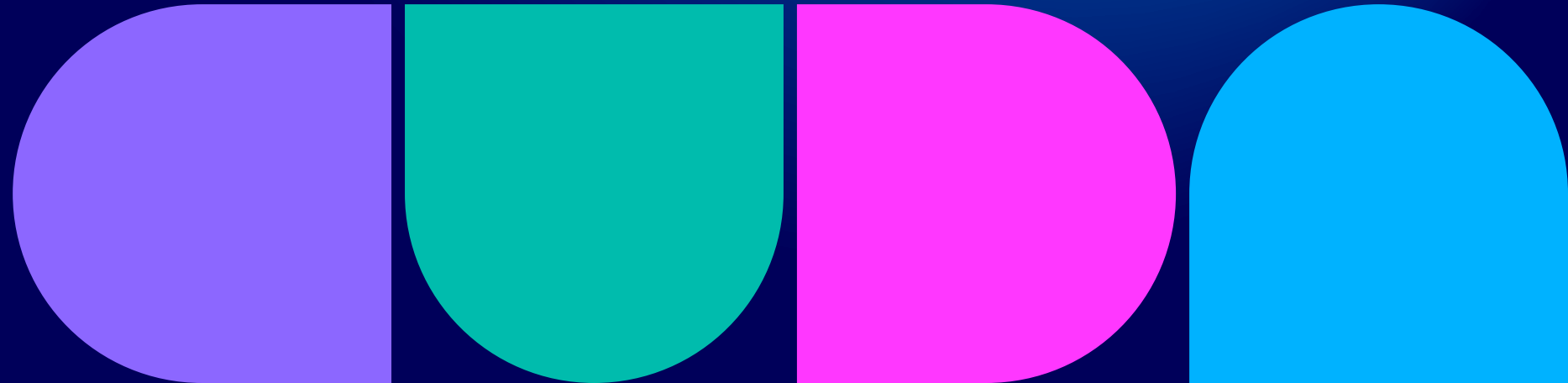


European Conference on Drug-Related Violence

This presentation was delivered at the European Conference on Drug-Related Violence on 26-27 November 2024 in Brussels. The views expressed herein can in no way be taken to reflect the official opinion of the European Union.





**Working with People Engaging in Street-Based Drug Use in Dublin City
Centre Affected by Drug-Related Violence and Intimidation**

Tony Duffin, CEO, Ana Liffey Drug Project, Ireland




AN OVERVIEW DRUG-RELATED Violence and Intimidation in Ireland

METRO NEWS

Teenager whose severed body parts were stuffed into a sports bag is named

Sam Corbishley
Published Jan 15, 2020, 11:21pm

WhatsApp X Facebook Messenger Email Print



The teenager whose dismembered remains were found in Dublin has been named as Keane Mulready-Woods (Picture: PA)

Police have vowed to bring to justice the 'brutal and savage' killers of a teenage boy whose severed head was found in a burned-out car with his limbs stuffed in a sports bag nearby.

Irish Examiner

NEWS SPORT LIFESTYLE OPINION

HOME PAGE / NEWS / COURT & CRIME

Wexford man may have been killed over drug debt

Two people, a man and a woman, have been arrested in connection with Stephen Ring's death



Stephen Ring's body was found on Sunday.

MON, 28 OCT, 2024 - 14:39
LIZ DUNPHY

Facebook WhatsApp X Print

A man whose battered body was found in a remote Wexford quarry lake may have been murdered over a drug debt, it is understood.

01 2233493 | drive@ndublinrdtf.ie

DRIVE
Drug Related Intimidation & Violence Engagement
An interagency response in Ireland



SUPPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

NON - JUDGEMENTAL

OPTIONS

YOUR CHOICE

REFERRALS

ADVICE

INFORMATION

Drug related intimidation can be devastating for families and communities. You don't have to suffer alone. **There is help.**

People who are "street-involved"

They may face unstable living conditions due to economic, social, and health-related challenges



The term encompasses people experiencing various forms of homelessness, including those at risk due to complex social and health issues like mental health conditions, substance use disorders, and a history of trauma



People who are street-involved often experience overlapping disadvantages, which can include stigma, systemic exclusion, and severe health disparities, compared to the general population



The term "street-involved" typically refers to individuals who engage in life patterns linked to homelessness, such as sleeping rough, staying in temporary accommodations, or using day centres

Street Drug Prices

Heroin



Cocaine



Tablets



DO YOU USE STREET TABLETS?

'Street tablets' are any tablets or capsules which you do not get directly from your doctor or pharmacist. It is always safest not to take drugs. If you decide to use street tablets remember:

- 1 10 mg Tablets can be 'fake' even if they look real and come in blister packs. When getting your tablets, know your source.
- 2 10 mg With street tablets, you cannot know the strength of them, even if milligrams are printed on them. Start with a test dose and give them time to take effect.
- 3 10 mg When taking tablets, it can be easy to forget how many you have taken. Do not have multiple trays on you, in case you lose or use them.
- 4 10 mg Your tolerance to tablets can increase and decrease quickly. If you notice you need to take more or less tablets to get an effect, seek help from a drug worker or doctor.
- 5 10 mg It is dangerous to suddenly stop taking tablets or try to detox on your own. If you want to get off of tablets, seek help from a drug worker or doctor.
- 6 10 mg Taking tablets can change your awareness of what is going on around you. Stay safe by staying with trusted friends in a safe environment.

For more information find the Street Tablets factsheet at www.aldp.ie/streettablets. Find a local drug service at www.nicdf.ie. For information and support from Ana Liffey Drug Project call Freephone 1800786828.

ANA LIFFEY DRUG PROJECT

"BROWN"

- €20 for .1g/.2g depending on area

CRACK | "ROCK"

- €20 for .1g/.2g depending on area

COCAINE | "FLAKE"

- €50 .5g, €100 for 1g

BENZODIAZEPINE

- D2 ("blues"): €2 for one tablet. Tub for €150
- D5 ("yellows"): €2 for one tablet. Tub for €150
- D10 ("blues"): €2 for one tablet. Tub for €150

BENZODIAZEPINE

- €10 for one tray. €100 for 12 trays

ZIMMOS | "PINKS" AND "NIKEYS"

- €10 for one tray. €100 for 12 trays

The distressing impact of drug-related intimidation and community violence on the physical, mental and emotional wellbeing of victims. Stress, despair, feelings of profound vulnerability as well as actual bodily injury were common experiences amongst communities surveyed for this research. In addition, the pressure that families, drug users and particularly mothers and young people were placed under **led to relationship breakdown, homelessness, loss of employment, financial difficulties and prolonged social isolation and alienation from their community networks** due to fear of exposure. Connolly J and Buckley L (2016)

A vicious circle - Drug-Related Violence and Intimidation can lead to, or compound, a person being street-involved...

Housing & Planning

Concern over increasing prevalence of drug-related 'cuckooing'

TD says issue common 'all over Dublin', with gardaí and housing agencies often too slow to respond



Investigations continued on Tuesday into a fatal stabbing at an apartment at Claddagh Court, Ballyfermot, that was said to have been taken over by drug users. Photograph: Colin

A troubling phenomenon, known as "cuckooing," occurs when gangs take over the homes of vulnerable individuals, using them as bases for drug preparation and distribution. This often begins subtly with supposed friendships but escalates to the tenant losing control of their home, sometimes being made responsible for drugs or enduring physical abuse if they resist. **Fear of violence or eviction forces many to abandon their homes and face/return to homelessness**

Individuals who use drugs in Dublin city centre face significant risks of violence and intimidation. This often stems from abusive partners or dominant figures on the streets who exploit individuals by taking control of their finances, coercing them into activities such as sex work, or forcing them to relinquish drugs and social welfare funds

People with reputations for violence may also coerce others into committing crimes under threat of assault

‘the code of the street’ leads to certain people being identified in an area as people to be feared, thus ensuring that any intimidation or acts of violence by them will not be reported. Connolly J and Buckley L (2016)

Such intimidation and violence contributes to isolation, with victims often avoiding essential services out of fear, increasing their vulnerability to health risks and perpetuating cycles of homelessness and addiction

People Who Are "street-involved" Affected by **DRUG- RELATED VIOLENCE** and **INTIMIDATION**



► Services

Low Threshold Nursing Services

Case Management Services

Treatment Services

Housing

► Broader policy considerations

Decriminalisation could increase access to treatment

Safe supply could reduce dependency upon the illicit market

Regulation and control could reduce dependency upon illicit market

RESPONDING TO -
People Who Are "street-involved"
Affected by Drug-Related Violence and
Intimidation



Thank you for your attention...



Tony Dufinn

CEO