

## Counselling Process

On referral from the police, clients in the program attend a compulsory counselling session with a Life Without Barriers PDDI counsellor.

Counsellors will make contact to remind clients of their scheduled appointment. If there is no response from the client after reasonable attempts the matter is referred back to the SAPol for further action.

During the appointment the client is given an overview of the initiative, their expected involvement and outcomes, and they are expected to give consent for the session to proceed.

A comprehensive psychosocial assessment using the age appropriate ASSIST screening tool is administered and a appropriate level of education, brief intervention or referral given for either one or two sessions.

Clients who feel that they need legal advice can terminate the session and have the appointment rescheduled within 28 days.

After successful completion of the PDDI session, the client is given a Notice of Compliance which acquits them of the charge.

Where appropriate, up to eight voluntary sessions of on-going counselling sessions are offered.

## We'd like to hear from you

We also provide an Outpatient Counselling Service for people with identifiable alcohol and/or other drugs dependency and/or concerned parents or significant others.

- Mount Gambier
- Ceduna
- Port Augusta
- Murray Mallee
- Adelaide
- South East Region (Naracoorte, Millicent, Keith, Bordertown)

For more information on our services call 08 8193 9400 or email [AOD.Counsellor@lwb.org.au](mailto:AOD.Counsellor@lwb.org.au)

[www.lwb.org.au](http://www.lwb.org.au)

## Alcohol and Other Drugs Program

Police Drug Diversion Initiative

**LIFE  
WITHOUT  
BARRIERS**

## Police Drug Diversion Initiative

Life Without Barriers is the authorised provider of the South Australian Police Drug Diversion Initiative (PDDI).

The PDDI is part of a nationally agreed approach to illicit drugs. It is being implemented in all Australian States and Territories. The approach combines a strong national action against drug supply with early intervention for drug users to help reduce the prevalence and harms associated with drug use in Australia.

In South Australia the initiative, also referred to as a diversion, was introduced for both adults and young people in late 2001, following the amendments to the *Controlled Substances Act 1984*.

PDDI counselling provides assessment, education, support and referral for individuals referred to the program by the Police after being referred by South Australian Police (SAPol) as per the legislation.

Life Without Barriers offers the PDDI services in targeted country regions of South Australia, (Fleurieu Peninsula, Victor Harbor, and Kangaroo Island).

## Life Without Barriers Approach

We see people as individuals who have unique needs and tailor our services to meet their needs by adopting a client centred approach.

We adopt a harm-minimisation framework in our alcohol and other drug programs, supporting our clients to identify and achieve their identified treatment goals.

Our goal is to help each client see their personal strengths and use these to achieve long lasting changes in their lives.

Our services are designed and delivered in ways that are inclusive, appropriate and respectful to all people. Particularly people who are often disadvantaged such as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, CALD and LGBTQIA+ Communities.

## PDDI Counselling Service

The service is a statutory requirement and clients are expected to actively participate to be compliant or the matter is referred back to police for further action.

Services are available to all persons from the age of 10 years who have been referred through the Police Drug Diversion Line.

Clients may then choose to enrol in a further eight (8) sessions of counselling support.

Counselling sessions are held at our local offices and will operate within normal business hours. Telephone and online support sessions will be available where significant barriers to accessing office based appointments exist.

All Life Without Barriers services are designed and delivered in ways that are culturally appropriate. We engage with local Aboriginal elders and culturally and linguistically diverse communities to ensure our services and centres are welcoming and culturally safe.

Life Without Barriers's PDDI counselling provides a unique opportunity to work with individuals at a point of crisis and avoid going to court. Instead, it provides a health-based intervention that encourages individual's to reflect on the effects of drug use on their lives, and make informed choices to help change this pattern of behaviour.