



**Bendigo-Loddon Alcohol Action Plan
2009-2012**

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INTRODUCTION

In Australia alcohol is recognised as being integral to culture and way of life, and is commonly associated with occasions of celebration, relaxation, loss, and initiation into adulthood. The majority of Australians drink responsibly, however, 1 in 5 (20.4%) drink at dangerous levels for the short term. Young people in particular are engaging in the highest risk drinking Pattern, binge drinking. In Victoria 64% per cent of 18-24 year olds and 32 per cent of 14-17 year olds binge drink. An increasing number of Australians are misusing alcohol and drinking regularly at high risk levels, compromising their health and wellbeing. It is well documented that prolonged heavy drinking can increase the risk of developing liver cirrhosis, cancer, mental health and behavioural disorders. Women in particular are increasingly drinking at risky levels.

Most people are aware that alcohol is a 'drug,' however, production, trade and consumption continue. The fact that alcohol is a drug and is impacting on the health and well being of the nation, indicates there is a need to develop appropriate measures at a local level to address and reduce health and social consequences arising from misuse. Misuse impacts widely on individuals, families and communities, and has generated significant and genuine concern in Australia.

Alcohol continues to increase the risk of addiction, violence, road trauma and premature death, and impact significantly on the economy through lost productivity and social and health impacts estimated to cost \$15.3 billion a year. It is acknowledged that the task of reducing the incidence of alcohol misuse and related harms is a challenge, but it is also recognised that working in partnership and sharing the same vision of improving health and social outcomes for the community will lead to some successes along the way.

BACKGROUND

The Bendigo-Loddon Alcohol Action Plan was developed through collaboration with local agencies across health and welfare, education, local government and law enforcement. To build a well-informed and evidence based action plan, Bendigo Community Health Services (BCHS) partnered with local stakeholders and formed the Local Area Planning (LAP) The Reference Group to develop a comprehensive plan that reflects the needs of Bendigo-Loddon communities. The Reference Group worked collaboratively to identify service gaps and determine key strategies for local planning, identifying the need to address: *early intervention/prevention, families and young people*. Community needs were highlighted through a collective knowledge and a commitment to changing the way the community thinks about drinking. There was also the opportunity to revisit the work by Bendigo-Loddon Primary Care Partnership (PCP) Alcohol & Drug Action Plan 2003/2003 as well as other significant work being undertaken across nation.

The action plan outlines the priority to deliver a coordinated approach to alcohol misuse and management within the local context. The LAP Project commenced in 2007 and was guided by the key directions outlined in the Alcohol and Drug Blueprint document released by the Department of Human Services (DHS) in 2007, and underpins the principles of harm minimisation. The development of the strategy has been guided by DHS, Bendigo Community Health Services (BCHS) and the LAP Reference Group with a vision to reduce the overall harms associated with misuse. There was a strong commitment to the project and a shared responsibility to challenge individual and community drinking culture, and to promote safe and healthy drinking practices. The plan provides a comprehensive framework to challenge the way individuals drink, reduce the incidence of high risk drinking, and to reduce the overall harms associated with misuse to individuals, families and the whole of community.

To enhance knowledge about alcohol misuse and impact to communities, a comprehensive literature review was undertaken to collate and document current and up to date literature concerning alcohol and its influence on individuals, families and the broader communities within the designated Catchment area. The focus of the review was to highlight the impact of alcohol misuse in a regional setting, as well as developing a broader picture of the impact of alcohol on Australia as a whole.



LOCAL AREA PLANNING (LAP)

A Literature Review of the Evidence for Alcohol Misuse & the Impact to Individuals, Families & Communities in the Bendigo-Loddon Catchment Area

2008

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Executive Summary

In 2007 Bendigo Community Health Services (BCHS) received funding from the Department of Human Services (DHS) to develop a local alcohol and other drug action plan. The aim of the project was to address local issues surrounding problematic alcohol and drug use within a local context. The project worker was employed to develop and implement the plan. The first task carried out by the project worker was the development of a Local Area Planning (LAP) Reference Group that includes key stakeholders from across health and welfare, law enforcement and local government. The reference group is working collaboratively to identify issues of alcohol misuse across the Bendigo-Loddon Catchment. In the initial stages of planning the Reference Group identified alcohol as the leading substance impacting on the community, with binge drinking significantly high amongst young people. The group made a collective decision to focus time and resources on addressing alcohol and the impact misuse has on individuals, families and the whole of community. The project has taken a three stage approach to address issues of alcohol misuse, and includes research and development, planning and implementation. The research and development has included the compilation of current data and literature to inform on alcohol misuse, and a local mapping exercise to identify service gaps, and local capacity to respond to the needs of community affected by alcohol misuse.

Introduction

This document examines alcohol misuse and the impact it has on local communities within the Bendigo-Loddon Catchment Area. The focus of the review is to develop a knowledge based understanding of alcohol misuse and its impact on individuals, families and communities living in the Bendigo-Loddon Catchment Area. To further understand the concept of alcohol within the identified environments, research also includes the National and State observations of alcohol misuse and the associated harms. Evidence and data was obtained from a wide range of sources including websites, electronic databases, peer reviewed journals and media. The review aims to provide a comprehensive evidence based approach to addressing the significant health and social harms related to alcohol misuse, and to enhance local capacity to deliver appropriate strategies and actions to tackle the negative outcomes of alcohol misuse in the designated catchment area.

In Australia alcohol is integral to culture and way of life. Alcohol is widely enjoyed for social purposes, celebration and relaxation. Many of the dangers associated with alcohol are a result of misuse, with the potential for harmful outcomes often being ignored, misunderstood or tolerated. (National Alcohol Strategy, 2006-2009)¹ Analysis of relevant data has identified alcohol as a major factor impacting health on and wellbeing of individuals and communities. Managing alcohol misuse and reducing social and health harms is on the agenda for Commonwealth, State and Local governments, in recognition that alcohol misuse is a problem affecting the nation. The incidence of alcohol misuse in communities is varied, but continues to contribute to concerns about public space and safety, alcohol related violence, road traumas and illness. Additional to social and health related consequences; the annual economic impact of alcohol misuse is \$15.3billion. Alcohol is the second largest cause of drug which highlights the importance of reducing alcohol related harm to communities. The federal, state and local governments are actively addressing concerns raised about the health and social impacts of alcohol misuse. In March 2008 the Federal Government announced a new National strategy to address binge drinking among young people, known as the 'National Binge Drinking Strategy.' The State and Federal governments have done a good job in putting the message out into communities that alcohol misuse is a serious concern. The need to increase awareness about the harms of alcohol misuse is significant, for both health and social purposes.

¹ National Alcohol Strategy 2006-2009

Current literature points towards a need to change Australia's drinking culture and encourage responsible and safer drinking practices to improve health and social outcomes across the population.

Incidence and Prevalence of Alcohol Misuse in Australia

Nationally in 2006-07, alcohol was the most common principle drug of concern (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2008) Alcohol is the most assessable drug of choice after tobacco, and can easily lead to patterns of consumption that are recognised as a risk to individual health. Two patterns of drinking that generate the most concern are 'excessive' and 'consistent high levels' of consumption. According to the Victorian Population Health Survey (VPHS) 2005 (Victorian Health Population Survey, 2005)² there are two main patterns of drinking that create a risk to an individual's health. These patterns have been identified as:

Excessive consumption= extreme alcohol intake on a particular occasion (binge drinking)

Consistent high level= constant alcohol intake over months and years

Excessive consumption accounts for an estimated 4.9% of the total burden of disease Australia wide. Individuals who engage in excessive patterns of drinking, and do so over time, have an increased risk of developing chronic ill health and premature death. Other possible outcomes include cirrhosis of the liver, cognitive impairment, heart and blood disorders, cancers and damage to the pancreas. The most immediate risks include: intoxication, alcohol related violence, road traumas, excessive behaviour and injury, all of which could result in serious harm to the individual as well the broader community.

The prevalence of drinking in Australia varies among populations, and additional to consumption patterns the VPHS 2005 has identified risk according to three levels; low risk, risky, high risk.

Low Risk= a level of drinking at which the risk of harm is minimal and there are possible benefits for some of the population

Risky= a level of drinking at which the risk of harm outweighs any possible benefit

High Risk= a level of drinking involving a substantial risk of serious harm and above which risk increases rapidly

² Victorian Population Health Survey 2005-Selected Findings: Department of Human Services

The National Drug Strategy Household Survey (NDSHS) Household Survey 2007 reports that:

- Males are more likely to drink daily than women, with males at 10.8% and females at 5.5%
- The daily consumption patterns across the population has decreased between the year 2004-2007, 2004 (8.9%) and 2007 (8.1%)
- Between 2004-2007 there was an increase in the number of women drinking on a daily basis (from 35.0 to 35.9) in comparison to males who had a decline (47.6% to 46.8%)

At present 90% of people aged 14 years or over have tried alcohol in their lifetime, and over 80% of people in this age group consumed an alcoholic drink in the past 12 months. The report also indicates that the majority of Australians have tried alcohol, and will continue to drink throughout life. ³ In contrast about 9% of the population aged 14 years or over have never had a full serve of alcohol and about 16% have not consumed alcohol in the past year. It is important to note that not all drinking leads to harm and many people consume alcohol safely and responsibly. Research has identified that regular use of alcohol was considered acceptable by 77.0% of Australians aged 14 years and over in 2004.

Victoria:

- In 2005 alcohol related deaths in Victoria represented 2% of all Victorian deaths:
- In 2007 around one-third of road accidents were alcohol related

Over the past 10 years, there has been a steady increase in the proportion of people consuming an alcoholic drink in the previous 12 months. The most current rise in alcohol misuse is the prevalence of binge drinking among teenagers and young adults, with alcohol being more responsible for the deaths of more young people than that of any other drug.

³ National Drug Strategy Household Survey 2007: First Results

Effects of alcohol misuse on individuals, families and the broader communities in a regional setting

“Without question, alcohol remains the substance of most concern in rural and regional Australia.”(Australian National Council on Drugs) Alcohol is considered intrinsic to Australian society and plays a major role in celebration, commiseration, socialising or relaxation. In rural and regional communities, alcohol continues to be the substance of most concern because it is legal and very accessible. There is evidence to support the difference that exist between metropolitan settings to that of rural and regional, when considering health status, health factors and health services for their populations. ⁴ The characteristic of regional communities include socio economic and environmental factors, such as access to health and education, job opportunities.

It is important that local government take the initiative to address alcohol misuse and respond to local issues, as it is not practical to rely on urban-based strategies, as local issues require local actions.

Health & Wellbeing

The Population Health Survey 2006 states that “a range of lifestyle behaviours influence the health status and health risk profile of individuals. Lifestyle related risk factors contribute significantly the burden of disease in Australia via their effects on the onset, maintenance and prognosis of a variety of diseases and health conditions and their complications.” ⁵ The health problems that are associated with excessive alcohol consumption are generally considered to be as a result of longer-term, high levels of alcohol consumption (NDLERF, 2008). Experts agree that although alcohol has some health benefits, e.g. wine can reduce the risk of heart attack; large amounts of alcohol can damage organs in the body, leading to a range of complications such as cirrhosis of the liver, cancers (lips, mouth, throat, liver), neurological damage and heart disease. The Australian Drug Foundation’s Annual Review reports that ‘drug use is undesirable when it reduces or threatens health and wellbeing.’⁶ Young people in particular are at risk of developing health related issues as a consequence of alcohol misuse, with the potential for serious health outcomes such as impairment of healthy brain development, as well as long term memory and learning problems. More and younger people are engaging in binge

⁴ <http://www.drugactionweek.org.au>

⁵ Victorian Population Health Survey, Selected Findings 2006

⁶ Australian Drug Foundation Annual Review 2007

drinking behaviours, placing themselves at increased risk of harm. There has been a growing momentum to tackle the drinking culture (particularly binge drinking behaviours) that is persistently affecting the nation. In 2007 alcohol misuse achieved a higher public profile than it had in the past, with a clear message that alcohol is a drug too.

When considering the impact of harms resulting from alcohol misuse to individuals, families or the broader community; harm can fall into two broad categories, health harms and social harms. Health harms include a range of health problems resulting from excessive alcohol consumption (increased mortality, morbidity) and social harms refer to a variety of social problems resulting from excessive alcohol consumption. “Major social consequences may include family breakdown, domestic violence, crime and public violence, property damage and decreased workplace productivity, absenteeism and unemployment.”⁷

Alcohol needs to be acknowledged as a drug by individuals who choose to drink, recognising the potential of serious health and social consequences.

Health benefits are believed to accrue from low to moderate levels of alcohol consumption. These include:

- Reduced strain of chronic stress and negative life events;
- Decreased risk of stone formation in the kidney and gall bladder;
- Positive development of bone mineral density;
- Decreased mortality from cardiovascular disease in middle-aged and elderly populations

It has been established that alcohol misuse impacts on the health and wellbeing of individuals and families, and can result in a decreased quality of life through disease and health complications. The reasons why people choose to drink varies, some of these may include, socialising with friends, relaxation, experiment, relieve anxiety, and these reasons apply to both young and old. For young people, alcohol is the first choice because of its easy accessibility and its legality, and therefore is the misused drug of choice.

However, it has been established through research and data that excessive alcohol consumption is a significant risk factor to individual health.

⁷ Prevention of Harm from Alcohol Consumption In Rural and Remote Communities (2008), Clearing House

Alcohol puts forth a threat to health and social outcomes for the community. Binge drinking is a particular topical issue at a local, State and National level, particularly concerning young people. Binge drinking presents a growing concern given that it is a high risk level of consumption, especially amongst young people and women.

Alcohol plays a significant role in Australian society and is associated with occasions of celebration, loss, relaxation and encompasses many other stages associated with the life cycle. Alcohol is recognised as a risk to health and social outcomes when used inappropriately.

Alcohol Misuse & Emerging Issues

Alcohol is on the agenda for Local, State, and National governments because of the increasing effects misuse is having on the health and well being of the nation. As health is a fundamental right for all people, reducing the harms of alcohol misuse is vital to improve health outcomes for Australians. The current Victorian alcohol initiative is the 'Victoria's Alcohol Action Plan 2008-2013' that will work towards preventing and reducing harms associated with alcohol misuse in Victoria. Both national and local data on patterns of alcohol consumption place Australians at risk of harm or health complications. Alcohol misuse has long been associated with social, physical and psychological factors effecting individuals, families and communities. The relationship between alcohol misuse and associated harms can occur within complex social, economic and cultural context. Raising awareness and giving individuals the knowledge the need to make safe and healthy drinking choices is only the beginning, but certainly the way forward. It is acknowledged that the nature of the AOD field is constantly evolving and patterns of alcohol consumption can vary among populations and thus requires a timely response.

Conclusion

Alcohol is widely used in Australia and has a long history of social acceptance and is considered integral to Australian culture and way of life. Managing alcohol misuse remains a challenge because of its association with being Australian. The links between alcohol misuse and poor health, assaults, road trauma, family violence and public perceptions of safety are well established. There are effective measures that have been put in place such to reduce social harms such as liquor licensing, taxes and levies, limited trading hours of public drinking venues and responsible serving of alcohol requirements. However, a majority of the population continue to drink at risky levels, impacting on health resources, economic resources, individual quality of life, family dynamics and security and community safety. Although we cannot expect to change the problem overnight, we can create opportunities to work towards improving awareness about misuse and associated harms. Educating people and generating awareness is only the beginning, but each step will contribute to making a difference for the future of healthier, safer, drinking choices.

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STRATEGY FOR ACTION

VISION

To reduce the overall impact of alcohol misuse and related harms to individuals, families, and the whole of community

GOAL

Develop and implement a local alcohol action plan in collaboration with key stakeholders, using a health promotion/early intervention approach to address alcohol misuse and associated harms affecting young people and families in the Bendigo Loddon PCP catchment

LOCAL AREA PLANNING (LAP) REFERENCE GROUP

The Local Area Planning (LAP) Reference Group is dedicated to:

- Value the diversity of partnership and promote a collaborative response to issues of alcohol misuse and associated harms
- Generate strategies that will enable a level of awareness about the impact of alcohol misuse within the Bendigo-Loddon Catchment Area
- Undertake an advocacy role to influence on policy related to alcohol misuse and associated harms at a local, regional and state level

BEST PRACTICE PRINCIPLES

- Community needs are central to all planning
- Commitment to partnership across all sectors of the community within the Bendigo-Loddon Catchment
- The plan will be linked with and informed by relevant federal, state and local council policies
- Strategies will be evidence led
- The plan will take a systematic outlook that provides effective and sustainable responses to alcohol related issues likely to affect future generations

PLAN

The key elements of the action plan can be categorised by the following: partnership, community engagement, community action, health promotion, and service coordination.

Partnership

Develop and sustain robust partnerships with key stakeholders and local community groups, enabling high quality service delivery and processes, in response to issues of alcohol misuse and associated harms.

Community Education

Support educational initiatives, using a variety of modalities, which influence positive cultural change in the drinking habits/behaviours of young people.

Health Promotion

Raise community awareness about alcohol misuse through interventions and community engagement strategies that promote safe and healthy drinking practices.

Service Coordination

To improve the experience of workers and consumers when dealing with service systems through reducing duplication and identifying gaps.

PRIORITIES

The Local Area Planning (LAP) Reference Group has identified local priorities and appropriate actions through consultation, research and data analysis, in responding to the needs of the community, and to address alcohol misuse and associated harms. The focus is to reduce the overall impact of alcohol misuse and related harm to individuals, families and the whole of community.

- Harm minimisation is the key principle where possible, the harms associated with alcohol misuse, and its impacts should be minimised
- Provide access to contemporary alcohol (drug) information that will increase the understanding of the complexities of alcohol misuse and outcomes, such as the nature of addiction and how to respond at an individual, family and community level

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The Action Plan will be implemented over a three year period. To ensure that the strategy is meeting key objectives and delivery outcomes, the plan will ensure:

- The establishment of an Alcohol Strategy Review Committee to meet annually and review the outcomes of the strategy actions for each year it is in operation.

STAKEHOLDERS

Local Area Plan (LAP) Reference Group & Stakeholder Group

- Department of Human Services (DHS)
- Youth Substance Abuse Services (YSAS)
- Victoria Police
- City of Greater Bendigo (CoGB)
- Central Victorian General Practice Network (CVGPN)
- Bendigo Health (BH)
- Salvation Army
- Department of Early Education and Childhood Development (DEECD)
- Bendigo & Loddon Primary Care Partnership (BLPCP)
- Loddon Campaspe Community Legal Centre (LCCLC)
- McIvor Health & Community Services (McIvor Health)
- Bendigo & District Aboriginal Cooperative (BDAC)
- Bendigo Community Health Services (BCHS)

PARTNERSHIP

Objective	Strategies	Actions	Partners/Stakeholders	Outcomes
<p>Link key stakeholders to address and respond to alcohol misuse and associated harms</p>	<p>Establish a strong mechanism for collaboration between key stakeholders</p>	<p>Identify key stakeholders</p> <p>Establish Reference Group to address current and emerging alcohol related issues</p>	<p>Police</p> <p>PCP</p> <p>YSAS</p> <p>Salvation Army</p> <p>City of Bendigo</p>	<p>The partnership and communication pathways are established and sustained between local service providers and community groups</p>
	<p>Support and sustain a partnership of key stakeholders in collaboration addressing alcohol misuse</p>	<p>Develop a communication strategy for stakeholders</p> <p>Development of a Local Action plan website</p>	<p>DEECD</p> <p>DHS</p> <p>Mclvor Health</p> <p>Latrobe</p> <p>BCHS</p>	<p>Communication strategy in place</p> <p>Website developed and maintained</p>
	<p>Identify and agree on roles and responsibilities of organisations in regard to issues of alcohol misuse</p>	<p>Consultation and development of protocols to support a partnership approach</p>	<p>Bendigo Health</p> <p>Central Vic CP Network</p> <p>Loddon Campaspe</p> <p>Community Legal</p>	<p>Protocols agreed and implemented</p>
	<p>Support the work of existing initiatives e.g. Safe Community Forum to improve RSA at a local level</p>	<p>Establish and maintain participation and representation on initiatives such as the Safe Community Forum</p>	<p>Relevant Stakeholders</p>	<p>A coordinated approach between the Local Action Plan partnership group, existing initiatives and new programs ensuring linkages where</p>

		<p>Ensure communication pathways to share information and support new initiatives</p>	<p>Key stakeholders Schools & tertiary institutions</p>	<p>appropriate</p> <p>Communication processes in place</p> <p>Information easily accessible</p> <p>Strategies implemented to support new initiatives</p>
	<p>Develop joint health promotion strategies to support an integrated approach to minimising alcohol misuse in the community</p>	<p>Conduct consultation to identify needs</p> <p>Participate in, and inform Bendigo Loddon PCP integrated health promotion planning</p>	<p>Key stakeholders</p>	<p>Bendigo Loddon PCP Integrated Health Promotion Plan evidences Alcohol misuse as a key priority. Joint strategies developed and implemented</p>

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Objective	Strategies	Actions	Partners/Stakeholders	Outcomes
<p>Develop alcohol education initiatives that target young people between the ages of 14-18 years</p>	<p>Identify key stakeholders</p> <p>Establish working group to oversee the development and delivery of the initiatives</p> <p>Develop the parameters of the initiatives</p>	<p>Convene a workshop to identify a planned approach to the development of initiatives and encourage participation</p> <p>Consider and scope the following:</p> <p>a. Secondary supply of alcohol</p> <p>b. Party Safe (party registration program with Police)</p> <p>c. Your Choice (diversion initiative for under age drinkers)</p> <p>d. AOD free events</p> <p>e. Know Before You Go (information sessions for 17 yr olds prior to legal age access to licensed venues)</p> <p>f. Safest Ride</p>	<p>Tertiary Schools</p> <p>Young People</p> <p>Police</p> <p>Legal Services</p> <p>BCHC</p> <p>CoGB</p> <p>YSAS</p> <p>BHCG</p> <p>Parents</p> <p>Safer Community Forum</p> <p>Media</p> <p>Other identified Stakeholders</p>	<p>Key stakeholders have an organisational commitment to the LAP</p> <p>Working group established</p> <p>Workshop convened</p> <p>Initiatives identified</p> <p>Community education calendar of events developed</p>

<p>Develop alcohol education initiatives that target young people between the ages of 18-25 years</p>	<p>Identify and pursue funding</p> <p>Develop an integrated community education plan inclusive of an implementation plan and evaluation framework</p>	<p>Scope funding opportunities</p> <p>Prepare submissions</p> <p>Implementation plan developed</p> <p>Methodology for evaluation determined</p>	<p>Tertiary schools Young people Police Legal services BCHS CoGB YSAS BHCG Licensees Accident and Emergency Ambulance Safe Community Forum Media Sports Focus Sporting Clubs Other Community Health Centres Other identified stakeholders</p>	<p>Funding opportunities identified</p> <p>Number of submissions prepared</p> <p>Community Education initiatives successfully funded</p> <p>At least three community education initiatives implemented and evaluated</p> <p>Findings of evaluations disseminated</p>
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HEALTH PROMOTION

Objective	Strategies	Actions	Partners/Stakeholders	Outcomes
<p>Enable provision of contemporary interventions for young people and parents that promote safe and healthy drinking practices</p>	<p>Develop an evidence lead peer education model for young people and parents</p> <p>Promote 'healthy drinking' practices</p> <p>Improve community understanding of the effects of binge drinking</p>	<p>Consult with stakeholders to establish and facilitate focus groups targeting young people and parents</p> <p>Inform evidence lead peer education models for young people based on the focus group feedback</p> <p>Establish a relationship with a university to evaluate evidence lead peer education models for young people and parents</p> <p>Distribute information through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe Community Forum • Schools • Tertiary Education Faculties • Workplaces • Licensed Premises • Sporting Clubs 	<p>PCP</p> <p>Stakeholders</p> <p>Project Worker</p> <p>Senior Secondary Schools</p> <p>Parent & Teacher Associations</p> <p>Parent Support Groups</p> <p>Latrobe</p> <p>BRIT</p> <p>Council</p> <p>Bendigo Health</p> <p>Casa</p> <p>Ease</p>	<p>Development, delivery and evaluation of evidence lead peer education model to promote healthy drinking practices</p> <p>Research partnership in place</p> <p>Report compiled and disseminated</p>

<p>Ensure health promoting interventions aimed at promoting safe and healthy drinking practices are key priorities for the BGO Loddon PCP</p>	<p>Gather and present evidence to inform planning</p> <p>Participate in the development of the Bgo Loddon PCP Integrated Health Promotion Plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health & Welfare Agencies <p>Utilise literature review and findings of needs analysis joint development of strategies</p>		<p>Documentation made available to PCP planning group</p> <p>Members of the LAP partnership group actively participating in BGO Loddon PCP Health promotion Working Group</p>
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SERVICE COORDINATION

Objective	Strategies	Actions	Partners/Stakeholders	Outcomes
Develop a communication and referral pathway across local service providers to enhance service capacity across the catchment	Use the outcome of service mapping to inform the communication and referral pathways placing clients at the centre of the process	<p>Develop the PCP Service Coordination tool to guide the development of processes to support intake, response, assessment and referral between alcohol services delivered locally</p> <p>Develop evaluation strategy to monitor and review process</p>	<p>Stakeholder Group</p> <p>Stakeholder Group and Service Providers</p>	<p>Alcohol Access to Services Directory established for BGO Loddon</p> <p>Agreed consistent referral between services in place and functioning</p> <p>Evaluation complete, findings disseminated</p>