

DUNDEE DRUG MISUSE COMMISSION

Commission Members - Biographies

This document provides short biographies of all the confirmed (professional) members of the newly formed Dundee Drug Misuse Commission. In addition, there will be several individuals joining the Commission who have lived experience of substance misuse as well as family members and carers of substance users.

Dr Robert Peat (Chair)

Robert graduated from the University of Strathclyde in 1980 with a BA (2:1) in Sociology and Administration. He obtained his PhD from the University of Aberdeen in 1984.

Retired from the Scottish Care Inspectorate (May 2016) where he had worked for 3 years. Robert was the Director of Inspection and latterly the Executive Adviser to the Board of the Inspectorate.

A social worker for over 30 years Robert's main career was in Local Government in the Tayside area of Scotland. He became Director of Social Work and Health with Angus Council in 2003 and from 2006 was also the Depute Chief Executive of the Council, a role he fulfilled alongside his duties as Director of Social Work and Health. Robert left Angus Council in 2013 at a point when the Council was undertaking a major reorganisation.

Robert was Chair of the Angus Alcohol and Drug Partnership for ten years from 2003 until 2013.

Robert was appointed as a Non- Executive Member of NHS Tayside Board and took up this position on 1st January 2017. This is a 4year appointment.

Robert is currently working as a consultant with Support in Mind Scotland and is also a member of an Expert Panel with the Commissioner for Older People (Northern Ireland).



Prof Alex Baldacchino

Professor Baldacchino is Professor in Medicine, Psychiatry and Addictions at the St Andrews University, Scotland, UK. He was awarded membership with the UK Royal College of Psychiatrists (MRCPsych) in 1994, Fellowship with the UK Royal College of Psychiatrists (FRCPsych) in 2007 and Fellow with the Royal College of Physicians (Edinburgh) (FRCPE) in 2017.

Since 2001 he has, along his academic career, also worked with NHS Scotland as a Senior Consultant Psychiatrists and Clinical Director in Addiction Medicine and in 2015 NHS Fife Research and Development (R&D) Director. He is President Elect and Executive Board Member for the International Society of Addiction Medicine (ISAM). His research portfolio have a common thread of understanding the comorbid conditions (physical and psychological) arising as a result of chronic abuse of pharmacological agents with dependence potential especially opioids, nicotine and alcohol. He has around 150 peer reviewed publications. He is also Honorary Professor with the University of Dundee and City of Dundee Ambassador.



Dr Andrew Fraser

Andrew Fraser is Director of Public Health Science with NHS Health Scotland. He was Director of Public Health in NHS Highland from 1994-97, Deputy Chief Medical Officer in the Health Department of the Scottish Office, then Scottish Executive from 1997-2003. He was responsible for advice on Public Health Policy. From 2003-2012, he worked in the Scottish Prison Service as Director of Health and Care, where he also worked with WHO to improve prisoner's health. His current focus is on public health reform, and ways to tackle health inequalities in Scotland.



Prof Eilish Gilvarry FRCPsych MRCGP FRCPI DCh DObs

Eilish Gilvarry is a Consultant Psychiatrist in Addictions at Newcastle Addictions Service, Professor of Addiction Psychiatry at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne and has been involved with UK addictions services over many years. She has been Clinical Director of Specialist Services and Forensic Services until 2016 at Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust (NTW) and currently is Deputy Medical Director for Appraisal and Revalidation at NTW.



She chaired the Executive Committee of the Royal College of Psychiatrists Addictions Faculty (2004-08) and was involved with a number of working parties: member of the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) guidelines on opiate detoxification (2007), NICE guidelines on clinical management of alcohol related physical complications (2010-11), NICE guidelines on management of alcohol harm and dependence (2011), member of the review of 'Orange' clinical management guidelines with the Department of Health and

Public Health England (PHE) published 2017. She is Chair of the review of the "Blue Book" - Substance Misuse Detainees in Police Custody: Guidelines for Clinical Management (2017-2018). In 2010 she chaired a review of injectable treatment for drug users. She also reviewed deaths in prison (2011-13), this review of practice standards in prisons informed the review of the section on custodial care included in "Orange" guidelines. She has a particular interest in young people and use of substances and has been involved in research and lecturing on this subject.

Chair of the Secretary of State for Transport's Advisory Committee on drugs and alcohol and a member of the expert panel which produced the report "Driving Under The Influence Of Drugs" (2013), Eilish continues to advise on this issue. She has edited a number of books, published widely in scientific journals and is currently involved in research particularly with young people and brief interventions for alcohol misusers. She is also an Assessor and Medical Supervisor with the General Medical Council and other regulatory authorities.

John Goldie

John Goldie qualified as a Registered Mental Health Nurse in 1988, working in Glasgow until retiring in 2017. During this time John set up needle exchange services in Gorbals and Pollok areas of Glasgow in the early 1990's. He started in the newly commission Glasgow Drug Problem Service in 1995, Offering the first Opiate Replacement Therapy service across the Glasgow City.



In the 1999 John joined the Homeless Addiction Team in Glasgow as service manager as part of the cities hostel closure and reprovion programme. In the early 2000's John became Community Addiction Manger in the newly formed integrated Glasgow Addiction Service working in Easterhouse and later becoming Head of Addiction services for South Glasgow in 2005 until his retirement. During this time, he was Glasgow City strategic lead for Recovery and Employability and along with colleagues was central to reviewing of Glasgow services and their move to creating recovery-oriented systems of care. John's clear and committed to the requirement that recovery needs to be central to all care and treatment and has promoted asset-based care for the last 10 years. Introducing lived experience into service delivery as an essential component alongside integrated health and social care professionals.

John was the Chair of the Scottish Recovery Consortium from 2014 to 2017 and is still the Chair of the South Glasgow Recovery Network.

John is also an advisor on the board of FASS Glasgow family support group.

Most recently John has just completed an independent review of Renfrewshire Alcohol Drugs Services commissioned by Renfrewshire Heath and Social Care Partnership and Renfrewshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership.

Cllr Kevin Kennan

Kevin Keenan is currently Leader of the Labour Group on Dundee City Council, Chair of the Scrutiny Committee.

Kevin's back-ground is in engineering and for over 30 years his employment involved him in the manufacturing, supply and installation of power equipment within the electricity supply industry.

He is now the Manager of ATM RC Limited, a growing Arbroath based company that is involved in the upgrade and refurbishment of ATMs and there component parts. Supplying and supporting customers from the worldwide financial industry

Kevin was first elected to Dundee City Council in May 1997. He was re-elected for a second term in 2003 to present representing the multi-member Ward of Strathmartine.



During his time on Dundee City Council and in Local Government he has held various positions including:-

- Leader of the Council
- Chair of the Waterfront Board
- Chair of the Dundee Partnership
- Member of Scottish Enterprise Tayside Advisory Board
- Convener of Education
- Convener of Communities
- Chair of CoSLA Audit Committee
- Former CoSLA Capacity & Resources spokesperson

Kevin has a keen interest in partnership working to improve health outcomes and address life and health inequalities.

Eric Knox

Eric is currently the CEO of Volunteer Dundee taking up the role in May 2017. Prior to this he spent 30 years with Tayside Police working in a variety of roles mainly within the Criminal Investigation Department. In the early 2000's he was seconded to the newly formed Scottish Drug Enforcement Agency (SDEA) responsible for the Drug Strategy Unit. He oversaw the production of two National Drugs Death Reports and 4 strategic assessments for the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPOS)



on drug use in Scotland working closely with Glasgow University. Latterly he was the Director of Crime Policy within Tayside Police HQ Crime and responsible for the implementation of the Scottish Governments Community Disclosure for Sex Offenders across Scotland. On retirement in 2011 he took up the role of Director of Tayside Council on Alcohol (TCA) the leading third sector organisation across Tayside in supporting individuals who have issues with alcohol. He led the organisation for 6 years. He was heavily involved in creating mentoring and peer support for individuals in recovery who are also involved in the criminal justice system across Tayside. During this period, he was the third sector representative on two of the three ADPs across Tayside and chaired the Angus ADP for three years until he took up his current role.

Dave Liddle OBE

David leads the SDF staff team. He has worked for Scottish Drugs Forum since its inception in 1986 and in the field of drugs, alcohol and homelessness for over 35 years in England, Ireland and Scotland. He served on the UK Government's Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs from 2008 until 2017. He is a Board Member of the national anti-poverty network in Scotland, The Poverty Alliance.



He was a key player in the development of harm reduction services in Scotland, advocating the introduction of needle exchanges and substitute prescribing programmes. Since the creation of the Scottish Parliament in 1999, he has been a Secretary to the Cross Party Group on Alcohol and Drug Misuse. He pioneered approaches to the involvement of people with experience of drug problems in influencing the planning and delivery of services – particularly through SDF's peer research approach. An active member of the European Civil Society Forum on Drugs, David is a

regular media commentator on issues relating to problematic drugs use in Scotland. He has contributed to a number of publications on drug use in Scotland. David was made Officer of Order of the British Empire (OBE) in the Queen's 2012 Birthday Honours for services to disadvantaged people in Scotland.

Simon Little

Simon has extensive experience in the fields of Housing and Homelessness, Health and Social Care. He knows Dundee well, having spent his early career with the Council's Housing Division and also managing a community project in Whitfield.

He was an Associate to Figure 8's Substance Misuse Prevention research and subsequent drafting of a Substance Misuse Prevention strategy for Dundee; both commissioned by the Alcohol and Drug Partnership.

He combines his social research work with being: a Non-Executive Board Member of NHS Fife, Chair of Fife Health and Social Care Partnership, a Non-Executive Board Member of The Scottish Housing Regulator and a General Member of The Mental Health Tribunal for Scotland.



Jean Logan

Jean Logan is Associate Director of Pharmacy, Community Care, NHS Forth Valley. She has a broad range of pharmacy experience with expertise in substance misuse and mental health.

Her pharmacy degree was obtained from Heriot Watt University and Masters in Psychiatric Pharmacy at De Montford University. She is a previous chair of the Scottish Specialist Pharmacists in Substance Misuse and member of the Scottish Mental Health Pharmacy Strategy Group.



Cllr Ken Lynn

Ken Lynn has been a councillor since 2007 and is the current chair of the Dundee IJB. He has lived in the city for over 20 years and has had a long career working with homeless people, many of whom have issues with drugs and alcohol. The damage he has witnessed caused by substance use is his primary motivation for involvement in the commission and he wants to see better outcomes in terms of prevention, recovery and harm reduction. He has been vocal in his desire to see changes which will make a difference to Dundee's drug deaths toll.



Susie Mertes

Suzie Mertes was born and raised in Forfar. She studied at Dundee University and holds 2 degrees, an MA (Hons) in English and Political Science and an LLB and has completed the Diploma in Legal Practice.

Suzie Mertes joined Tayside Police in 1995 and early in her probation joined the Accelerated Career Development Programme, when she was promoted to Operational Sergeant in 1998.

Postings to the Control Room, CID and the Scottish Police College followed.

She worked as an Operational Inspector at Forfar before joining the G8 Summit planning team and undertaking key planning and Operational Command of key elements of the G8 Summit held at Gleneagles in 2005.

She undertook the role of the Staff Officer to the Assistant and Deputy Chief Constables and on temporary promotion to Chief Inspector headed up the Business Support Department,



responsible for all ICT projects in Tayside. While a Chief Inspector she established the Forensic Gateway in Dundee and oversaw the transition of ICT and forensic services to the SPSA.

In 2009 she was appointed as the Chief Inspector responsible for operational policing in Dundee, a post she held for 3 years.

Immediately prior to the creation of Police Scotland Suzie led on the internal and external engagement strands to decide the new force's Visions and Values.

In 2014, she was Operational Commander for the fourth time at the T in the Park music festival and Deputy Lead Planner and Operational Commander for the Ryder Cup. She is a trained and accredited as a Public Order Silver Commander, a role she undertakes frequently across Scotland.

In 2015 she was appointed as Superintendent Support in Tayside Division, responsible for all corporate and personnel functions.

For the last year has been the Superintendent responsible for Partnerships and Performance and is a member of the Police Scotland Tayside Division Command Team.

Justina Murray

Justina joined Scottish Families Affected by Alcohol and Drugs as CEO in June 2017. This followed seven years as Chief Officer of South West Scotland Community Justice Authority (CJA), a formal partnership aiming to reduce reoffending across Ayrshire and Dumfries and Galloway. This included holding the national CJA portfolio for children and families affected by the justice system. Prior to this Justina was the Coordinator of North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership, following on from roles in public policy, equal employment opportunities and research in Scotland and New Zealand.



Professor Niamh Nic Daeid BSc BA PhD FRSE FRSC CChem FICI FCSFS

Professor Niamh Nic Daeid is Director of the Leverhulme Research Centre for Forensic Science and the Forensic Drug Research Group, both at the University of Dundee. She is a forensic chemist specialising in the clandestine manufacture and characterisation of drugs of abuse as well as other areas of forensic chemistry including fire investigation and the analysis of explosives. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and



holds Fellowships with the Royal Society of Chemistry, the Institute of Chemistry of Ireland, the Royal Statistical Society and the Chartered Society for Forensic Science. She is a Chartered Chemist, is authorised as a Forensic Chemist to provide expert evidence to the courts and is registered as a forensic expert with the National Crime Agency. She has provided expert evidence in many high profile cases and is an expert witness for the Grenfell Tower public inquiry.

She has held leadership positions with the European Network of Forensic Science Institutes (ENFSI) and has been the technical coordinator for forensic chemistry for the INTERPOL forensic science symposium. Prof Nic Daeid chaired the INTERPOL symposium in 2016. She is the current Vice Chair of the scientific advisory board of the International Criminal Court and has acted as an advisor to the United Nations on aspects of New Psychoactive Substances. She is also the recipient of a range of technology and innovation awards, has published over 200 peer reviewed research papers and book chapters and holds a research grant portfolio in excess of £13 million.

John Owens

John Owens has over 40 years' experience in public service in both the statutory and voluntary sector. Educated to degree level with Diploma in Social Work from Moray House and MSc in Criminal Justice from Edinburgh University, he has worked in North Lanarkshire, Glasgow, East Dunbartonshire and Argyll and Bute. Following a grounding in generic social work in North Lanarkshire he moved to Glasgow where he spent the majority of his career working in the Drumchapel and Govan areas of Glasgow as Area Manager and ultimately as Head of Health and Community Care in South West Glasgow. He was employed by East Dunbartonshire as Head of Childrens Services and Criminal Justice prior to early retirement.



In the early 90s, he managed the Social Work Unit in HMP Barlinnie and led the introduction of the Drug Unit for those working to reduce their use of drugs as part of their rehabilitation. Collaboration and partnership working has been a constant feature of his philosophy and approach throughout his career. This initiative sat alongside the award winning Open Doors Project supporting those with mental health problems. His partnership approaches were recognised by CoSLA and SSSC with awards in 1998 and 2011 for a community regeneration/development project and a Prevention of Homelessness Service.

Justice and Equalities have been key values in his practice and following early retirement he accepted voluntary directorships with Govan Law Centre and Deafblind Scotland which provided a valuable insight into Third Sector organisations. For the last three years he has enjoyed the role of Independent Chair of Argyll and Bute's Alcohol and Drug Partnership bringing together partners from the Statutory and Third Sector alongside those in recovery and with lived experience of the impact of alcohol and drugs on individuals, families and communities. He remains passionate about community development and continues to describe himself as a Community Social Worker.

Dr Tessa Parkes

Tessa has experience in the statutory and non-statutory health, social care and housing/homelessness sectors as a front-line support worker, team leader and mental health nurse, and has provided consultancy and training to a wide variety of organisations focused on service improvement to better meet the needs of healthcare users. Tessa has a track record of creating positive impact on policy and practice through research. For 20 years her research activity has centred on enhancing the experience of people who use health/social care services, with a clear commitment to social justice, health equity and advocacy for poorly serviced groups, with a specialism in mental health and substance use. Moving research evidence into action is a central focus for her, including use of participatory film-making. She is Research Director for the new Salvation Army Centre for Addiction Services and Research in the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Stirling. She sits on the Partnership for Action on Drugs in Scotland Executive Group and is Deputy Convenor for the Drugs Research Network for Scotland hosted at the University of Stirling.



Hazel Robertson

Hazel Robertson has been employed as a social worker within a local authority setting since 1986. In 1990, she was appointed to a specialist post focusing on Drugs and HIV. From 1992, as Senior Social Worker, she managed the Tayside Social Work HIV/AIDS service and latterly, (from 1999) also managed the Social Work Drug and Alcohol services in Dundee City Council. In 2004, she was appointed as Principal Officer for Community Care within Angus Council where she had responsibility for the strategic planning and development of Community Care services and had a lead role for Drugs and Alcohol services. From 2008 she also managed Children and Families Intake services in Angus. In 2011 she was invited to become a member of the Drugs Strategy Delivery Commission CAPSM task group. Hazel has been a Board Member of Scottish Drugs Forum since 2011 and has had a career long interest in the needs of children affected by substance misuse. She is currently employed as Service Manager in Perth and Kinross Council in Services for Children, Young People and Families.



Jardine Simpson

I have been in recovery for 10 years from problematic substance use. In that decade I have worked as Scottish National Coordinator for SMART Recovery, a service and community based mutual aid organisation. During my 5 years with SMART I worked with most Scottish ADPs and the services within these localities to build the National SMART Recovery Meeting Network. From 2015 to 2018 I worked across Forth Valley ADPs to develop then manage Forth Valley Recovery Community. FVRC is a peer led and delivered Visible Recovery Community working in parallel and close collaboration with locality service providers. In October of 2018 I took up the post of Chief Executive of The Scottish Recovery Consortium.

SRRC supports, advocates on behalf of and represents people with lived and living experience of problematic substance use and service engagement. I am passionate about making recovery more accessible to more people across Scotland. A significant part of this journey for many people is through treatment and support



The Drug Misuse Commission is being supported by Figure 8 Consultancy. The Director of Figure 8 (Andy Perkins) is responsible for setting up and facilitating the work of the Commission, including the provision of support to the Chair of the Commission and collation of evidence briefings for all members. Figure 8 will also be using Peer Research approaches to help capture and represent evidence from those with lived experience within the Commission proceedings.

Andy Perkins

Andy has 22 years' experience in the alcohol and drug field and is an expert in the evaluation and review of a wide range of policies, services and systems. As the Director of Figure 8 Consultancy, Andy has project managed over 100 contracts in the last ten years for a range of clients including health, social care and criminal justice providers (with timescales from one month to four years, including several national contracts). Andy is currently co-leading an evaluation of the impact of MUP of alcohol on Scotland's harmful drinkers and is providing ongoing advice to NHS Health Scotland and Scottish Government officials regarding the implementation of MUP in Scotland as well as to



Welsh Government officials as their MUP bill progresses through the Welsh Assembly. Over the last year he has also led a review of the Welsh Government's national alcohol and drug strategy in partnership with Glyndwr University in Wrexham. Andy is involved in two current Peer Research projects, one of which is contributing to the national 'Evaluation of Minimum Unit Pricing of Alcohol on Scotland's Harmful Drinkers' study. Additionally, Andy has recently co-authored a journal article which has been published in a special edition of the *Drugs and Alcohol Today* journal on Co-Production issues¹.

He has been responsible for a diverse range of research and evaluation projects including needs assessments, scoping exercises, process evaluations, and feasibility studies. Andy is a co-author of the Scottish Government 'Research for Recovery: A Review of the Drugs Evidence Base' study (2010). He is an experienced qualitative interviewer and is used to seeking the views of a broad range of stakeholders. As a practitioner, Andy spent 10 years managing residential and in-prison alcohol and drug treatment programmes, including registered residential services for men, women and children, and in-prison services for young offenders.

¹ **Livingston, W.** and **Perkins, A.** (2017) *Participatory action research (PAR) research: critical methodological considerations*, *Drugs and Alcohol Today*, <https://doi.org/10.1108/DAT-08-2017-0035>