

Re-presentation	Frequency (n=102)
Never	95 (93.1%)
Once	6 (5.9%)
2 times	1 (1.0%)

The majority of clients who had a successful transfer completed did not re-present (93.1%) during the time period. There were seven clients who re-presented via a prison transfer at least once (5.9%) between April and December 07, with only one client re-presenting more than once (1.0%).

5.5 Sefton Summary

Drug Testing Data

- Of the 1168 clients who had a successful drug test completed, 380 (32.5%) had at least one more drug test between April and December 07.
- Re-presenting clients were more likely to be female compared to clients who did not re-present.
- Clients who re-presented were older than clients who did not re-present. There was a greater proportion of under 25 year olds in the non re-presenting group than in the re-presenting group.
- Clients who re-presented were more likely to have committed theft and burglary than those who did not re-present. In contrast, clients who re-presented were less likely to have committed MDA offences than their non re-presenting counterparts.
- Clients who re-presented were more likely to test positive than clients who did not re-present. Re-presenting clients were more likely to test positive for both opiates and cocaine combined than clients who did not re-present.

Assessments (DIRs)

- Of the 473 clients who had an assessment completed, 56 clients re-presented between April and December 07.
- Re-presenting clients were more likely to be female compared to those who did not re-present.
- Re-presenting clients were older than clients who did not re-present.
- Clients who re-presented were more likely to have committed shoplifting than clients who did not re-present. Moreover, these re-presenting clients were less likely to have committed MDA and burglary offences than their non re-presenting counterparts.
- Clients who re-presented reported potentially more problematic drug profiles with greater proportions using heroin and crack. Re-presenting clients were more likely have a history of injecting compared to clients who did not re-present. Rates of cocaine and cannabis use were higher among clients who did not re-present.
- Clients who re-presented were less likely to be in rented or owned accommodation compared to non re-presenting clients. In contrast, clients who re-presented were more likely to report staying in a hostel at the time of assessment compared to those who did not re-present.

- Re-presenting clients were more likely to be unemployed at the time of assessment than their non re-presenting counterparts.

6.0 St Helens

6.1 Drug Testing Data

Table ST1 – Frequency of re-presentation of clients who had a successful drug test completed

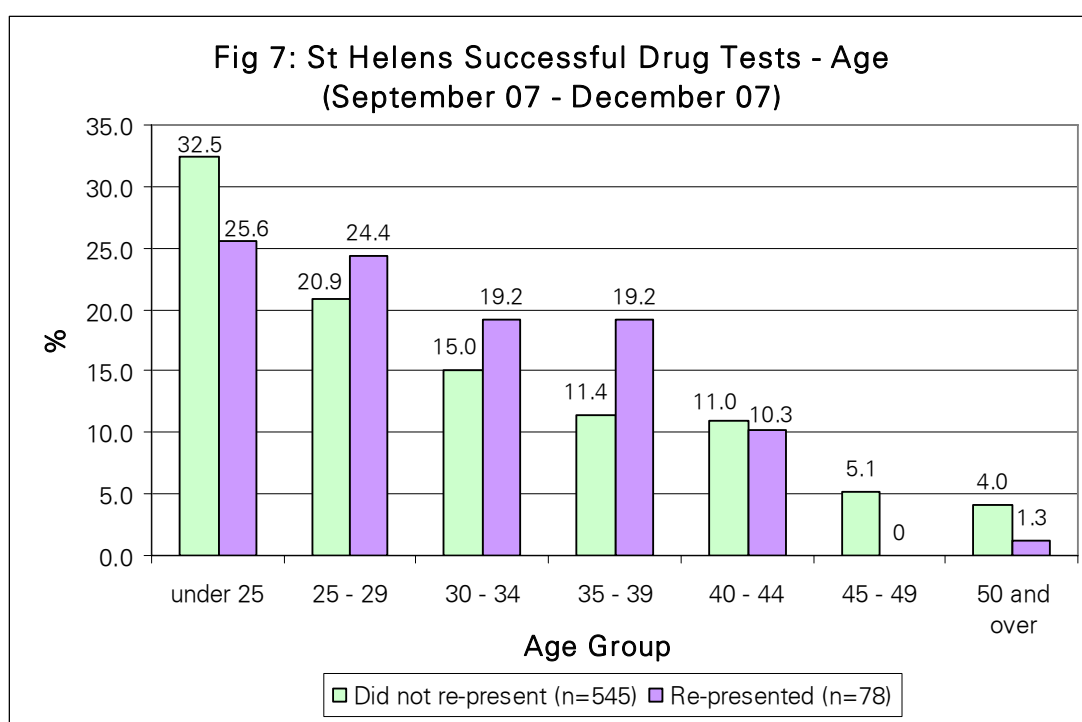
Re-presentation	Frequency (n=623)
Never	545 (87.5%)
Once	60 (9.6%)
2 times	14 (2.2%)
3 times	4 (0.6%)

Around a tenth of clients (12.5%) who had a drug test completed between September and December 07 re-presented. There were 78 clients who re-presented at least once (9.6%) and a maximum of three times. There were 18 clients (2.8%) who re-presented more than once.

Table ST2 – Re-presentation of clients by gender

	Did not re-present (n=545)	Re-presented (n=78)
Female	94 (17.2%)	9 (11.5%)
Male	451 (82.8%)	69 (88.5%)

Just over one in ten clients (11.5%) who re-presented were female compared to just under a fifth (17.2%) of those who did not re-present.



Generally clients who re-presented were older than those who did not re-present. A quarter of the clients (25.6%) who re-presented were under 25 years of age, compared to just under a third of those who did not re-present (32.5%). A higher proportion of clients who re-presented were between 30 and 39 years of age (38.4%) compared to those who did not re-present (26.4%).

Table ST3 - Re-presentation of clients by ethnicity

	Did not re-present (n=545)	Re-presented (n=78)
White	540 (99.1%)	78 (100%)
Other	5 (0.9%)	0

The majority of all clients in both groups were white.

Table ST4 – Re-presentation of clients by offence

	Did not re-present (n=545)	Re-presented (n=78)
Burglary	54 (9.9%)	12 (15.4%)
Fraud	23 (4.2%)	1 (1.3%)
Going Equipped	11 (2.0%)	2 (2.6%)
Handling stolen goods	9 (1.7%)	0
MDA offences	144 (26.4%)	6 (7.7%)
Non-Trigger Offences	14 (2.6%)	2 (2.6%)
Robbery	10 (1.8%)	0
Theft	267 (49.0%)	55 (70.5%)
Vehicle Taking	13 (2.4%)	0

There was a higher proportion of clients who re-presented (70.5%) who committed theft compared to those who did not re-present (49.0%). Furthermore, a higher proportion of clients who re-presented (15.4%) committed burglary than those who did not re-present (9.9%). The opposite pattern was evident for MDA offences with 26.4% of clients who did not re-present, committing these offences compared to 7.7% of those who re-presented.

Table ST5 – Test Result

	Did not re-present (n=545)	Re-presented (n=78)
Both (Cocaine and Opiates)	52 (9.5%)	14 (17.9%)
Cocaine	130 (23.9%)	16 (20.5%)
Opiates	53 (9.7%)	13 (16.7%)
Negative	310 (56.9%)	35 (44.9%)

Clients who re-presented were more likely to test positive (55.1%) than those who did not (43.1%). A higher proportion of clients who re-presented tested positive for both cocaine and opiates (17.9%) and opiates only (16.7%) compared to those who did not re-present (9.5% and 9.7% respectively). However, clients who re-presented (20.5%) were less likely to test positive for cocaine than those who did not re-present (23.9%).

Table ST6 - Frequency of re-presentation of clients who tested positive

Re-presentation	Frequency (n=291)
Never	258 (88.7%)
Once	28 (9.6%)
2 times	4 (1.4%)
3 times	1 (0.3%)

Just over one in ten clients (11.3%) who tested positive re-presented and produced another positive drug test between September and December 07. Of the 33 clients who tested positive, 28 re-presented once (9.6%), with five clients re-presenting more than once (1.7%).

6.2 Assessments (DIRs)

Table ST7 - Frequency of re-representation of clients who had an assessment completed

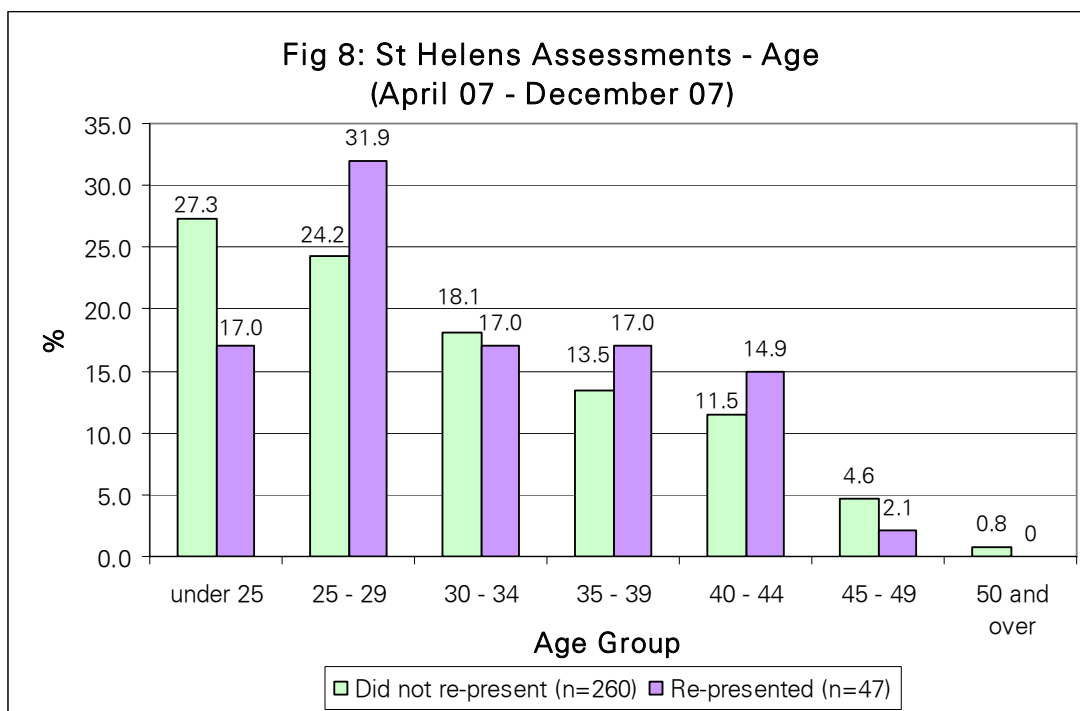
Re-representation	Frequency (n=307)
Never	260 (84.7%)
Once	32 (10.4%)
2 times	9 (2.9%)
3 times	5 (1.6%)
4 times	1 (0.3%)

The majority of clients assessed did not re-present (84.7%) between April and December 07. Of the 307 clients who were assessed, 47 re-presented. There were 32 clients (10.4%) who re-presented once between April and December 07, with a further 15 clients re-presenting more than once.

Table ST8 - Re-representation of clients by gender

	Did not re-present (n=260)	Re-presented (n=47)
Female	36 (13.8%)	8 (17.0%)
Male	224 (86.2%)	39 (83.0%)

Just under a fifth of clients who re-presented were female (17.0%) compared to just over an eighth of those who did not re-present (13.8%).



Around a fifth of clients who re-presented (17.0%) were under 25 compared to just over a quarter of clients who did not re-present (27.3%). However, just under a third of assessed clients who re-presented were between 25 and 29 (31.9%) compared to a quarter of those who did not represent (24.2%).

Table ST9 - Re-presentation of clients by ethnicity

	Did not re-present (n=258)*	Re-presented (n=47)
Black	1 (0.4%)	0
White	256 (99.2%)	47 (100%)
Other	1 (0.4%)	0

*Two clients who did not re-present did not provide information regarding their ethnicity.

The majority of all assessed clients were white.

Table ST10 – Re-presentation of clients by offence

	Did not re-present (n=259)*	Re-presented (n=46)**
Begging	1 (0.4%)	0
Breach	15 (5.8%)	13 (28.3%)
Burglary	28 (10.8%)	1 (2.2%)
Criminal Damage	2 (0.8%)	1 (2.2%)
Fraud	3 (1.2%)	1 (2.2%)
Handling	7 (2.7%)	1 (2.2%)
MDA Offences	89 (34.4%)	6 (13.0%)
Motoring Offences	4 (1.5%)	1 (2.2%)
Possession of Offensive Weapon	1 (0.4%)	0
Public Order Offence	4 (1.5%)	0
Robbery	5 (1.9%)	3 (6.5%)
Shoplifting	64 (24.7%)	24 (52.2%)
Theft	30 (11.6%)	5 (10.9%)
Theft - Car	13 (5.0%)	1 (2.2%)
Warrant	5 (1.9%)	1 (2.2%)
Wounding or Assault	7 (2.7%)	2 (4.3%)
Other	8 (3.1%)	1 (2.2%)

*Three clients who did not re-present did not provide information regarding their offence.

**Four clients who re-presented did not provide information regarding their offence.

Clients who re-presented were more likely to have committed shoplifting (52.2%) and breach offences (28.3%) than clients who did not re-present (24.7% and 5.8% respectively). Considerably lower proportions of re-presenting clients had committed MDA and burglary offences (13.0% and 2.2%) than clients who did not re-present (34.4% and 10.8% respectively).

Table ST11 – Drug use in past month (n=288) †

	Did not re-present (n=244)*	Re-presented (n=44)**
Amphetamine	12 (4.9%)	2 (4.5%)
Benzodiazepine	16 (6.6%)	8 (18.2%)
Cannabis	48 (19.7%)	5 (11.4%)
Cocaine	125 (51.2%)	12 (27.3%)
Crack	84 (34.4%)	31 (70.5%)
Ecstasy	5 (2.0%)	1 (2.3%)
Heroin	127 (52.0%)	40 (90.9%)
Methadone	17 (7.0%)	5 (11.4%)
Other Drug	1 (0.4%)	2 (4.5%)

† Proportions of drug use will not add up to 100% as clients can identify use of more than one drug at assessment.

*16 clients who did not re-present were removed from analysis as they did not use drugs in last month before assessment

**Three clients who re-presented were removed from analysis as they did not use drugs in last month before assessment.

There was a greater proportion of heroin use among clients who re-presented (90.9%) than those who did not (52.0%). Higher proportions of clients who re-presented, used crack (70.5%) and benzodiazepines (18.2%), than those who did not re-present (34.4% and 6.6% respectively). Moreover, clients who re-presented were more likely to use illicit methadone (11.4%) than those who did not re-present (7.0%). Lower proportions of clients who re-presented reported using cannabis (11.4%) and cocaine (27.3%) compared to those who did not re-present (19.7% and 51.2% respectively).

Table ST12 - Lifetime injecting (n=288)

Did not re-present (n=244)*	Re-presented (n=44)**
79 (32.4%)	28 (63.6%)

*16 clients who did not re-present were removed from analysis as they did not use drugs in last month before assessment

**Three clients who re-presented were removed from analysis as they did not use drugs in last month before assessment.

Just under two-thirds of clients who re-presented (63.6%) indicated that they had injected in their lifetime compared to just under a third (32.4%) of those who did re-present.

Table ST13 – Re-presentation of clients by accommodation

	Did not re-present (n=256)*	Re-presented (n=46)**
Hostel	19 (7.4%)	7 (15.2%)
Rented	131 (51.2%)	26 (56.5%)
Own property	33 (12.9%)	1 (2.2%)
Settled with Friends	3 (1.2%)	2 (4.3%)
Sleep on different friend's floor every night	13 (5.1%)	1 (2.2%)
Staying with friends/family as a short terms guest	24 (9.4%)	7 (15.2%)
Other	33 (12.9%)	2 (4.3%)

*Four clients who did not re-present did not provide information regarding their accommodation.

**One client who re-presented did not provide information regarding their accommodation.

The most common type of accommodation reported across both groups was rented accommodation (51.2% did not re-present, 56.5% re-presented). Larger proportions of clients who re-presented were living in a hostel (15.2%), staying with friends or family as a short term guest (15.2%) or settled with friends (4.3%) compared to those who did not re-present (7.4%, 9.4% and 1.2% respectively).

Table ST14 – Re-presentation of clients by employment

	Did not re-present (n=255)*	Re-presented (n=45)**
Economically inactive	12 (4.7%)	2 (4.4%)
Pupil/student	4 (1.6%)	0
Regular Employment	69 (27.1%)	3 (6.7%)
Unemployment	158 (62.0%)	40 (88.9%)
Other	12 (4.7%)	0

*Five clients who did not re-present did not provide information regarding their employment status.

**Two clients who re-presented did not provide information regarding their employment status.

The majority of clients in both groups were unemployed but this was more likely to be the case for those who re-presented than for those who did not (88.9% compared to 62.0%). Conversely, the opposite was true for regular employment with 27.1% of clients who did not re-present in regular employment compared to 6.7% of those who re-presented.

6.3 Care Plans

Table ST15 - Frequency of re-presentation of clients who had a care plan completed

Re-presentation	Frequency (n=103)
Never	97 (94.2%)
Once	3 (2.9%)
2 times	3 (2.9%)

The majority of clients who had a care plan completed did not re-present (94.2%). There were a total of six clients who had a care plan completed who subsequently re-presented and had another care plan between April and December 07.

6.4 Transfers from Prison

Table ST16 - Frequency of re-presentation of clients who had a successful transfer completed

Re-presentation	Frequency (n=48)
Never	46 (95.8%)
Once	2 (4.2%)

The majority of clients who had a successful transfer completed did not re-present (95.8%). Only two clients who had a successful transfer completed re-presented again via this route between April and December 07.

6.5 St Helens Summary

Drug Testing Data

- Of the 623 clients who had a successful drug test completed, 78 (12.5%) had at least one more drug test completed between September and December 07.
- Clients who re-presented were generally older than those who did not re-present.
- Clients who re-presented had more commonly committed theft and burglary than to clients who did not re-present.
- Clients who re-presented were more likely to test positive than clients who did not re-present. Clients who re-presented tested positive for opiates and cocaine combined more often than clients who did not re-present.

Assessments (DIRs)

- Of the 307 clients who were assessed, 47 (15.3%) had more than one assessment completed between April and December 07.
- Clients who re-presented were more likely to be female compared to those who did not re-present.
- Re-presenting clients were generally older than their non re-presenting counterparts. A lower proportion of clients who re-presented were under 25, than those who did not re-present.
- Clients who re-presented were more likely to have committed breach and shoplifting offences, and less likely to have committed burglary and MDA offences than clients who did not re-present.
- Clients who re-presented reported potentially more problematic drug using profiles with greater proportions using heroin, crack and amphetamines and a much greater proportion having a history of injecting behaviour. In contrast, rates of use of cocaine and cannabis were lower among clients who re-presented compared to those who did not re-present.
- Clients who re-presented were more likely to be in rented accommodation than clients who did not re-present. Clients who did not re-present were less likely to report that they were living in a hostel and staying with friends or family as a short term guest than clients who re-presented.
- Clients who re-presented were more likely to be unemployed than clients who did not re-present.

7.0 Wirral

7.1 Drug Testing Data

Table W1 - Frequency of re-presentation of clients who were successfully drug tested

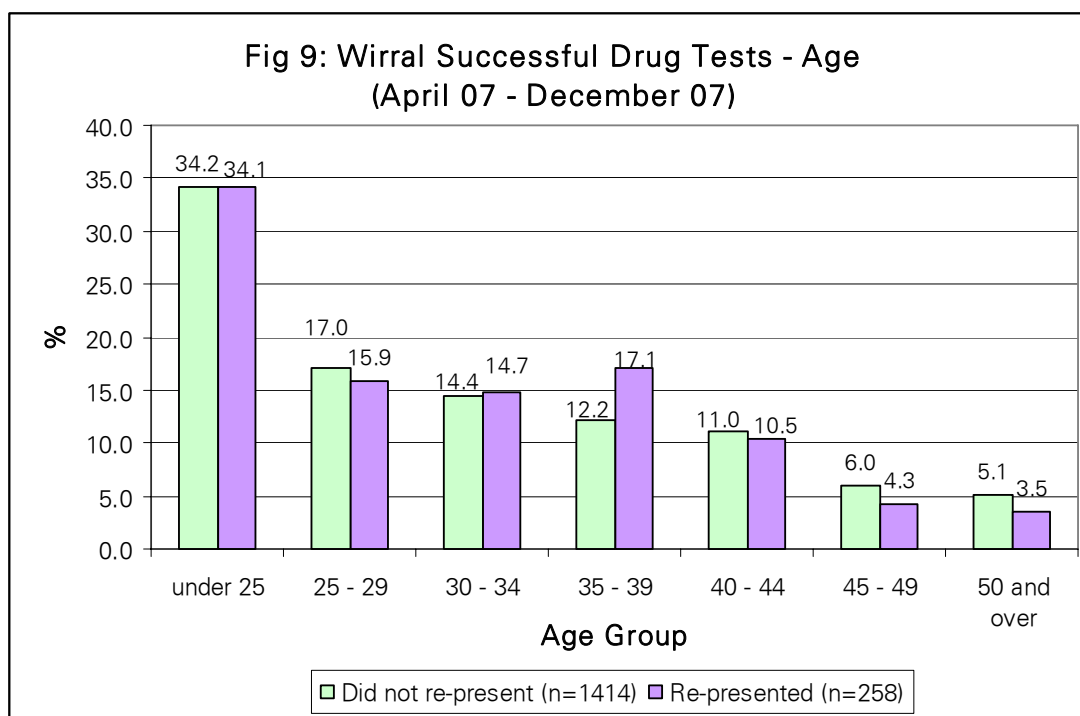
Re-presentation	Frequency (n=1672)
Never	1414 (84.6%)
Once	166 (9.9%)
2 times	53 (3.2%)
3 times	15 (0.9%)
4 times	12 (0.7%)
5 times	7 (0.4%)
6 times	1 (0.1%)
7 times	2 (0.1%)
8 times	2 (0.1%)

The majority of clients who had a successful drug test completed did not re-present (84.6%). Of the 1672 clients who were drug tested, 258 clients re-presented at least once between April and December 07. There were 53 clients who re-presented twice during the analysed time period (3.2%). There were an additional 12 clients who re-presented more than four times during the time period, with a maximum re-presentation of eight times during nine months.

Table W2 – Re-presentation of clients by gender

	Did not re-present (n=1414)	Re-presented (n=258)
Female	327 (23.1%)	44 (17.1%)
Male	1087 (76.9%)	214 (82.9%)

Just under a fifth of clients who re-presented (17.1%) between April and December 07 were female compared to 23.1% of clients who did not re-present.



The age profile of each client group was similar. A slightly higher proportion of clients who re-presented (17.1%) were aged 35 to 39 than those who did not re-present (12.2%).

Table W3 – Re-presentation of clients by ethnicity

	Did not re-present (n=1404)*	Re-presented (n=257)**
Black	2 (0.1%)	0
White	1384 (98.6%)	256 (99.6%)
Other	18 (1.3%)	1 (0.4%)

*Ten clients who did not re-present did not provide information regarding their ethnicity.

**One client who re-presented did not provide information regarding their ethnicity.

The majority of clients in both groups were white.

Table W4 - Re-presentation of clients by offence

	Did not re-present (n=1414)	Re-presented (n=258)
Begging	5 (0.4%)	2 (0.8%)
Burglary	158 (11.2%)	38 (14.7%)
Deception	24 (1.7%)	2 (0.8%)
Fraud	13 (0.9%)	2 (0.8%)
Going equipped	11 (0.8%)	7 (2.7%)
Handling stolen goods	21 (1.5%)	0
MDA offences	317 (22.4%)	30 (11.6%)
Non-Trigger Offences	79 (5.6%)	11 (4.3%)
Robbery	28 (2.0%)	3 (1.2%)
Theft	730 (51.6%)	158 (61.2%)
Vehicle Taking	28 (2.0%)	5 (1.9%)

A higher proportion of clients who re-presented had committed theft (61.2%) than those who did not re-present (51.6%). Furthermore, clients who re-presented had slightly higher proportions of burglary offences compared to those who did not re-present. A lower proportion of clients who re-presented (11.6%) had been arrested for MDA offences compared to those who did not re-present (22.4%).

Table W5 – Test Result

	Did not re-present (n=1414)	Re-presented (n=258)
Both (Cocaine and Opiates)	161 (11.4%)	65 (25.2%)
Cocaine	292 (20.7%)	55 (21.3%)
Opiates	70 (5.0%)	24 (9.3%)
Negative	891 (63.0%)	114 (44.2%)

Clients who re-presented were more likely to test positive than those who did not. A higher proportion of clients who re-presented tested positive for both cocaine and opiates (25.2%) than those who did not re-present (11.4%). The same was true for clients who tested positive for opiates only (9.3% re-presented, 5.0% did not re-present).

Table W6 - Frequency of re-presentation of clients who tested positive

Re-presentation	Frequency (n=697)
Never	578 (82.9%)
Once	73 (10.5%)
2 times	24 (3.4%)
3 times	8 (1.1%)
4 times	7 (1.0%)
5 times	5 (0.7%)
6 times	1 (0.1%)
8 times	1 (0.1%)

The majority of clients who tested positive did not re-present (82.9%). The rates of re-presentation for clients who tested positive ranged from once to a maximum of eight times between April and December 07. Of the 119 clients who tested positive and re-presented, 73 clients re-presented once (10.5%) and 24 clients re-presented twice (3.4%). There were 22 clients who re-presented three or more times during the time period.

7.2 Assessments (DIRs)

Table W7 - Frequency of re-presentation of clients who had an assessment completed

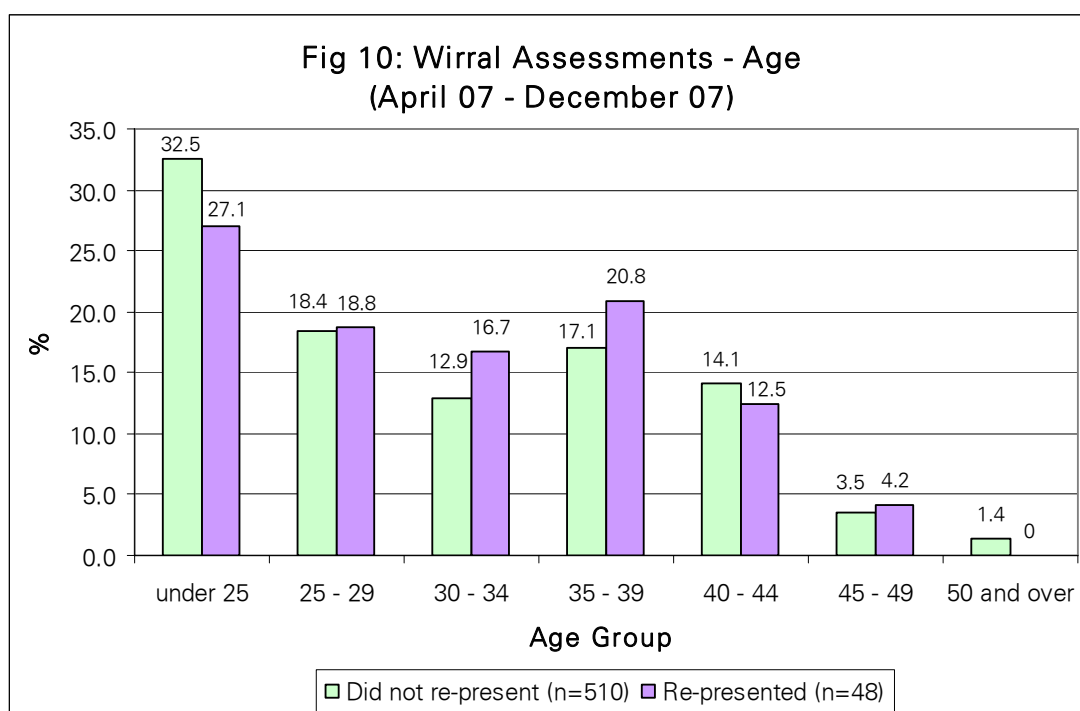
Re-presentation	Frequency (n=558)
Never	510 (91.4%)
Once	43 (7.7%)
2 times	4 (0.7%)
3 times	1 (0.2%)

The majority of assessed clients did not re-present (91.4%). Of the 48 clients who re-presented, 43 (7.7%) re-presented once during the time period. A further five clients (0.9%) re-presented more than once with a maximum of three times.

Table W8 - Re-presentation of clients by gender

	Did not re-present (n=510)	Re-presented (n=48)
Female	76 (14.9%)	7 (14.6%)
Male	434 (85.1%)	41 (85.4%)

A similar proportion of clients in both groups were female (14.9% did not re-present and 14.6% re-presented).



Clients who re-presented were slightly older than those who did not. Just over a quarter of assessed clients (27.1%) who re-presented were under 25, compared to just under a third of clients who did not re-present (32.5%). There was a higher proportion of clients who re-presented (37.5%) who were between 30 and 39 years of age compared to those who did not re-present (30.0%).

Table W9 - Re-presentation of clients by ethnicity

	Did not re-present (n=510)	Re-presented (n=48)
Black	4 (0.8%)	0
White	500 (98.0%)	47 (97.9%)
Other	6 (1.2%)	1 (2.1%)

The majority of clients in both groups were white.

Table W10 – Re-presentation of clients by offence

	Did not re-present (n=506)*	Re-presented (n=48)
Begging	2 (0.4%)	0
Breach	2 (0.4%)	2 (4.2%)
Burglary	52 (10.3%)	4 (8.3%)
Criminal Damage	4 (0.8%)	1 (2.1%)
Fraud	6 (1.2%)	0
Handling	5 (1.0%)	0
MDA Offences	215 (42.5%)	18 (37.5%)
Motoring Offences	13 (2.6%)	1 (2.1%)
Possession of Offensive Weapon	2 (0.4%)	0
Public Order Offence	16 (3.2%)	1 (2.1%)
Robbery	9 (1.8%)	0
Shoplifting	76 (15.0%)	13 (27.1%)
Theft	56 (11.1%)	5 (10.4%)
Theft - Car	43 (8.5%)	5 (10.4%)
Warrant	1 (0.2%)	0
Wounding or Assault	24 (4.7%)	3 (6.3%)
Other	9 (1.8%)	0

*Four clients who did not re-present did not provide information regarding their offence.

A higher proportion of re-presenting clients had committed shoplifting (27.1%) than those who did not re-present (15.0%). A lower proportion of clients who re-presented had committed burglary (8.3%) and MDA offences (37.5%) compared to clients who did not re-present (10.3% and 42.5% respectively).

Table W11 - Drug use in past month (n=545) †

	Did not re-present (n=497)*	Re-presented (n=48)
Amphetamine	20 (4.0%)	2 (4.2%)
Benzodiazepine	23 (4.6%)	2 (4.2%)
Cannabis	172 (34.6%)	11 (22.9%)
Cocaine	287 (57.7%)	28 (58.3%)
Crack	174 (35.0%)	16 (33.3%)
Ecstasy	20 (4.0%)	0
Heroin	198 (39.8%)	21 (43.8%)
Methadone	38 (7.6%)	4 (8.3%)
Other Drug	12 (2.4%)	1 (2.1%)

† Proportions of drug use will not add up to 100% as clients can identify use of more than one drug at assessment.

*13 clients who did not re-present were removed from analysis as they did not use drugs in last month before assessment.

The drug use profile of the two groups of clients was similar. Nevertheless, a higher proportion of clients who re-presented reported using heroin in the month prior to assessment (43.8%) compared to those who did not re-present (39.8%). Levels of cocaine use were high in both groups. Just under three fifths of re-presented clients reported cocaine use (58.3%) at their assessment compared to 57.7% of clients who did not re-present. Lower proportions of re-presenting clients reported using crack (33.3%) and cannabis (22.9%) than among those who did not re-present (35.0% and 34.6% respectively).

Table W12 - Lifetime injecting (n=545)

Did not re-present (n=497)*	Re-presented (n=48)
131 (26.4%)	12 (25.0%)

*13 clients who did not re-present were removed from analysis as they did not use drugs in last month before assessment.

A similar proportion of clients in both groups indicated having injected in their lifetime.

Table W13 – Re-presentation of clients by accommodation

	Did not re-present (n=509)*	Re-presented (n=48)
Hostel	11 (2.2%)	0
Rented	247 (48.5%)	26 (54.2%)
Own property	64 (12.6%)	8 (16.7%)
Settled with Friends	6 (1.2%)	0
Sleep on different friend's floor every night	8 (1.6%)	7 (14.6%)
Staying with friends/family as a short terms guest	2 (0.4%)	0
Other	88 (17.3%)	7 (14.6%)

*One client who did not re-present did not provide information regarding their accommodation.

Rented housing was the most common type of client accommodation across both groups. Clients who re-presented were more likely to reside in rented accommodation (54.2%) than those who did not re-present (48.5%). The same pattern was found for owned accommodation (16.7% re-presented and 12.6% did not re-present).

Table W14 – Re-presentation of clients by employment

	Did not re-present (n=508)*	Re-presented (n=47)**
Economically inactive	166 (32.7%)	9 (19.1%)
Pupil/student	5 (1.0%)	0
Regular Employment	153 (30.1%)	15 (31.9%)
Unemployment	179 (35.2%)	22 (46.8%)
Other	5 (1.0%)	1 (2.1%)

*Two clients who did not re-present did not provide information regarding their employment status.

**One client who re-presented did not provide information regarding their employment status.

A lower proportion of clients who re-presented (19.1%) were economically inactive compared to those who did not re-present (32.7%). Just under half of assessed clients who re-presented (46.8%) were unemployed at the time of assessment compared to around a third of those who did not re-present (35.2%). Similar proportions of clients in both groups were in regular employment (30.1% did not re-present and 31.9% re-presented).

7.3 Care Plans

Table W15 – Frequency of re-presentation of clients who had a care plan completed

Re-presentation	Frequency (n=222)
Never	218 (98.2%)
Once	3 (1.4%)
2 times	1 (0.5%)

The majority of clients who had a care plan completed did not re-present (98.2%) between April and December 07. Of the four clients who had a care plan completed more than once in the period three clients re-presented once (1.4%). One client re-presented more than once (0.5%).

7.4 Transfers from Prison

Table W16 – Frequency of re-presentation of clients who had a successful transfer completed

Re-presentation	Frequency (n=82)
Never	81 (98.8%)
Once	1 (1.2%)

The majority of clients who had a successful transfer completed did not re-present (98.8%). Only one client re-presented via this route (1.2%) between April and December 07.

7.6 Wirral Summary

Drug Testing Data

- Of the 1672 clients who had a successful drug test completed, 258 (15.4%) re-presented between April and December 07.
- The age profiles of both groups were similar.
- Clients who re-presented were more likely than those who did not to commit burglary and theft but less likely to have been arrested for MDA offences.
- Clients who re-presented were more likely to test positive than their non re-presenting counterparts. Clients who re-presented were more likely to test positive for opiates and cocaine combined compared to those who did not re-present.

Assessments (DIRs)

- Of the 558 clients who were assessed, 48 (8.6%) re-presented between April and December 07.
- Clients who re-presented were slightly less likely to be female than their non-re-presenting counterparts.
- Re-presenting clients were slightly older compared to those who did not re-present.
- Clients who re-presented were more likely to have committed shoplifting and less likely to have committed burglary and MDA offences than those who did not re-present.
- The drug use profiles across client groups were similar. Clients who re-presented reported a slightly more problematic drug use profile with greater proportions using heroin. In contrast, rates of cannabis use were much higher among clients who did not re-present.
- A slightly lower proportion of clients who re-presented had a history of injecting behaviour compared to those who did not re-present.
- Clients who re-presented were more likely to be living in rented or owned property than those who did not re-present.
- Re-presenting clients reported higher rates of unemployment than clients who did not re-present.

8.0 Merseyside Comparison

8.1 Drug Testing Data

This section will compare and contrast re-presentation rates from drug testing data from April to December 07 for Liverpool, Sefton and Wirral, and from September to December 07 for Knowsley and St Helens D(A)ATs. DIRs will be examined in the same manner across all Merseyside D(A)ATs between April and December 07.

Table M1 – Re-presentation of clients who had a successful drug test completed - Merseyside comparison (n=7034)

Merseyside D(A)AT area	Did not re-present	Re-presented
Knowsley (n=384)	368 (95.8%)	16 (4.2%)
Liverpool (n=3171)	2728 (86.0%)	443 (14.0%)
Sefton (n=1168)	788 (67.5%)	380 (32.5%)
St Helens (n=623)	545 (87.5%)	78 (12.5%)
Wirral (n=1672)	1414 (84.6%)	258 (15.4%)

Sefton had the highest rate of re-presentation between April and December 07. Knowsley had the lowest proportion of clients who re-presented, however, it must be noted that Test on Arrest was initiated in Knowsley and St Helens in September, therefore it would be expected that rates of re-presentation would be lower than in the other areas. Despite this St Helens has in four months a fairly similar rate of re-presentation to Liverpool and Wirral in 12 months therefore proportions will be lower than in the other intensive areas.

Table M2 – Re-presentation of clients who tested positive – Merseyside comparison (n=3243)

Merseyside D(A)AT area	Did not re-present	Re-presented
Knowsley (n=169)	160 (94.7%)	9 (5.3%)
Liverpool (n=1515)	1263 (83.4%)	252 (16.6%)
Sefton (n=571)	375 (65.7%)	196 (34.3%)
St Helens (n=291)	258 (88.7%)	33 (11.3%)
Wirral (n=697)	578 (82.9%)	119 (17.1%)

Sefton had a much higher proportion of clients who tested positive who went on to test positive again, than the other Merseyside D(A)ATs. This suggests that Sefton had a considerable proportion of clients committing acquisitive crime more than once in nine months.

8.2 Assessments (DIRs)

Table M3 – Re-presentation of clients who had an assessment completed – Merseyside comparison (n=3193)

Merseyside D(A)AT area	Did not re-present	Re-presented
Knowsley (n=257)	242 (94.2%)	15 (5.8%)
Liverpool (n=1598)	1312 (82.1%)	286 (17.9%)
Sefton (n=473)	417 (88.2%)	56 (11.8%)
St Helens (n=307)	260 (84.7%)	47 (15.3%)
Wirral (n=558)	510 (91.4%)	48 (8.6%)

Going by assessments completed, Liverpool DIP had a higher re-presentation rate than the other Merseyside D(A)ATs. Knowsley and Wirral had the lowest rates of re-presentation.

8.3 Transfers from Prison

Table M4 – Re-presentation of clients who had a successful transfer completed – Merseyside comparison (n=541)

Merseyside D(A)AT area	Did not re-present	Re-presented
Knowsley (n=53)	48 (90.6%)	5 (9.4%)
Liverpool (n=256)	237 (92.6%)	19 (7.4%)
Sefton (n=102)	95 (93.1%)	7 (6.9%)
St Helens (n=48)	46 (95.8%)	2 (4.2%)
Wirral (n=82)	81 (98.8%)	1 (1.2%)

Very few clients in any area were successfully referred from prison more than once in the nine month period. Knowsley had the highest rate of re-presentation in terms of prison releases.

9.0 Discussion

The aim of this report was to find out how many and what type of clients were coming back through the criminal justice system and more specifically the Drug Interventions Programme (DIP) after their initial presentation. The characteristics of clients who re-presented were broken down into demographic information such as gender, age, ethnicity, as well as drug use and offence. This discussion will be divided into themes focusing on the trends that emerged across Merseyside.

Re-presentation

This analysis appears to match previous studies (Beynon, Bellis and McVeigh, 2006) in retention rates in drug treatment, with it demonstrating that clients will re-enter DIP and the criminal justice system. Based on the drug testing data, the proportion of clients who re-presented varied across the five Merseyside areas. Sefton in particular saw a high proportion of clients (32.5%) re-presenting compared to the other areas. Sefton also had the highest proportion of clients who tested positive and had at least one more positive test during the time period, with Knowsley having the lowest compared to the other Merseyside areas.

Recommendation: Sefton DIP need to ensure that clients testing numerous times within a relatively short period of time are targeted in order to ensure they receive a service that 'grips' them and reduces their re-appearance in the criminal justice system.

Analysis of assessments from the Drug Interventions Record (DIR) showed that Liverpool DIP had the highest proportion of clients re-presenting into DIP between April and December 07 when compared to the other areas. Knowsley and Wirral DIP had the lowest proportions of re-presentation suggesting either that Knowsley and Wirral have more success at engaging clients thereby preventing re-offending and re-presenting or that the client group is somehow different and less recidivistic.

Gender

In most areas there were contradictory indications regarding the gender of clients re-presenting. In Knowsley, Liverpool and St Helens clients re-presenting through drug testing were less likely to be female than their counterparts who did not re-present. However, this pattern was reversed when re-presentation through a DIP

assessment was examined, where re-presenting clients were more likely to be female. This may suggest that in these areas females make up a smaller proportion of the overall persistent (repeat offending) acquisitive crime committing population. In contrast, findings would suggest that females may make up a larger proportion of the drug using persistent acquisitive crime committing population. It should always be remembered however, that regardless of this males still make up the majority of clients in both the re-presenting and non re-presenting groups.

Recommendation: All teams should continue to have female clients as a focus for work as findings would suggest they have increased risk of not fully engaging in services and re-offending.

Age

In most areas, for both data sets the age profile of those re-presenting was older than those who did not. However, the pattern is less prominent among those assessed in St Helens. Drug testing data showed that Wirral had a different age profile pattern compared to the other Merseyside D(A)ATs, with similar proportions seen in both groups. The question is whether areas are engaging better with young people or is it that they are less likely to re-offend. This is possibly attributable to their drug use profile which is verified by Cuddy and Duffy's (2008) research on comparisons between under and over 25 year old DIP clients. Younger clients were less likely to use the drugs normally associated with problematic use such as heroin and crack and spent less on drugs than their older counterparts.

Ethnicity

There was little difference in the ethnicity profile of clients who re-presented in all areas from that of the clients who did not re-present, with the majority of clients in both groups being white.

Offence

According to the drug testing data a very clear pattern was evident. Re-presenting clients were more likely to have committed theft and burglary in every area than those who did not re-present. It is worrying that in every area burglary is one of the most common offences committed among those re-presenting. Burglary is a serious crime and may indicate a client who would be difficult to work with but it is important for teams to try and engage this group as they are clients who can cause

substantial problems for communities. All teams need to ensure that if clients committing burglary offences are not considered for nomination to the prolific offenders' scheme, that they are given a higher priority around breaching and actioning of those breaches.

Whilst drug testing data showed that burglary offences were more likely among those who re-presented, DIR data showed burglary offences were higher among non re-presenters. It can be suggested that substantial proportions of clients committing burglary and subsequently tested, are potentially testing negative. Therefore, these clients would not be being picked up by the DIP teams.

Recommendation: Further investigation of this finding is needed around clients committing burglary offences who are testing negative, however, if this assumption is correct there is a need to focus on non drug using burglars who may be repeat offenders.

Generally, clients who re-presented were less likely to have committed MDA offences than their non re-presenting counterparts. This pattern was also supported by DIR data. This trend may be associated with possession of cocaine, showing a different profile and anecdotal evidence of a link to the night time economy. Liverpool had particularly high proportions of re-presenting clients committing begging offences. The higher proportions of begging seen among clients assessed in Liverpool may simply be due to the draw of the city centre if begging is an individuals' main source of income. In addition, the city centre and its hostel and homelessness support services may attract this group. Begging is a relatively low tariff offence and as such even persistent beggars may not be charged or receive community orders under which drug treatment can be mandated. This may mean that these clients are more difficult to engage in service.

Recommendation: Liverpool need to consider a strategy to address the needs of this group, which will be complex. This may be through enhanced links with homelessness services and accommodation providers.

Drug Use

Analysis of drug testing data identified higher proportions of re-presenting clients tested positive compared to their non re-presenting counterparts. Similarly, clients from all areas who re-presented were more likely to test positive for both opiates

and cocaine combined compared to those who did not re-present. In most areas clients who re-presented were less likely to test positive for cocaine only. This supports suggestions in the previous point about a connection with night time economy and potential association with a more recreational drug use pattern. Wirral DIP showed the opposite pattern in that clients who re-presented were more likely to produce positive tests for cocaine alone than those who did not re-present. Wirral's re-presenting cocaine using clients were also identified in assessment data, with cocaine being the most common drug with both re-presenters and non re-presenters and rates of cocaine use among re-presenters being higher than in any other area.

Recommendation: Most areas need to continue to focus on 'traditional' problematic drug users. The reasons why areas appear to be struggling with this group and why they are not gripping these clients should be investigated. Current services are generally configured to deal with this client group; therefore their re-presentation which is indicative of a failure to fully engage in service is a trend that needs to be addressed. The exception to this finding is that Wirral seem to need a more cocaine related strategy with higher reports of cocaine use compared to the other areas.

Injecting

Clients who re-presented in most areas were more likely to have injected in the past prior to assessment. Therefore, re-presenting clients are more likely to have associated health problems. This is a key issue as it is very important to engage these clients quickly into DIP to help with health problems through harm reduction advice and referral to appropriate health services such as testing for blood borne viruses. Findings suggest that these clients are likely to re-present which implies drop out from services therefore urgency is required from DIP workers to give the appropriate advice for clients to take away with them and wherever possible, rapid intervention.

Accommodation

The accommodation status of each group varied across each area. Generally figures suggested less stable accommodation among re-presenting clients.

Recommendation: Particular emphasis from the teams is needed on helping clients not in stable accommodation as they are more likely to drop out of DIP and re-present.

Employment

Analysis showed that re-presenting clients were more likely to be unemployed than those who did not re-present across all Merseyside areas. Wirral DIP had a higher percentage of re-presenting clients who were employed than any other Merseyside area.

Care Plans

Findings show that in all areas lower proportions of clients who had a care plan completed had another care plan completed during the time period, when compared to rates of assessment re-presentation. It can be argued that clients who are taken onto the caseload are 'gripped' more fully and therefore do not re-present. Alternatively, it could also be that when clients come back through they are for some other reason, not taken onto the caseload. It may be that previous experiences put clients off full engagement the second time around or they may be remanded in custody.

Recommendation: Further work is needed to work out what the difference is in terms of re-presentation and re-offending for those taken onto the caseload and those who are not.

Transfers from Prison

Multiple successful transfers from prison were rare in all areas. This may be due to the relatively small amount of time investigated in this report. It may be that during this nine month period there was not enough time for multiple prison stays to occur.

Recommendation: Further analysis is needed, to investigate the prevalence of repeat successful transfers for clients over a larger time period.

10.0 Conclusion

This report has shown that rates of re-presenting vary and in some cases D(A)ATs may wish to consider this when setting targets for Local Area Agreements (LAA). Some substantial differences were found between re-presenters and non re-presenters. Re-presenting clients were generally older, with a more problematic drug use profile, less stable accommodation, less employment and had committed more serious crime such as theft and burglary offences. This 'core' client group are more likely to cause damage to communities and be at risk themselves. By contrast non re-presenters were generally a younger, potentially less problematic group and it is not clear whether teams are better at dealing with these clients or whether they are simply less likely to re-offend and re-present. The latter of these two seems more likely. This work only gives an impression of the rate of re-presentation; it does not truly examine scheme success. A more detailed evaluation of re-offending rates pre and post intervention is needed.

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