

# NVDAS

**Citizen Assembly** 





#### Welcome

Dermot King - NVDAS Cluster Chair & Director, Ballymun Youth Action Project



#### NVDAS

The National Voluntary Drug and Alcohol Sector (NVDAS) is a national representative body for voluntary sector organisations in Ireland working in the area of drugs and alcohol. Comprising of 60+ members across Ireland we represent the view of the sector through consultative processes within the National Drugs Strategy fora.

Our aim is to create a strong network of voluntary sector agencies in the alcohol and drugs sector in Ireland that can:

- liaise meaningfully with the state on key policy issues.
- present a consensus view of the sector on key issues where possible.

We welcome the establishment of the Citizens Assembly on Drugs to consider the legislative, policy and operational changes Ireland could make to significantly reduce the harmful impacts of illicit drugs on individuals, families, communities and wider Irish society. For NVDAS members it is a long overdue national conversation.

We provide addiction services and support across the four Tier model of service delivery.

#### NVDAS

- RESPONSIVE
- INFORMED/PRAGMATIC
- COLLABORATIVE.
- VERSATILE/ AGILE.
- ACCOUNTABLE.
- NATIONAL

### What's Working

NVDAS Network Perspective

- Innovative services for > 40 years
- Responses along a continuum of needs
- Collaborates with a wide range of other providers
- Capacity to draw in local resources
- Offers a range of routes

## What's Not Working

NVDAS Network Perspective

- Disparity between Voluntary and Statutory Services.
- Funding agreed annually
- Access to treatment
- Support for families
- Commissioning
- Criminalisation of drug use

### What we should be doing more of

NVDAS Network Perspective

- Health Diversion Programme
- Collaborative working
- Beyond a "one size fits all"
- Appropriate outcome measures

### Thank you

