

Ana Liffey Drug Project  
Annual Report  
2017



**ANA LIFFEY**  
DRUG PROJECT

## Chairperson's Report

As always, 2017 was a busy year for the Ana Liffey Drug Project, and was a positive one despite the continuing challenges in the external environment. In terms of direct service delivery with people who use drugs, we delivered direct services in the Midwest and Dublin Regions, where we have a number of teams focused on direct service delivery. Aside from service delivery, we continued our work in drug policy, participating in projects and forums at home and abroad. We also carried out a range of support and online activities through our online and digital services team. Finally, we also continued our work on governance as we work towards full compliance with the Governance Code. As with all years, we had hellos and goodbyes throughout the organisation – and as Chair, I'd like to warmly welcome Catherine Comiskey and Jack Nolan to the organisation, both of whom joined during the year. Catherine and Jack both bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise on drug issues from the academic and policing perspectives, and the organisation will be stronger for their presence.

During 2017, the organisation undertook a strategic planning process, which was carried out with consultation input from a range of stakeholders, including people who use our services, funders and staff members. This resulted in the production of a strategic plan for the period 2018-2020 – 'Safer From Harm' – which is available to download from our website. The organisation has a work plan directed towards progressing each of the actions under our strategic plan.

As an organisation, our vision is for a society where all people affected by problem substance use are treated with dignity and respect and have access to quality services. Our mission is to work with people affected by problem substance use and the organisations that support them. We do this to reduce harm to individuals and society and to provide opportunities for development of those individuals and organisations. In carrying out this work, I'd like to express thanks to those who make it all possible. First, to our funders, who provide us with the resources we need to operate. Secondly, to all our staff and volunteers – including my fellow board members – who show so much dedication and commitment in their roles. Finally, and most importantly, to the people who we work for – those who use our services. You make the Ana Liffey what it is – thank you.

Eddie Matthews

Chairperson

## Treasurer's Report

Financially, the company recorded income of €1,986,139 in 2017, and had expenditure of €1,997,865, thereby recording a loss of €11,726 in the year. Regarding the balance sheet, at the end of the year, the company had fixed assets of €849,108 and current assets of €597,773, with current liabilities of €252,542.

In 2017, I'm pleased to note that our company financial statements were prepared in accordance with the FRS 102 Charities SORP, which we have adopted voluntarily as a matter of good practice. In addition to reporting in compliance with the charities SORP, the board keep a view on financial matters with a financial update at every board meeting as well as quarterly meetings of the Finance Sub-Committee.

The Ana Liffey Drug Project receives funding throughout the year from a number of statutory and non-statutory funders, as well as from public donations. We're very grateful to everyone who contributes to the running of the organisation.

I'd also like to express my thanks to the management team of the organisation, and in particular to Leonie Blyth, and also to our auditors, Donal Ryan and Associates, and in particular to Donal and Paula for their work during the year in ensuring the company monitors and reports accurately on financial matters.

Finally, the company's full financial statements are publicly available on our website at [www.aldp.ie](http://www.aldp.ie)

Greg Ward

Treasurer

## CEO's Report

As with previous years, 2017 brought with it change and development, both in our work on service delivery and on policy and participation.

From a service delivery perspective, we continued to develop our work on case management, with the Dublin city centre Assertive Case Management Team providing support to 59 individuals with complex and multiple needs. This service was expanded into the North East Inner City for the last quarter of 2017 – many thanks to the Dublin North East Inner City Initiative Project Implementation Board for supporting this work. Also in Dublin, our open access service provided services to over 1,000 individuals in 2017, over 350 people attended treatment groups and over 200 individuals used our needle and syringe programme. Our Midwest services had over 250 people registered in 2017; of these, 93 people accessed the case management service and 120 accessed the needle and syringe programme.

In the online environment, the drugs.ie website, which we manage on behalf of the HSE, received over 1.3m unique visits. Through the LiveHelper service, we provided support to over 700 individuals. The team also worked on a number of health promotion and harm reduction campaigns.

In terms of policy and participation, 2017 saw the end of advocacy work from previous years as well as the enhancing of our capacity to contribute to policy issues both domestically and internationally. We hosted the Dublin Drug Policy Summit in early 2017, which had attendance from drug policy experts from Ireland and beyond, and which focused on supervised injecting facilities and the adoption of a harm reducing and rehabilitative approach to possession for personal use. In May 2017, our Patron, President of Ireland Michael D. Higgins, signed into law the Misuse of Drugs (Supervised Injecting Facilities) Act 2017, something of which we are very proud as the organisation took a lead role in advocating for the enactment of this important legislation. The new Irish National Drugs Strategy – *Reducing Harm, Supporting Recovery* – was launched in July. We welcome the new strategy, and played an active role in its development. Internationally, we work with international partners on projects related to civil society engagement, and continue to be a member of the Civil Society Forum on Drugs (CSFD), an expert group to the European Commission of 45 NGOs from across Europe.

I'd like to finish by thanking everyone who contributes to making Ana Liffey what it is – our funders, our board and other volunteers, our staff, and the partner agencies with whom we work – thank you, your time, effort and support is both noticed and appreciated. Finally, and most importantly – thank you to the people who access our services – without you there is no Ana Liffey, and thank you so much for choosing to make us part of your lives.

Tony Duffin

CEO



Leonie Blyth	Finance Manager
Jacqueline Kenny	Office Administrator
Lena Kattendick	Project Worker
Evonne Mushonga	Project Worker
Rory More-O'Ferrall	Project Worker
Rebecca Doyle	Project Worker
Lauren Crook	Volunteer Coordinator
Jade McGroarty-Barry	RGN
Kay Mylrea	Project Worker
Stuart Geelon	Project Worker
Natasha Gannon	Project Worker
Catalina Vieru	ODS Team
Martina Bergin	Team Leader
Jason Sheridan	ODS Team
JM Burr	Team Leader
Miranda O'Sullivan	Project Worker
John Burke	Project Worker
Rachel Fayne	Project Worker
Peter Bennewith	Project Worker
Rachel O'Donoghue	Team Leader
John O'Meara	Project Worker
Aoife Marshall	Project Worker
Shane Laffan	Project Worker
Leanne Byrne	Project Worker
Nicki Killeen	Team Leader
Annette McManmon Kenna	Project Worker
Paul Duff	Team Leader
Pat Galligan	Project Worker
Lynn Collopy	Project Worker
Ross McNulty	Team Leader
David Oglesby	ODS Team



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CHY (Revenue) No:	6775
Registered Charity No:	20013301
Company No.:	109034

Sole Patron: Michael D. Higgins, President of Ireland