
STOP THE HURT

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ICE ACTION PLAN

The South Australian Ice Action Plan is a step towards addressing the alarming growth of crystal methamphetamine and the damaging consequences on individuals, families and communities.



Government
of South Australia

Crystal methamphetamine (known as “ice”) is the most potent form of methamphetamine. Methamphetamine use in South Australia has tripled in the past four years, with wide ranging community impacts from health to justice and child protection.

IT HURTS INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

To tackle this problem, the State Government established a Ministerial Crystal Methamphetamine Taskforce which consulted widely with the community and organisations to seek their feedback and ideas.

The Taskforce considered legislative and policy changes focusing on: interrupting the supply of drugs, identifying prevention and treatment pathways for those affected and increasing community education on the dangers of ice.

ACTIONS TO STOP THE HURT

The State Government will invest \$8 million in targeted strategies to reduce supply, increase support to families, build capacity and increase treatment. These actions will go a long way to build stronger and healthier communities where people feel safe.



REDUCING SUPPLY

CURRENT MEASURES

- ▶ A zero tolerance to drug drivers – legislation has been introduced to parliament allowing for stronger penalties for drug drivers.
- ▶ Operation POST targets international mail for the trafficking of illicit drugs, including methamphetamine.
- ▶ Operation Atlas focuses on high and street level dealing in crystal methamphetamine.
- ▶ Participation in South Australia's joint National Anti-Gangs Strategy Strike Team with Australian Federal Police and the Australian Taxation Office.

NEW MEASURES

- ▶ Increasing capacity for law enforcement to interrupt high-end dealers and organised crime, including enabling funds from seized assets to be reinvested back into law enforcement.
- ▶ Increasing the number of drug dogs and their handlers.
- ▶ Becoming a national leader in regulating the chemicals used to manufacture methamphetamine.
- ▶ Undertaking a CrimeStoppers campaign to encourage South Australians to assist law enforcement in identifying and stopping drug dealers.
- ▶ Amending the Correctional Services Act 1982 to increase controls on drug use in prison, and to prevent the automatic release on parole for certain prisoners sentenced for dealing or trafficking drugs.
- ▶ Strengthening police powers in relation to persons selling or distributing illicit substances.
- ▶ Providing a TruNarc electronic drug testing instrument for each country Local Service Area to enable preliminary testing of substances.



INCREASED FAMILY SUPPORT

CURRENT MEASURES

- ▶ Access to a range of evidence-based programs and resources to enable schools to undertake drug education programs.
- ▶ Development of a media information package on methamphetamine.

NEW MEASURES

- ▶ Expanding capacity for face to face support groups for families experiencing alcohol and other drug problems.
- ▶ Establishing a website with information for people dealing with a drug or alcohol problem, as well as family members, clinicians, community workers and the general community.



COMMUNITY EDUCATION & CAPACITY BUILDING

CURRENT MEASURES

- ▶ Development of targeted communication resources for workforce and the community.
- ▶ Continuation of two-monthly sampling and analysis of metropolitan Adelaide wastewater.

NEW MEASURES

- ▶ Supporting employers to better respond to substance abuse in the workplace.
- ▶ Building peer education capacity by working with high prevalence, high risk groups to ensure appropriate prevention strategies are in place to reduce use and risk.
- ▶ Supporting grass-roots sporting organisations to build their capacity to respond appropriately to substance abuse issues.



INCREASING TREATMENT

CURRENT MEASURES

- ▶ Evaluation of health intervention orders applied in the Police Drug Diversion Program.
- ▶ Introduction of pre-release drug intervention programs to support prisoners in recovery and relapse prevention.
- ▶ Co-location of specialist alcohol and other drug clinicians with the Department for Child Protection.
- ▶ Delivering treatment resources through South Australia's GP Programs.
- ▶ Researching two new psychosocial interventions for methamphetamine use disorders.

NEW MEASURES

- ▶ Increasing access to treatment across the state through the provision of additional outpatient counselling appointments (approximately a 50% increase in funded non-government appointments) and new residential rehabilitation services in regional locations (at least 15 new residential rehabilitation beds).
- ▶ Amending legislation to enhance and expand the operation of the Treatment Intervention Court.
- ▶ Enhancing the capacity of front line workers to manage the behaviour of people affected by crystal methamphetamine.
- ▶ Considering a model for mandatory assessment and/or treatment for those at extreme and immediate risk, based on the *Victorian Severe Substance Dependency Treatment Act 2010*.
- ▶ Explore other options for diversionary programs across various systems, based on success of DASSA Fines Enforcement Diversion program.
- ▶ Identify opportunities for agencies to share information and develop more effective intervention approaches.

PROBLEM

Methamphetamine use in South Australia has tripled in the past four years.

ICE USE AMONG
METHAMPHETAMINE
USERS HAS
GROWN FROM:

22% ▶ 57%
2010 2016

22.1
YEARS OF AGE
AVERAGE AGE
OF FIRST USE

MALES
20-29
YEARS OF AGE
HIGHEST
RATE OF USE

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

71
RESPONSES
TO
SURVEY

100+
PEOPLE
AT
6
ROUNDTABLES

40
ORGANISATIONS
OFFERED
FEEDBACK

60+
IDEAS GENERATED
THROUGH
ROUNDTABLES

ACTION PLAN MEASURES

\$
\$8M
INVESTED

REDUCING
SUPPLY

INCREASING
TREATMENT

INCREASED
FAMILY
SUPPORT

COMMUNITY
EDUCATION
& CAPACITY
BUILDING

KEY MEASURES INCLUDE:

- ▶ Increasing access to treatment **\$3.6M**
- ▶ Additional drug dogs **\$0.549M**
- ▶ Additional resourcing for family support groups **\$0.560M**
- ▶ Supporting employers to better respond to substance abuse in the workplace. **\$0.498M**

- ▶ Assisting community organisations to respond to ice abuse issues **\$0.3M**
- ▶ Assisting grass roots sporting clubs to respond to ice abuse issues **\$0.3M**
- ▶ Additional TruNarc electronic drug testing instruments **\$0.287M**
- ▶ Dob in a Dealer campaign **\$0.2M**

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