

**STRATEGY FOR THE PREVENTION  
OF AND TREATMENT FOR  
HARMFUL DRUG AND ALCOHOL  
USE**

**For the Premier's Coordinating  
Forum**

**28 July 2010**

# **INTRODUCTION**

**The Western Cape has the highest rate of drug related crime in South Africa (nearly half of all South Africa's drug related crime)**

# INTRODUCTION

Reported Cases						
Province	2003/2004	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009
Eastern Cape	7,893	9,061	7,511	7,231	8,003	8,437
Free State	3,550	4,063	5,074	5,462	4,525	4,561
Gauteng Province	9,195	10,471	13,753	12,256	12,348	13,338
KwaZulu-Natal	13,599	19,290	23,206	26,228	24,100	23,819
Limpopo	1,706	1,786	1,977	2,178	3,198	3,316
Mpumalanga	1,314	1,714	1,794	2,068	1,770	1,642
North West Province	3,350	4,634	5,502	6,085	7,004	7,345
Northern Cape	2,142	2,550	2,085	2,114	2,201	1,933
Western Cape	19,940	30,432	34,788	41,067	45,985	52,781
RSA	62,689	84,001	95,690	104,689	109,134	117,172

Crime Ratio per 100 000 of the population						
Province	2003/2004	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009
Eastern Cape	114.2	131.4	109.0	104.9	115.9	128.2
Free State	119.6	138.4	171.8	184.6	152.9	158.5
Gauteng Province	101.1	114.1	147.4	128.7	127.5	127.7
KwaZulu-Natal	139.6	197.2	235.7	264.3	240.7	235.7
Limpopo	32.0	33.6	37.0	40.6	59.2	62.9
Mpumalanga	37.8	49.7	51.7	59.0	50.1	45.7
North West Province	100.3	138.2	165.3	180.3	206.4	214.5
Northern Cape	200.8	238.0	193.3	193.1	199.7	171.7
Western Cape	443.2	666.6	749.4	864.8	950.1	1,003.1
RSA	135.1	180.3	204.1	220.9	228.1	240.7

Drug related Crime – from SAPS Records

# INTRODUCTION

***It costs local, provincial and national government more money to do nothing about drug and alcohol abusers, or to only arrest/imprison and later release them, than to provide prevention, treatment and other interventions to break the cycle of drug and alcohol misuse***

# **The Costs of Harmful Drug and Alcohol Use**

- 1) Time and money of the police, NPA, courts and Correctional Services to prosecute crime**
- 2) lost investment opportunities due to crime, public nuisance and social decay**
- 3) Cost in healthcare (illness, injury, harms to mental health, HIV/AIDS due to risky sex, Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders)\***

\* (e.g. GF Jooste Hospital – 3600 drug trauma admissions per year, and sharp increase in youth admissions to PGWC mental health wards. 50% of all cases in PGWC mental health wards are drug related)

# **Cost in lives: Alcohol and Homicide by SAPS station 2001-2005**

<b>SAPS Station</b>	<b>Total Murders</b>	<b>% alcohol positive</b>
<b>Khayelitsha</b>	<b>1,592</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>Philippi</b>	<b>609</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>Gugulethu</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>Nyanga</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>Mitchells Plain</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Kraaifontein</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>Delft</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>Langa</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>Elsies River</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>Bishop Lavis</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>53</b>

# TOTAL COST

- Total cost to Local, Provincial and National government of Drug and Alcohol related injury, crime and illness **in Western Cape alone**

**= over R6bn per year**

# WHAT CAN GOVERNMENT DO?

- **Reduce supply of drugs:** Putting dealers and producers behind bars. Enforcement of the Liquor Act will help regulate liquor supply
- **Reducing demand for drugs:** through education, prevention, harm reduction and treatment
- **All three spheres of government (local, provincial and national) can be involved**



# WHAT CAN GOVERNMENT DO?

## Legislation:

- Constitution of the Republic
- Drugs and Drug Trafficking Act, 1992 (Act 140 of 1992)
- National Drug Master Plan 2005 – 2010
- Prevention and Treatment of Drug Dependency Act, 1992 (Act No 20 of 1992)
- Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse Act (No. 70 of 2008)

# NATIONAL SPHERE

- **Main role in terms of legislation = *Supply Reduction* through Criminal Justice System (SAPS, NPA, Courts Correctional Services)**
- There are currently 30 000 drug related criminal cases on the Western Cape Provincial Court Roll
- The Department of Justice Western Cape has introduced a Priority Crimes Court to speed up these prosecutions
- The Province has requested the SAPS to focus on putting dealers and manufacturers behind bars
- The Province has requested the NPA to focus on diverting drug users and minor offenders into rehabilitation programmes instead of jail, via provincial probation services
- **Also sets norms and standards for services and allocates funding to Provinces for these services**

# PROVINCIAL SPHERE

- **Provincial Government has formally approved a Strategy blueprint to address substance abuse in the Western Cape as part of the PGWC Modernisation programme**
- **The Blueprint contains:**
  - Research review
  - Review of Province's response to date (with audit of existing services)
  - Plan to shift the current situation toward international best practice, including:
    - a list of institutional changes and policy shifts needed (Framework)
    - a list of strategic objectives and targets (Strategy)

# PROVINCIAL SPHERE - REDUCING SUPPLY

- The Western Cape Liquor Act will strengthen regulation of liquor sales. It will rely on effective enforcement.
- Traffic police can also assist with random alcohol testing of drivers on the roads. Province has run pilot project with Drager alcohol breath testing machines. Success will depend on a test case being won in court.

# **PROVINCIAL SPHERE – REDUCING DEMAND**

- **In terms of the Provincial Strategy:**
  - **Education programmes for all young people, and more intensive education in high risk communities**
  - **Brief counselling sessions with people caught experimenting, especially young people**
  - **Outpatient counselling (regular day visits each week to a rehab programme, for problem drug or alcohol users)**
  - **Residential rehab for serious cases where person cannot function normally in society**
  - **Psychiatric care and detoxification (for seriously addicted and potentially mentally ill individuals)**
  - **Aftercare, support groups and sober living accomodation for recovering persons who have exited treatment**

# PROVINCIAL SPHERE - KEY POLICY SHIFTS IN NEW STRATEGY

Among others:

1. interdepartmental and intergovernmental co-ordination
2. baseline research and information management for targeted interventions
3. Focus on prevention – targeting younger people, sooner to avoid progression into more severe addiction
4. Evidence-based interventions (i.e. tried and tested methods, with clear outcomes)
5. Linking programs for maximum impact – seamless services (including IT based case management)
6. Focus on aftercare where rehabilitation has been implemented, in order to reduce relapse rates and costs
7. Proper performance management of all projects, and funding of NPOs based on outcomes
8. Major overall increase of capacity of services (3200 rehabilitation opportunities this year) and human resource capacity (recruitment drive of social workers, and universities to introduce specialised course on substance abuse from 2011, in partnership with PGWC)

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROLE

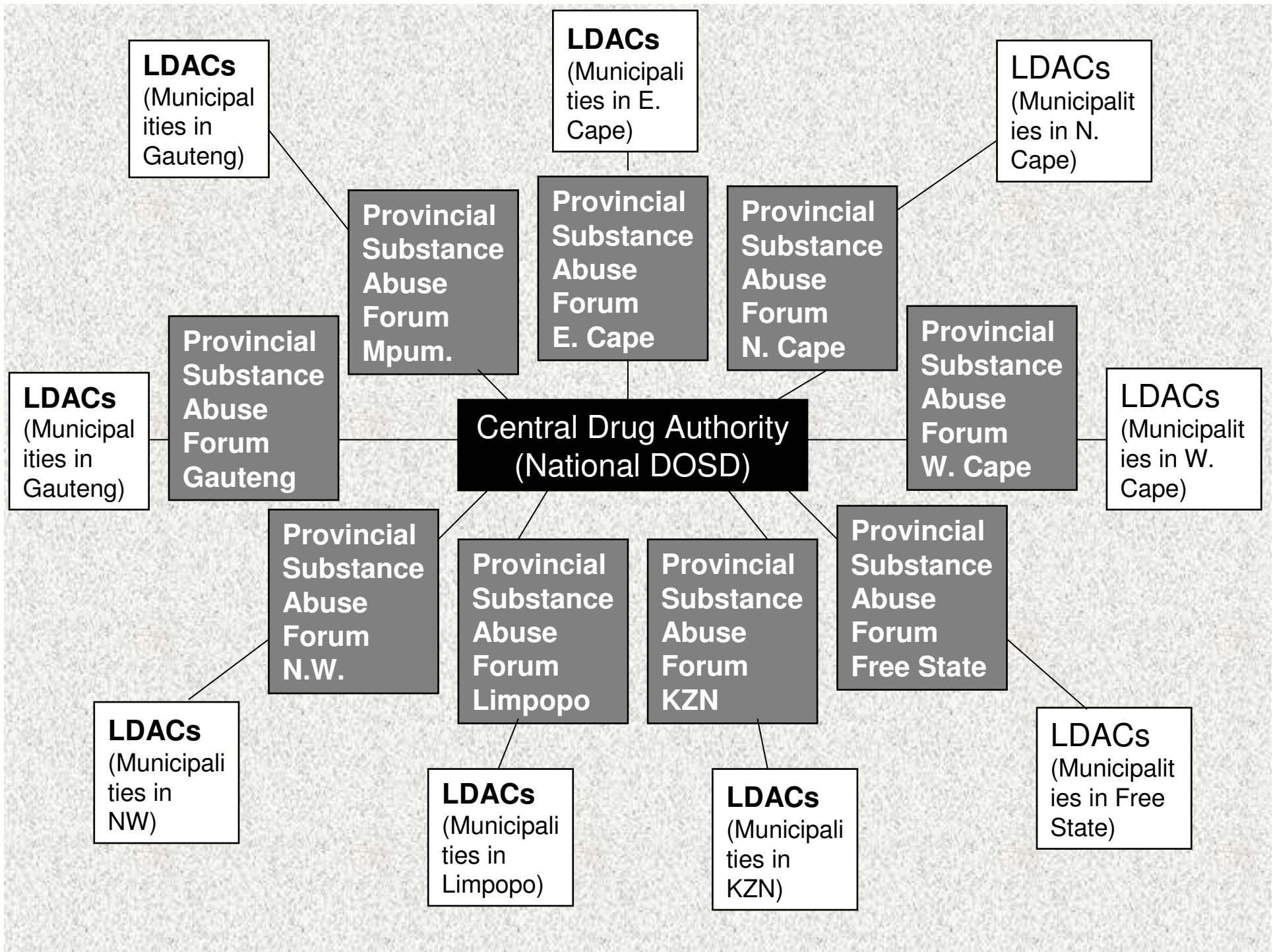
**In regions facing high rates of harmful alcohol and drug use it is recommended that the Municipality concerned:**

- Designate a lead official to co-ordinate prevention of and treatment for alcohol and drug abuse in municipality
- Draw up local government strategy for prevention of and treatment for alcohol and drug abuse, in consultation with the Provincial and/or National Government
- Establish Local Drug Action Committee for the municipality as a task team to guide municipal resource allocation and liaise with Provincial Government Substance Abuse Forum

\* [Sections 60 and 61 in *the Prevention of and Treatment for Substance Abuse Act (2008)* and Chapter 4 of the *National Drug Master Plan* set out the details of LDACs, and state that LDACs are to be appointed by Mayor, and comprise municipal officials.]

**COMMUNICATION AND  
LINKS BETWEEN GOVT  
SPHERES AS ENVISAGED  
IN NATIONAL LEGISLATION**





# **Some Possible Items for Inclusion in Municipal Strategy**

## **1) In terms of the Constitution Local Government can introduce by-laws to:**

- Take action against owners of ‘problem buildings’ being used for drug dealing or illegal shebeens
- Regulate liquor trading hours
- Regulate zoning to control where liquor trading and related businesses are conducted
- Regulate public nuisance and public intoxication

# **Some Possible Items for Inclusion in Municipal Strategy**

## **2) In terms of the Constitution Local Government can provide supply reduction services, such as:**

- Establishment of Law Enforcement units to raid illegal drug and liquor outlets (e.g. City of Cape Town dog unit)
- Carry out road blocks and vehicle searches (approach courts for local warrant)
- Regulate zoning to control where liquor trading and related businesses are conducted
- Regulate public nuisance and public intoxication

# **Some Possible Items for Inclusion in Municipal Strategy**

## **3) In terms of the Constitution Local Government can provide harm and demand reduction services, such as:**

- the establishment of safe drinking environments, with area lighting, security, and safe pedestrian routes (in terms of the Local Econ Dev mandate, and in terms of Public Health)
- Provide screening, information, brief intervention and out-patient drug and alcohol rehabilitation services in Municipal Clinics where applicable (under the Constitutional mandate of Public Health and Public Nuisance). Note that National Norms and Standards will apply to these services from 2011, and that established, tried and tested treatment models should be used

**THANK YOU**