



# DRUG SAFETY

How to respond to reducing harm in Greater Dandenong



More information



<https://www.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/community-safety/reducing-alcohol-and-other-drug-related-harm>

## A harm reduction approach

Harm reduction is about reducing the negative health, social and economic consequence of drug use for the user, their families and the wider community, and encouraging safer behaviours through safer settings.

Alcohol and drug service support are available. Treatment and support services are effective in reducing risky alcohol and drug use.

## Reducing harm in our community

### Prevention and early intervention

Prevention and early intervention address issues before they become a serious problem.

*Prevention* focuses on stopping problems before they start. This can include education and awareness programs, community support services and policy changes.

*Early intervention* involves identifying and addressing problems early to prevent them from getting worse. This includes screening and assessments to spot issues, access to support services like counseling, educational support, families and caregivers support to manage the problems more effectively.

### Pharmacotherapy

Pharmacotherapy is the use of legally prescribed medications to treat or manage health conditions, including addiction. Increasing access to pharmacotherapy helps to reduce drug dependence and reduce the health, social and economic harms to individuals and the community.

### Community based treatment and support programs

#### Needle and Syringe Program (NSP)

NSPs reduce harm by providing safer alternatives, education and support for individuals who use drugs. NSPs provide access to treatment and are designed to reduce the sharing of injecting equipment by providing sterile needles and syringes. This is a cost-effective way that has successfully prevented the spread of HIV and Hepatitis C infection.




#### Secure Dispensing Units (SDU)

SDU is a vending machine providing 24/7 access to free or low-cost injecting equipment and disposal containers.

## Services available in the City of Greater Dandenong

### Needle and Syringe Program

#### Monash Health Community




		
122 Thomas Street, Dandenong, 3175	Open 9:00am to 5:00pm Monday to Friday	9792 7631

### Secure Dispensing Unit locations (self-service)

#### Monash Health Community

		
55 Buckingham Ave, Springvale VIC 3171	24 Hour self service	8558 9000
		
122 Thomas Street, Dandenong, VIC 3175	5pm - 9am Monday - Friday 24 hours Saturday and Sunday	9792 7631



#### Dandenong Hospital

		
135 David St, Dandenong VIC 3175	24 Hour self service	9554 1000

## Other local services for treatment and support




Youth Support + Advocacy Services (YSAS)

 26 McCrae Street Dandenong, VIC 3175  9701 3488



SECADA

 314a Thomas St, Dandenong VIC 3157  1800 142 536



DirectLine

 1800 888 236

### How to report discarded syringes in public places?

To get syringes cleaned up report their location to Council Customer Service on 8571 1000.

### How to report drug dealing or other crimes?

To report a crime, share crime information with Crime Stoppers Victoria:

- submit an online report at <https://www.crimestoppersvic.com.au>
- call 1800 333 000

If anyone is in danger, a crime is currently occurring, or you need immediate police attendance, please call **000**.