

Curriculum vitae

Russell Webster

Personal

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date of birth 5 march 1962

Qualifications

M.A. in Social Work (Distinction)

Certificate of Qualification in Social Work

Health Education Authority Certified Trainer

Background

Following eight years working with young offenders in this country and the USA for a number of voluntary organisations and the probation service, Russell developed his consultancy work with two national voluntary organisations, **Drugscope** and **DIVERT**.

Since 1996 Russell has worked full time as an independent consultant specialising in the fields of substance misuse, crime and regeneration.

He is the author or co-author of over twenty five national publications on issues relating to drugs, alcohol and offending. He is also a Health Education Authority certified trainer.

Drugs

Russell has extensive experience in the planning, design and review of drug treatment services dating back to his work at [Drugscope](#) (then SCODA) in the early 1990s. He has undertaken well over 100 assignments, centring on three key areas:

1. **Needs assessments** - Russell has conducted assessments of the substance misuse treatment needs of young people in Westminster, Bedfordshire, Norfolk and the London Borough of Southwark. He has also carried out studies into the need for day programmes, needle exchanges, and crisis intervention services.
2. **Service planning** - Russell has helped a number of boroughs plan a complete reconfiguration of drug and alcohol treatment services. He has advised others on implementing the Government's blueprint for drug treatment, Models of care. He has also helped others to plan aftercare services.
3. **Service evaluations** - Russell has evaluated the performance of many different substance misuse treatment services. He uses evaluative criteria

drawn from the international evidence base, QuADS Standards and Models of care advice.

In all these studies, Russell prioritises gaining the views of service users and local drug and alcohol users not in treatment.

Alcohol

Russell has undertaken over 20 alcohol-specific assignments in his career as a consultant. These have covered a wide range of areas including:

- The development of alcohol strategies
- Alcohol-related crime and disorder
- Alcohol server training
- 'Wet' provision for street drinkers

In addition he has undertaken service reviews on numerous alcohol treatment services.

He has written a guide to partnership between alcohol agencies and the criminal justice system for Alcohol Concern.

He is co-author on a study of the meaning of young people's drinking for the Home Office.

He is currently completing a study with a team from ICPR to undertake research into alcohol interventions with offenders for the National Offender Management Service. The findings will be published later in 2009.

Crime

Russell is an acknowledge national expert in drugs and crime issues. He has been involved in developing and evaluating initiatives seeking to engage drug using offenders in treatment at different stages of the criminal justice system since 1992:

- He was part of the team undertaking the national evaluation of the Drugs Intervention Programme.
- He has evaluated arrest referral schemes in five DAT areas.
- He was part of the team that evaluated the pilot Drug Testing and Treatment Orders, replaced in April 2005 by Drug Rehabilitation Requirements.
- He was also one of two consultants that helped the prison service develop CARAT services in 1999.

He has also developed significant expertise in the field of drug markets, he has led or participated in seven large scale assignments in this area, mainly in partnership with the Institute for Criminal Policy Research at King's College London.

Regeneration

Russell has been involved in regeneration work since 1996 mainly as an advisor or evaluator of community or business support initiatives under the single regeneration budget, neighbourhood renewal, community regeneration and LEGI programmes (to name just a few).

Some of the key projects he has been involved in include:

- Large scale evaluation of the LEGI programme delivered by Croydon Enterprise (2008-9)
- Evaluation of a large number of LDA, ESF employment and regeneration schemes many delivered by Red Kite Learning (1996- 2009)
- Providing consultancy on monitoring and evaluation for the Bromley-by-Bow Centre, a large scale social enterprise and regeneration provider in Tower Hamlets (1996-2001)
- Capacity building work for the voluntary sector wishing to become involved in regeneration work (1996-7)

As an **independent consultant and trainer**, Russell seeks to keep at the forefront of policy and practice development while maintaining hands-on experience of work with the local voluntary sector. He balances a portfolio which includes international research studies, national policy advice and needs assessment and evaluation work with community organisations. Russell continues to specialise in multi-agency partnership work and has developed his own partnerships with several organisations including the Institute for Criminal Policy Research at King's College London, Drugscope, Policy Spotlight, and Alcohol Concern.

Skills and areas of expertise

Skills	Expertise
Conference design	Aftercare
Designing training	Alcohol-related disorder
Delivering training	Alcohol treatment
Drug market profiling	Arrest referral
Facilitation	Business Support
Feasibility studies	Coerced treatment
Literature reviews	Crack cocaine
Needs assessments	Diversity
Outcome evaluations	Drugs Intervention Programme
Policy advice	Employment schemes
Process evaluations	Family Support
Qualitative research	Loan schemes
Service reviews	Mentoring
Service specifications	Multi-agency collaboration
Service user support	Night-time economy
Team building	Probation Service
Treatment planning	Drugs in Prison User Involvement
Writing guidance	Wet Centres Young People

Clients include:

- Adfam
- Alcohol Concern
- Bromley-by-Bow Centre
- Crime Concern
- Crime Reduction Initiative
- Croydon Enterprise
- Six Drug Intervention Programmes
- The Drug Prevention Advisory Service
- Twenty five Drug Action Teams
- Twenty Probation Services
- Drugscope
- European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction
- Government Office for London
- Greater London Drug and Alcohol Alliance
- London Drug Policy Forum
- Home Office Drug Strategy Directorate
- Home Office Research, Development and Statistics Directorate
- Metropolitan Police Service
- National Offender Management Service
- National Treatment Agency
- North East London Mental Health Trust
- Pan London Community Regeneration Consortium
- Eight Primary Care Trusts
- Prison Service Drug Strategy Unit
- Youth Justice Board

Publications include:

Webster (2008) *Safer Nightlife: best practice for those concerned about drug use and the night-time economy*. London Drug Policy Forum, London.

Turnbull & Webster (2007) *Supervising crack using offenders on Drug Treatment and Testing Orders*. London: National Treatment Agency

Webster & Hough (2006) *Engaging with communities to tackle crack-related harm: a review of the literature*

Penfold, Turnbull & Webster (2005) *Tackling Prison Drug Markets: an exploratory qualitative study*. Home Office online report 39/05

Webster (2004) *The GLADA Crack Cocaine Strategy 2005-2008*. London: Greater London Drugs and Alcohol Alliance.

Webster (2004) *Vital information pack 2004: basic facts about clubs and drugs*, London Drug Policy Forum, London.

Webster (2003) *Delivering the national drug strategy in London*. Home Office, London Drug Policy Forum.

Baker, Webster et al.(2003) *Enhancing drug services*. London: Drugscope.

Webster (2001) *Drugs and the Community: what local authorities can do* London Drug Policy Forum & The Drug Prevention Initiative. London.

Webster, Hedderman, Turnbull and May (2001) *Building bridges to employment for prisoners* Home Office London HORS 226

Turnbull, Hough, McSweeney and Webster (2000) *Drug treatment and testing orders*. Home Office Research Study 212 London.

Honess, Seymour and Webster (2000) *The Social Context of Under-age drinking*. Home Office: London.

Webster (1999) *Working with black crack users in a crisis setting*. City Roads, London.

Webber, Shapiro, Hayes, Ryan & Webster (1998) *Controlled drugs: a handbook for the legal profession*. London: ISDD.