



VICTORIA POLICE

# The Partnership in Victoria – the police view

Presentation to the International Conference on Law Enforcement & Public Health

12 November 2012



# Community policing



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Victoria Police is one of the few **24-hour services** that anyone can access

The community has **high expectations** of policing responses

The **Victoria Police Mission** promises a broad range of responses:

- Preserve the peace
- Protect life and property
- Prevent offences
- Detect and apprehend offenders
- Help those in need of assistance

**RESULT** = police interact with many people who have health issues

# What this means for policing



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Health issues can present in **any** police job (*eg. victim, suspect, person in need of assistance*)

Police encounter the **range** of health issues (*eg. medical conditions, mental health, substance misuse*)

Police focus on **behaviour** and the **situation**, rather than diagnosis (*eg. prevention, intervention, harm minimisation, investigation, crisis intervention*)

Police have to balance **health**, **safety** and **law enforcement** issues

Health issues can contribute to **repeat offending** and **repeat victimisation**

# The importance of health partnerships



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Police need **effective collaboration** with health services for:

- ✓ Expert advice
- ✓ Treatment
- ✓ Support
- ✓ Service improvement

The **challenges** we face in forming these collaborations are:

- ✗ Range of service providers
- ✗ Different service criteria / catchments
- ✗ Limits on service capacity / availability

# Features of effective partnerships



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- ▶ **Targeted** at the right level of action (*eg. frontline, regional, corporate*)
- ▶ **Tailored** to specific service needs (*eg. timely advice, onsite support*)
- ▶ **Purposeful** in their formation and operation (*eg. clear and documented aims, commitments, outcomes*)
- ▶ **Appropriate** for respective roles and responsibilities (*eg. core functions, risk management*)
- ▶ **Results** in better outcomes collectively than acting alone (*eg. remove duplication, fill gaps, share info / knowledge / skills*)