



GLASGOW DRUG CHECKING SERVICE

FROM CONCEPT TO DELIVERY

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Individual



Community



Population



Testing substance
content



Identifying
contaminants



Harm Reduction



Empowering and
informing



Supporting safer
decision making



Encouraging
behaviour change



Save lives



Information
Sharing



Early Warnings



Public Health
Response

Drug checking does not make drugs safe, nor does it remove the risks.

A fixed site, embedded but distinct

- Co-located with other Health & Social Care Services
- Separate Service
- Home Office License
- ADRS Pharmacy Led





The Service User Journey



Substances submitted for testing will not be returned.

Drug Checking Room



The Sample Journey



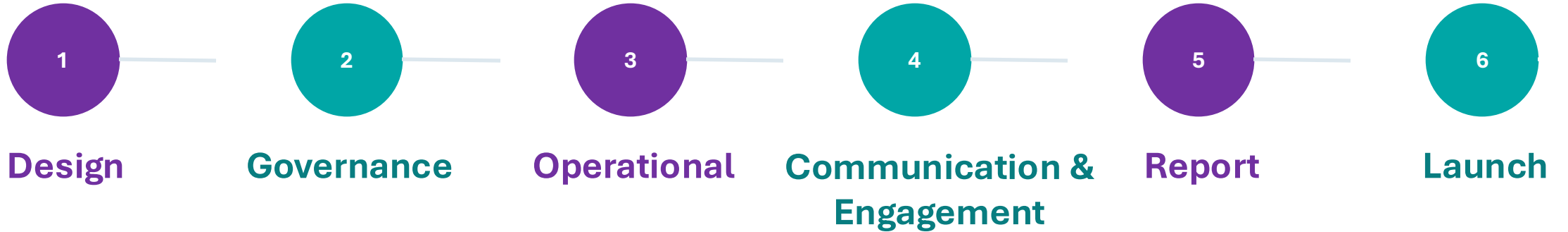
TRACE AMOUNT

Rapid, sensitive testing

FORMULATIONS

Tablets, powders, capsules, liquids.....

Implementation Journey



Partnership working is critical to development and delivery.

From Individual Advice to Public Health Intelligence – Collaboration is Key

**Alcohol & Drug
Partnerships**

**Emergency
Services**

**Lived & Living
Experience**

**Governing
Bodies**

**Forensic
Toxicology**

Public Health

Individual Value

Information, tailored harm reduction, engagement opportunities, empowerment, behaviour change.

Community & Population Value

Surveillance, alerts, intelligence sharing, service response, public health action.

Key Challenges & Learning



Engagement

Engagement with relevant partners in a timely manner.



Governance

Safe sample handling, SOPs, licensing.



Workforce

Recruitment & training.



Communication

Communicate risks effectively to influence behaviour & reduce harm



Intelligence

Ensuring information is shared through relevant pathways.



Trust

Building trust with individuals & communities is critical.

Learning point: The implementation challenge is not only the technical testing and legal framework. It is about creating a safe, trusted environment.

Drug checking is not about making drug use safe.

It is about saving lives, reducing harm, improving intelligence, and creating opportunities for support, intervention and public health action.

Partnership working makes the model possible.

Thank you

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