**Scottish Directors of Public Health Statement**

**Safe drug injecting and heroin assisted treatment**

30 June 2016

**Directors of Public Health in Scotland supports plans for drug injecting facility in Glasgow**

Scottish Directors of Public Health (SDsPH) support the decision of the Glasgow Alcohol and Drugs Partnership (ADP) to pilot a supervised drug injecting facility and heroin-assisted treatment service.

Dr Andrew Fraser, Chair of the SDsPH and Director of Public Health Science at NHS Health Scotland, said:

“The current upsurge of HIV infection passing between drug injectors in Glasgow requires special measures. Glasgow's ADP is right to consider all options that are proportionate with the serious situation they face. There is strong evidence that such a service can be an effective preventive measure to reduce drug-related deaths and connect high-risk drug users with addiction treatment and other health and social services.”

**For more information:**

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