



For
the
Future

Responding
to illicit drug
addiction

South
Australian
Labor

Labor understands the immense community challenges created by illicit drugs, and especially ice.

When in Government, Labor established the Ice Taskforce to provide recommendations on tackling the problem, then set about implementing those recommendations.

The Liberals promised a ‘war on drugs’ but have delivered little, while the problem has only gotten worse.

SA recorded the highest estimated average capital city and regional consumption of ice in April 2021, according to the national data from the wastewater drug monitoring program.

Frequently, South Australians impacted by drug and alcohol use present to our emergency departments, further adding to the ramping crisis. This is a failure of our health system, and a tragedy for these affected people and their loved ones.

Services providing on-the-ground support were struggling before COVID-19 hit. Now, they’re facing even more demand, and even more difficulty providing services.

A Malinauskas Labor Government will respond to the health impacts of drug use, by increasing the capacity of non-government organisations working in the drug and alcohol sector.

We’ll do this while boosting communication and coordination with drug and alcohol advocacy groups, working together to address workforce shortages and other challenges facing the sector.

Our commitments will support affected South Australians and their families, and boost rehabilitation services to help people overcome the cycle of addiction.



Peter Malinauskas MP
SA Labor Leader

Chris Picton MP
Shadow Health Minister



DRUG REHABILITATION BEDS

COST: \$19.5 million

Labor will establish 20 community drug and alcohol rehabilitation beds across the state.

In addition to the eight beds we have committed for Mount Gambier and Port Augusta, 12 beds will be established in metropolitan Adelaide.

Labor will work in partnership with local organisations already delivering drug and alcohol rehabilitation services on the ground, to build on already established services with a track record of delivering great results.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL DETOXIFICATION BEDS IN THE SOUTH EAST

COST: \$4.6 million

Community health workers have warned there is an urgent demand for drug and alcohol detox beds in the South East.

Without these beds, people experiencing significant drug and alcohol dependency are far more likely to be repeatedly in and out of hospital – which doesn't help them in the long term, and adds pressure on hospital beds.

Labor will invest more than \$4.6 million to fit-out and operate two dedicated drug and alcohol detox beds in the Mount Gambier Hospital.



SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES IMPACTED BY DRUG USE

COST: \$1 million

Labor will boost our previous support for Family Drug Support, with an investment of \$250,000 each year over four years.

This funding will go toward vital counselling and support for families who are affected when a loved one becomes addicted to ice or other drugs.

Partnering with the drug and alcohol sector

South Australia is home to many non-government organisations providing valuable alcohol and other drug services out in the community.

These organisations are calling for more frequent and genuine consultation from a Government that's serious about addressing the challenges facing their sector.

Labor will partner with the non-government alcohol and other drug sector on workforce strategy and planning, finding solutions to address critical workforce shortages.

We commit to an ongoing partnership between State Government drug and alcohol services, the non-government sector, and Federal Government services to address key issues of demand management, shared care, and developing meaningful ways to measure service outcomes.



Acknowledgment of country.

We acknowledge and respect the Traditional Custodians whose ancestral lands we live and work upon and we pay our respects to their Elders past and present. We acknowledge and respect their deep spiritual connection and the relationship that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have to Country. We also pay our respects to the cultural authority of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their nations in South Australia, as well as those across Australia.