



15<sup>th</sup> June 2007

In response to the seminar report 'Sex, Drugs, Alcohol and Young People' by the Independent Advisory Group on Sexual Health & HIV (IAG), Dr Simon Barton, President, **British Association For Sexual Health & HIV (BASHH)** commented:

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"We welcome this report and particularly support the call for a national strategy for young people to tackle drugs, alcohol misuse and risky sexual behaviour. We also support the report's recommendation for statutory PSHE in schools, as it will ensure young people are given clear information and may help to prevent them needing to access sexual health services in the first place.

"Although modernisation within GUM services has enabled clinics to respond to the overwhelming increase in demand for services, the rising number of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) among young people is a clear indication of the urgent need for immediate and appropriate funding of sexual health services in the UK.

"With the right resources, sexual health services will be able to work together with drugs and alcohol services to treat young people more effectively and in the service of their choice."

- Ends -

Contact: Catherine Wrigley 020 7815 3901/00

Email: [catherine.wrigley@munroforster.com](mailto:catherine.wrigley@munroforster.com) Visit: [www.bashh.org](http://www.bashh.org)