**National Drug and Alcohol Treatment Waiting Times Summary**

1 January - 31 March 2018

A National Statistics publication for Scotland

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**About this release**

This release by Information Services Division (ISD) reports on the waiting times for people accessing drug and alcohol treatment services between January and March 2018. It contains information on the number of people seen for treatment, types of treatment accessed and length of time waited. The Scottish Government’s Local Delivery Plan standard for drug and alcohol treatment states that 90% of people who need help with their drug or alcohol problem will wait no longer than three weeks for treatment that supports their recovery.

**Main Points**

- The quarterly trend over the past three years shows little change in performance. Of the 10,480 people who started their first treatment in the most recent quarter, 93.5% waited three weeks or less.
  - For the 6,091 people seeking alcohol treatment, 94.6% waited three weeks or less.
  - For the 4,389 people seeking drug treatment, 92.0% waited three weeks or less.


**Percentage of people who started drug or alcohol treatment, within three and within five weeks, for all NHS Boards, between January and March 2018**

![Bar chart showing percentage of people who started treatment within three and five weeks for each NHS Board.]

- % waited less than 3 weeks
- % waited less than 5 weeks
- 3 week standard
• At the end of this quarter, 3,124 people were waiting to start their first drug or alcohol treatment, of which 291 (9.3%) had been waiting more than six weeks. This is an increase from the same quarter last year when 133 (4.6%) people were waiting more than six weeks.

• In prisons, 914 people started their first drug or alcohol treatment between January-March 2018 with 97.9% waiting three weeks or less.

Background
The data in this publication is a snapshot of a dynamic database. This means that data for previous quarters may not be the same as found in previous publications for the same time period. Data for the most recent quarter is provisional and may be revised in future publications.

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Further Information
Find out more in the full report. The data from this publication is available to download from our web page. Other relevant ISD publications can be found here. The Scottish Public Health Observatory (ScotPHO) provides information on various aspects of drug misuse in Scotland: ScotPHO drug misuse section.

The next release of this publication will be 25 September 2018.

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