# Tasmanian Drug Strategy 2021-2027

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##### Mental Health, Alcohol and Drug Directorate on behalf of the Tasmanian Interagency Drug Policy Committee

Why do so many other plans still have to be developed?

The Tasmanian Drug Strategy 2021-2027 (TDS) is deliberately high level to provide a whole-of-government and whole-of-community strategic framework to guide collaborative action and activities across agencies and organisations.

It also provides a guide for other agencies and organisations to consider the impacts of ATOD use and harm in their strategic policy responses.

The TDS will focus on just a few actions and activities. This has been done for several reasons including:

* To emphasise the overarching strategic nature and intent of the TDS.
* To allow for detailed, targeted and operational sub-plans outlining new activities and refocused or expanded initiatives across agencies and organisations collectively.
* To make sure Tasmania’s responses to ATOD use and harms are flexible, and sub-plans changed or updated as needed or in response to any changing ATOD use or harms, or as capacity changes.
* The finite resources of the Interagency Drug Policy Committee (IDPC) and the TDS Advisory Group members.

The TDS will include priority actions to increase community information and understanding of ATOD-related risk and harms drivers; to expand access to best-practice interventions and treatment services; and to build evidence to support strategic planning, policy development and evaluation.

It will also include priority actions for the specific drug types: alcohol, tobacco, pharmaceuticals and illicit drugs.

The existing Tasmanian Tobacco Control Plan will continue to be supported.

A new Tasmanian Alcohol Action Plan, a Pharmaceutical Drugs Misuse Action Plan and an Illicit Drug Action Plan are also needed.

Waiting for those sub-plans will not impede other activities, but it will be up to individual agencies and organisations to manage, and to feed into the implementation and reporting processes.

Some activities can and will be actioned immediately or are already underway:

* Development of the Tasmanian Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Action Plan
* Redevelopment of the ATOD Promotion, Prevention and Early Intervention Strategy and Implementation Plan
* Review of the Illicit Drug Diversion Initiative

The IDPC is responsible for implementation of the TDS through the TDS Advisory Group.

Development of the sub-plans will be phased over the next couple of years and will depend on the resources and capacity of member agencies and organisations.

The TDS will include an Implementation Plan with indicated timeframes.