



Safer Parties Together: One Voice

Evaluation of Safer Dance Parties and Large Events

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Executive Summary

Community Action Youth and Drugs (CAYAD) is a national programme funded by the Ministry of Health that takes a harm minimisation approach to the impact of alcohol and illicit drugs on young people in New Zealand. In 2008 the Auckland CAYAD site initiated The Safer Dance Parties (SDP) project to reduce the harm of illicit drugs and alcohol on patrons at Auckland dance parties and large music festivals and events. Three strategies became the focus of the SDP project:

- Security search training: improving the effectiveness of the search procedures through training;
- Drug security boxes: lockable boxes for storing illegal drugs seized at dance events;
- The utilisation of a safety net for partygoers through the use of safe zones with support from members of the “Red Frog” service.

Using qualitative and quantitative methods, Impact Research NZ conducted this evaluation to:

- Assess the effectiveness of the three SDP project strategies in reducing the harm of alcohol and illicit substances at dance parties and large events;
- Identify additional practices that could have a positive effect in minimising the harm of alcohol and illicit substances at dance parties and large events;
- Identify how best to monitor and evaluate dance parties in terms of safety and best practice regionally.

This evaluation found that the three Safer Dance Party project strategies have been effective in reducing the harm of alcohol and illicit drugs at dance parties and music events. While intoxication from alcohol or illicit drugs remains the main safety concern at dance parties, a number of procedures have been adopted by the industry, including the three strategies advocated by CAYAD. Data from this evaluation indicates that the three SDP practices are resulting in drug confiscations and a safer environment for patrons.

The first strategy, patron search procedures, have improved over the last few years, with participants reporting that search procedures have become more standardised and formalised. Stakeholders report the new search procedures have contributed to patron safety. The caveat is that the effectiveness of patron searches vary depending on the quality, motivation and training of the security company and the individual security guard. Participants believed security personnel need additional training to: 1) enable consistent

understandings of intoxication levels and 2) continue to improve patron search strategies, particularly in identifying illicit drugs.

The second strategy, the locked drug box, is designed to provide standard procedures for lawfully dealing with confiscated drugs. They have proved effective in enabling illicit drugs to be dealt with in a legal and secure way and providing a better understanding of the correct procedures. All of the participants that use the locked drug boxes, such as police, security personnel and venue managers are pleased with the concept and with the way it functions. Using the drug box alleviates risk for security guards and may encourage greater confiscation of illicit drugs since there is a procedure for handling them securely.

The third strategy in CAYAD's approach to enabling safer dance parties and music events is creating a safety net for patrons by providing places of safety for intoxicated patrons. Traditionally, if a patron arrived at a venue intoxicated or became intoxicated inside the venue, security would eject them from the event to protect the venue from prosecution. Over the last few years, the approach has shifted and intoxicated patrons are now put in a place of safety inside the venue rather than ejected. Utilising a place of safety or chill out zone for intoxicated patrons has had a significant effect on events in Auckland. The overall mind-set has shifted to one which takes a duty-of-care approach to patrons. These chill out zones are often staffed by volunteer groups such as Red Frogs to provide peer support to event patrons. Red Frogs have proven to be very effective. Stakeholder groups are beginning to rely on the Red Frogs to provide support for intoxicated patrons. The Red Frogs volunteers reduce the workload for St John first aid staff and allow them to focus on medical emergencies. When the Red Frogs were first introduced to Auckland, some venue managers and promoters resisted the concept, but the group is increasingly valued by those in the industry. While the Red Frogs are building a reputation in the dance party scene, there is insufficient awareness about the services of Red Frogs among patrons. An additional issue is the need for Red Frogs volunteers to undergo more training than they currently receive. As a fledgling project in New Zealand, it is also vital for Red Frogs to continue to build capacity and secure additional funding to ensure sustainability.

Another patron safety net strategy discussed by stakeholders was the availability of free water at events. Participants reported that there has been a change over the last few years, with venues ensuring more availability of water at events, but it's an area that still needs to be monitored.

Auckland CAYAD has worked with police and district licensing to invest a great deal of effort in promoting and implementing strategies to reduce the harm from alcohol and illicit drugs at dance parties and music events. It appears that their message has indeed been heard by stakeholders. Positive change has occurred over the last few years and stakeholders have implemented practices to ensure patron safety. Data from this evaluation indicates that the three SDP practices are resulting in stakeholders in the industry taking more responsibility for patron safety and creating a safer, well-managed environment with resources in place to protect patrons.

While a number of strategies have been put in place to reduce the harm of alcohol and illicit drugs at dance parties and music events, stakeholders have identified additional practices that would make a positive difference. The most commonly suggested strategy was increased education for young people about the effects of drugs and alcohol and about “safe partying”. This education should take several forms: 1) wider societal education and 2) health promotion messages before and at events. Next, it is important to ensure the trend toward creating a safer environment continues and expands, particularly the use of chill out zones, the availability of free water and security patrolling of toilets. In addition, stakeholders advocated increased coordination and communication among the various groups involved in dance parties and music events. It is important for all groups to be on the same page and work together to look after the health and safety of patrons. Last, there is a need to consider under-age events and possibly implement a basic permit to hold an under-age dance party.

Summary of Recommendations

1. Implement a standardised voluntary code of practice for training security personnel to: a) enable consistent understandings of intoxication levels and b) enhance training on illicit drug searches.
2. Encourage patrons to take greater personal responsibility for their wellbeing by providing education to increase patron’s knowledge and awareness of safer partying
3. Encourage venue managers and event organisers to cooperate to take joint responsibility for patron safety using strategies such as free water prominently available and increased health promotion messages.
4. Consider instituting a method to recognise venues that have adopted Safer Dance Party practices, such as an award or certificate.

5. CAYAD should continue to strengthen the cooperation and collaboration of various groups involved with SDP activities and share learning with music festivals occurring outside Auckland
6. Strengthen the processes of the Red Frogs to provide greater clarity around their role, more formalised agreements with venues, well-defined boundaries and additional training. Continue to build the capacity of Red Frogs and secure additional funding to enable project sustainability.

Contents

Acknowledgements.....	2
Executive Summary.....	3
Summary of Recommendations.....	5
1.0 Introduction	9
2.0 Document Review: the Context of Safer Dance Parties	10
3.0 Methodology.....	14
3.1 Stakeholder Engagement.....	14
3.2 Data collection	15
3.2.1 Document Review	15
3.2.2 Observations	15
3.3.3 Surveys	15
3.3.4 Online Patron Survey	16
3.2.5 Online Stakeholder Survey.....	16
3.2.6 Interviews and focus groups	17
3.2.7 Analysis of incident reports	17
3.3 Ethical Considerations.....	18
3.4 Analysis	18
3.5 Key Players and their roles/interests	19
4.0 Results.....	21
4.1 Dance Parties Issues.....	21
4.2 Intoxication	21
4.3 Responses	22
4.4 Fewer Dance Parties	22
4.5 The effectiveness of SDP project components	22
4.5.1 Patron searches:.....	23
4.5.2 Drug security boxes.....	26
4.5.3 Places of Safety	27
4.5.4 Red Frogs.....	29
4.5.5 Water	32
4.6 Case Study: Change over time	32
4.7 Evidence for the effectiveness of SDP strategies: NZ Police and St John reports	36
4.7.1 NZ Police Reports	36

4.7.2	St John Event Debrief Reports	38
4.8	Suggested Additional Practices.....	40
4.8.1	Education	40
4.8.2	Physical Environment.....	41
4.8.3	Stakeholder Coordination	42
4.8.4	Events for Under 18 year old patrons.....	43
5.0	Conclusions	43
5.1	Event Safety	44
6.0	Recommendations	45
7.0	References	47
	Appendices.....	49
Appendix 1	Stakeholder Survey	49
Appendix 2	Patron Survey.....	50
Appendix 3	Focus Group and Interview questionnaire.....	51
Appendix 4	Phone interview questionnaire.....	52

1.0 Introduction

Community Action Youth and Drugs (CAYAD) is a national programme funded by the Ministry of Health that takes a harm minimisation approach to the impact of alcohol and illicit drugs on young people in New Zealand. CAYAD has 30 sites around New Zealand in both rural and urban settings that each focus on different aspects of this type of harm reduction. In 2008 the Auckland CAYAD site initiated The Safer Dance Parties (SDP) project to reduce the harm that illicit drugs and alcohol have on partygoers. The SDP project was designed by CAYAD in collaboration with the Downtown Police, representing the first attempt to coordinate efforts to make dance parties safer.

Auckland hosts the largest number and largest sized dance parties in the country. Auckland also hosts music festivals and other large events. The term dance party has been used here to include a variety of parties including “raves” and events for patrons under 18 years old. Dance parties typically involve a venue with a large open space for dancing, DJs playing popular music, a charge for admission and large numbers of mostly young patrons. Many different groups are involved in organising and hosting dance parties, such as promoters, venue managers, St John events staff, Red Frogs, Security company personnel, Police and Council Licensing staff. When they are properly run, dance parties provide young people with high-quality, well-regulated entertainment events.

Approximately four years ago, CAYAD designed the SDP and collaborated with the Downtown Police to minimise the harm of illicit drugs and alcohol on patrons at Auckland dance parties, large music festivals and events. They began by researching strategies that were being used overseas to make dance parties safer. Three strategies became the focus of the SDP project:

- Drug security boxes: lockable boxes for storing illegal drugs seized at dance events;
- Security search training: improving the effectiveness of the search procedures through training;
- The utilisation of a safety net for partygoers through the use of safe zones with support from members of the “Red Frog” service.

Over the last few years, CAYAD has formed strong relationships with a variety of venue managers, promoters, St John events staff, Police and Council Licensing staff to initiate and promote these safer dance party practices at events around Auckland. Today most large-scale events in Auckland have adopted these strategies. CAYAD has focused its efforts on

dance parties and music festival events, but the lessons learned could be used to inform approaches to other large events such as wine and beer festivals, concerts and sporting events.

CAYAD commissioned Impact Research NZ to conduct this evaluation to:

- Assess the effectiveness of the three project strategies in reducing the harm of alcohol and illicit substances at dance parties and large events;
- Identify additional practices that could have a positive effect in minimising the harm of alcohol and illicit substances at dance parties and large events;
- Identify how best to monitor and evaluate dance parties in terms of safety and best practice regionally.

2.0 Document Review: the Context of Safer Dance Parties

We conducted a literature review to provide background for our evaluation of dance party safety issues. We were interested in policy and practice adopted in New Zealand and other countries to make dance parties safer. We also wanted to assess the impact of the three Safer Dance Party (SDP) strategies: the use of searches, drug security boxes and Red Frog support staff. This literature review supplemented interviews, focus groups and surveys of patrons and stakeholders involved in the dance party industry of New Zealand.

The documents we reviewed mostly fell into two categories: 1) guidelines for safer dance party practices developed overseas, to look at international evidence of what has worked and 2) New Zealand documents concerning policies around related issues (such as: Ministry of Health Guidelines for Safer Dance Parties: The Big Book, 1999; Sale of Liquor Act, 1989; Auckland Council Host Responsibility Policy, 2012; Alcohol Advisory Council of New Zealand, 2010).

In the UK and Europe a range of tools are used to increase the partygoers' awareness of the risks they take and to promote a safer environment: drug information leaflets, chill out zones, drug-checking, websites, safer dance guidelines, charters and labels. The most efficient responses are based on local and integrated partnerships involving the concerned stakeholders: peer projects, prevention agencies, club owners, party organisers, police and local authorities (Charlois, 2009).

CAYAD

Before the CAYAD approach, there was little evidence-based research about what worked in minimising drug-related harm in communities around New Zealand. (Ministry of Health, 2009). Community action was adopted as a mechanism that offered a sustainable and outcomes-focused approach.

Community action intends to sustainably change underlying social norms and formal and informal policies and practices. A wide range of stakeholders agree on the issue/s facing a particular community, and then together use a range of participatory and educational processes to address them. Actions undertaken are evidence-based and draw on both research and local community knowledge. (Ministry of Health, 2009)

Dance party safety issues: General

High temperatures and stuffy or smoky air can lead to problems at dance parties like heat-stroke, dehydration and exhaustion. The Guidelines for Safer Dance Parties: The Big Book (1999) reports that ventilation systems should be in good working order, a secure bag-check area should be provided for people to safely store personal belongings, and patrons should have access to a chill-out area, where they can rest and cool-down.

General health and safety issues must also be met. The Guidelines for Safer Dance Parties (2006) recommends the provision of adequate toilet facilities for the number of people expected at the event, and the provision of a dedicated First-Aid location at the dance party venue. Exits should be clearly identified, well-lit, and kept clear; access to dangerous sites should be restricted and operators should provide rubbish bins and regularly remove broken glass and rubbish.

Overcrowding of venues is a serious safety issue; The Guidelines for Safer Dance Parties: The Big Book (1999) recommends taking steps to ensure that the maximum capacity of a venue is not exceeded.

The Guidelines for Safer Dance Parties (2006) recommends that venue operators ensure that emergency services are aware of event details, including the exact location of the venue, venue access and adequate water supply. Someone with delegated authority must be present at all times during the event and be easily contacted by the police and other emergency services (Guidelines for Safer Dance Parties: The Big Book, 1999).

When planning a dance party, organisers should involve the NZ Fire Service and NZ Police. Both operate a liaison service to coordinate with event organisers (Guidelines for Safer Dance Parties: The Big Book, 1999). Safety requirements and event details should be planned and the Alcohol Harm Reduction Officer (Police) should be involved.

Dance party safety issues: Alcohol and Drugs

The SDP project operates within the confines of the harm minimisation approach: designed to limit the harm that results from drug and alcohol use (NZ Drug Foundation, 2006; Hume Health, 2012).

Problems with drugs and alcohol include intoxication, violence, victimisation, dehydration and consumption of alcohol by minors. The Guidelines for Safer Dance Parties: The Big Book (1999) recommends posting advice and warnings about the harmful effects of drugs and alcohol, while The Code of Practice for Running Safer Dance Parties (2004) suggests screening intoxicated people upon arrival and posting a code-of-conduct.

The Code of Practice for Running Safer Dance Parties (2004) recommends dance party planners involve the venue operator in planning for problems typically associated with alcohol (heat stroke, dehydration and violence) and dance drugs (heat stroke, dehydration, paranoia, disorientation and anxiety).

The provision of food and water is necessary for a safe environment and venue operators are obligated to provide food and drink under the Host Responsibility Policy (Host Responsibility Policy, 2012).

Under the Host Responsibility Policy (2012) venue operators are obliged to provide safe transport options for patrons. The Guidelines for Safer Dance Parties (2006) recommends providing adequate parking space for cars, or providing transport if the event is a long way from taxi services or public transport. The Code of Practice for Running Safer Dance Parties (2004) recommends implementing a transport plan if local public transport is inadequate to meet the needs of the event.

Sufficient numbers of first aid personnel (St John, or another first aid provider) must be present at dance events (Guidelines for Safer Dance Parties: The Big Book, 1999). By having effective first aid/medical services at your event, you can minimize risks and ensure people get immediate medical attention if they need it.

The Red Frog volunteer organization provides a safety net for patrons at dance party type events, minimizing drug and alcohol related harm. They are available to attend events in the Auckland region (Red Frogs, 2012).

Guidelines for Dance Parties (1998) recommends including local community and council representatives in the planning stage, in order to minimise community disruption and ensure statutory regulations, council by-laws and occupational health and safety regulations are met. Councils can provide advice on who to contact regarding Environmental Health regulations and District Licensing Authorities.

The event manager, the event licensee(s) and the local District Licensing Authority (DLA) Licensing Inspector should be involved in securing sale-of-alcohol licences, as reported in the Alcohol Advisory Council (ALAC) of New Zealand's Guidelines for Managing Alcohol at Large Events (2010).

All licensed premises within the Auckland Region are required to have a written Host Responsibility Policy that meets the requirements of the Sale of Liquor Act (1989), it is also required by Auckland Council as part of any Liquor License, including the Special License (Information Sheet for Special License, 2012).

When hosting a dance party, staff training is paramount. The literature suggests that security/door staff controlling entry and conducting searches will need to know about policies in relation to drugs and must have knowledge of seizure and disposal policy (NZ Police, 2010).

It is required that event organisers have adequate fire safety measures in place (Guidelines for Safer Dance Parties: The Big Book, 1999).

Issues covered in this document review will inform our evaluation of Safer Dance Party (SDP) strategies. Policies and practices developed overseas are relevant to the SDP strategies being implemented in New Zealand. We will utilise this literature review and focus groups and surveys conducted with patrons and stakeholders to assess the effectiveness and value of searches, drug security boxes and Red Frog support staff in New Zealand.

3.0 Methodology

This evaluation was undertaken using mixed methods, meaning both qualitative and quantitative data were collected. The evaluation draws on a range of data sources to capture the multiple voices of participants and their different perspectives on the SDP strategies. Stakeholder groups have unique relationships to the Safer Dance Parties strategies and therefore different priorities and perspectives on the issues (Teddlie & Tashakkori, 2009). Data were collected through a document review, an observation, an analysis of incident reports from St John and NZ Police, surveys with stakeholders and in-depth interviews with stakeholders. The following section provides an overview of the development of these research tools, processes around data collection, ethical considerations, and the approach to data analysis.

3.1 Stakeholder Engagement

Impact Research NZ is committed to participatory research processes. We seek to collaborate and engage stakeholders in all aspects of the research, from planning and design to analysis and reporting. Consultation with stakeholders helps ensure evaluation findings are more likely to be useful to those commissioning the research. For this evaluation, Impact Research NZ and CAYAD assembled an evaluation committee comprised of stakeholders from NZ Police, venue management, event promotion, CAYAD, patrons, St John, Red Frogs and security companies. An initial meeting was held in June 2012 to discuss the evaluation and obtain background information and group input into the proposed processes and data collection. The researcher engaged attendees in a general discussion about the SDP strategies to gain the various perspectives and priorities of stakeholders. Two further meetings were held during the evaluation with similar groups of stakeholders to discuss the progress of the evaluation and gain feedback on early findings.

Our approach was one of collaboration with stakeholders to ensure their perspectives were represented. We sought to understand the collaborative process and world view of stakeholders in the dance party industry. Our aim was to understand where stakeholders were coming from in relation to their goal of ensuring that dance parties are safe and enjoyable events for all concerned. This report is organised to highlight this collaboration and perspective.

3.2 Data collection

3.2.1 Document Review

We conducted a brief search of existing documents related to safer dance party strategies to learn about international best practice and guidelines that have been developed in other locations.

We conducted an internet Google-search using the search-terms *safer dance parties*, *guidelines* and *best practice*. The search produced 63 results, which were checked for relevance, with the most relevant being assessed. Our findings fell into two categories: guidelines developed in New Zealand and overseas (e.g. Guidelines for Safer Dance Parties: The Big Book, 1999), and New Zealand policy documents (e.g. Sale of Liquor Act, 1989; Auckland Council Host Responsibility Policy, 2012; Alcohol Advisory Council of New Zealand, 2010).

We used this information to:

1. Identify practices that would make a positive difference in minimising the harm of alcohol and illicit substances in dance parties and large events;
2. Identify how best to monitor and evaluate dance parties in terms of safety and best practice.

3.2.2 Observations

Observations are fieldwork descriptions of activities, behaviours, actions, conversations and interpersonal interactions. We conducted one first-hand observation of activities and interactions occurring during a large dance party held at the ASB showgrounds, with agreement of event organisers. These were recorded in detailed field notes. The observation focused on security personnel procedures, Red Frogs operations, patron safety strategies, patron behaviour, health and safety issues and general atmosphere of the event.

3.3.3 Surveys

Milbrath (1981) reports that surveys capture opinions not heard in more involved processes that require greater motivation, time, and resource commitments. Surveys allow researchers to obtain a broad perspective from a large sample of stakeholders. We constructed and administered two internet-based surveys, one for stakeholders (see Appendix 1) involved in

the provision of Safer Dance Parties (SDP) and one for patrons who attend dance parties (see Appendix 2).

3.3.4 Online Patron Survey

We conducted a survey with dance party patrons (see Appendix 2) via the social-media internet site Facebook, 16 patrons responded. We collaborated with organisers of dance party events to publicize our Facebook survey which asked participants about their safety, the safety of others, how to improve safety at events and about any problems at dance party events.

3.2.5 Online Stakeholder Survey

The survey for stakeholders in the dance party industry (see Appendix 1) sought feedback from groups like the NZ Police, NZ Fire Service, CAYAD, St John, the Red Frogs, security companies, venue operators, event promoters and YMCA youth workers and youth-event promoters.

The stakeholders were asked questions on what safety at dance events means to them, how safety might be improved, what helps or hinders them in adopting safe practice, what they think are the biggest safety problems at dance events, which strategies are the most effective and what they think of the safety net strategy, what changes they have noted as a result of the SDP, would they like to change or add any SDP strategies, how the Red frogs have helped them and what is important to them at a venue.

This survey was developed in consultation with CAYAD and the evaluation steering committee, which consisted of police, venue operators, event promoters, CAYAD and patrons. It focused on stakeholders' perceptions of dance party safety, myths, stereotypes, barriers to safety and their beliefs about the reasons behind these.

The 10-minute online survey of stakeholders was conducted using Survey Monkey, an internet-based service that enables questionnaires to be stored online and the link to the questionnaire to be sent to the respondents, who fill-in the survey online. We forwarded an electronic link for the online survey to the liaison person for each organisation. The liaison person then forwarded the survey on to other members within the organisation for completion.

We conducted an online survey for industry stakeholders using the *Survey Monkey* service. The twenty two stakeholders we surveyed included NZ Police (2 representatives completed the survey); Red Frogs (4 representatives); CAYAD (1); venue operators (4); event

promoters (5); NZ Fire Service (1); security companies (3); St John (4); YMCA youth workers (2); and YMCA event organisers (2). Some stakeholders represented more than one discipline.

3.2.6 Interviews and focus groups

Interviews and focus groups provide the depth of information that cannot be afforded by surveys (Fontana & Frey 2000). Qualitative data enables researchers to drill deeper and collect stories, anecdotes and contextual information from the different perspectives of key participants. Qualitative research is more time consuming, but the rich data that results allows us to find out a lot about a few, key things. The end result of qualitative analysis is the development of detailed understanding and “thick description” (Shah & Corley, 2006, p. 1822) of the phenomenon under study.

We interviewed representatives from the following stakeholder groups: NZ Police, venue managers, event promoters, CAYAD, patrons, St John, Red Frogs and security companies. Set questions were used as a guide to ensure all key areas of interest were covered in the interview. However, the semi-structured nature of the interviews ensured that caregivers could raise further themes and issues as they wished.

The interview contained fourteen open-ended questions (see Appendix 3) designed to assess the strengths and weaknesses of the SDP project and was developed in consultation with CAYAD. We conducted a total of fifteen face-to-face and telephone interviews with stakeholders.

We conducted four focus groups with industry stakeholders. We used open-ended questions with prompts which invited discussion about participants' experience and opinions of Safer Dance Party strategies and recommendations for improving them.

3.2.7 Analysis of incident reports

We investigated outcomes of the Safer Dance Party strategies by examining NZ Police incident reports for dance parties and events in the Auckland region. The police incident reports provided a description of drugs and illegal material confiscated by security at entry points to events in the Auckland region.

We investigated the health outcomes of the Safer Dance Party strategies by assessing the number and type of injuries treated by St John at selected dance party and music events in

the Auckland region. The St John reports covered the period 2008, just before implementation of the SDP strategies, until 2012.

3.3 Ethical Considerations

The ethical considerations in this evaluation were for participants' anonymity and confidentiality. Participants' informed consent was obtained by informing them verbally and in writing about the purpose of the research; the names of the researchers/agency conducting the research; and contact details of responsible persons for questions and/or complaints. We explained to all participants what their involvement in the project would entail; we explained their right *not* to participate and their right to withdraw their consent; we explained their right to access the information they provided and their right to receive a summary of the research results.

We treated all participant data as confidential; no information can be linked to any particular research participant. All hard copy data was kept in locked storage at Impact Research NZ premises, and was only accessible to Impact Research NZ researchers. All electronic data, including all digital recordings of interviews, was password protected and only accessible to Impact Research NZ researchers. All data will be kept for at least three years following the completion of the project, after which time it will be destroyed.

3.4 Analysis

Quantitative data from surveys and incident reports were entered into an Excel database for statistical analysis and used to generate descriptive tables and figures. Individual interviews and focus groups were audio recorded and transcribed. A thematic pattern analysis was performed on qualitative data, such as interviews, focus groups and responses to open-ended survey questions. This involves reading the transcripts and comments to establish keywords and emerging themes, and repeat readings to check and refine established themes. Themes were then organised into broad categories and selected quotes from respondents' accounts were used to illustrate the themes. Care was taken to de-identify these quotes.

Information gathered during the document review was synthesised to inform best practices regarding Safer Dance Party strategies. Data from this evaluation was checked against findings in the literature.

3.5 Key Players and their roles/interests

Many stakeholders are involved in organising and holding dance parties and music events and each has their own priorities. We offer a brief description of each to provide background understanding of the various stakeholders' perspectives.

Promoters: A promoter markets and promotes dance parties or music events. They hire a venue in which to hold an event, hire DJs or bands and handle publicity, advertising and ticket sales. Typically, they make their money from ticket sales. They generally build their brand by creating a positive patron experience. Auckland has several experienced respected promoters, but occasionally an inexperienced promoter plans an event but does not understand all of the safety issues involved.

Venue Managers: Venues act as the host location for events. They generally make money from bar sales. Venue managers hold the liquor license so they have host responsibility and manage patron intoxication. If necessary, they apply for Special Liquor Licenses. Venues managers usually hire the security companies. Some stakeholders suggested there is insufficient clarity about areas of responsibility between the venue and the promoter.

Security Companies: The security companies often coordinate activities around safety and usually generate a security operational plan for events. This document contains the strategies that will be utilised to ensure patron safety and clarifies the roles of the different groups. Security personnel conduct entrance searches and monitor intoxication levels and crowd behaviour. If needed, they refer intoxicated patrons to a chill-out area or eject them from the event.

Organisers of under-18 events: Some promoters specialise in organising events for patrons under 18. They hire the security companies and the venues, often using unlicensed venues since no alcohol is served. More responsibility for safety may fall on promoters of under-age events than R18 events since they may "create a venue", for example holding parties in a warehouse. This means the requirements and regulations may not be as straightforward as events for adults where there's a licensed venue and a liquor license. Youth events generally make less money because they do not have alcohol sales and may have higher venue costs since venues will not have the revenue source of alcohol sales.

Service Providers

NZ Police: Police constables are concerned about the safety and welfare of patrons and property in or near events. Police may be called to an event for issues such as responding to

a neighbour's noise complaint or an aggressive patron. They may encounter the after-effects of intoxication, such as vulnerability to sexual assault. In Auckland, Alcohol Harm Reduction Officers have been particularly proactive around safer dance party strategies, working in collaboration with CAYAD to spearhead the SDP project.

St John: St John is the largest provider of medical services at events in New Zealand. They are usually hired to provide first aid staff at dance parties or music events with more than 750 patrons. They treat minor and moderate medical conditions on site and refer more serious cases for hospital treatment. Their concern is the safety and health of staff and patrons at music events.

Fire Service: The New Zealand Fire Service's key aims are fire safety and fire prevention. They are involved with venues that host dance parties and events at a planning level and focus on fire prevention, fire safety and fire outcomes.

Red Frogs: Red Frogs are a volunteer service provider that provides peer assistance to patrons at dance parties and music events. Red Frogs focus on providing support and intervention to intoxicated patrons and assess whether they may require further medical attention by St John staff. Red Frogs maintain a safe zone and patrol events looking for people who may be intoxicated or who appear to be vulnerable. The group started in Australia, was brought to New Zealand about five years ago and takes its name from the red frog lollies they distribute.

4.0 Results

4.1 Dance Parties Issues

In this section we will describe stakeholders' perceptions of safety at dance parties and music events and discuss safety issues they identified. Approximately four years ago, in response to research indicating that dance party culture was associated with a high level of illicit drug use, CAYAD designed the Safer Dance Parties (SDP) project to reduce the harm that illicit drugs and alcohol have on partygoers. CAYAD's activities take a harm reduction approach, which aims to minimise illness or injury associated with drug and alcohol use that may occur at dance party events. CAYAD worked to put in place strategies to reduce the harm of drugs and alcohol and to change the culture of drug use at dance parties. This evaluation found that intoxication remains the main safety concern at dance parties. We will discuss the issue of intoxication and the steps that have been put in place to minimise the harm that can result.

4.2 Intoxication

Stakeholders identified intoxication from alcohol or illicit drugs as the main patron safety issue at dance parties and music events. Patrons of these events shared this view, reporting that intoxication is the main problem at dance parties and they have seen other patrons in unsafe situations.

A particular concern for event organisers is pre-loading, or patrons taking illicit drugs or alcohol before they enter the event. Event organisers explain that once a patron is inside a venue, their alcohol consumption is controlled and managed. However, problems occur when patrons pre-load immediately before they enter an event. They appear fine at the point-of-entry, but once inside, quickly become intoxicated. In addition to health risks from excessive alcohol and drug intake, intoxication can lead to other safety issues like the possibility of injury or vulnerability to sexual assault. Especially vulnerable are intoxicated patrons who become separated from their friends and must fend for themselves.

Some stakeholders explained a particular danger with illicit drug use is people using drugs without sufficient understanding of the effects, perhaps mixing drugs or mixing drugs and alcohol.

4.3 Responses

In response to concerns for patron safety, a number of strategies have been adopted by the industry. It has become standard practice to have St John staff at larger events, utilise alcohol risk management procedures and have food and water available. Some of these changes have occurred because the police now offer more guidance around these issues.

One strategy Council and the police have used to bring about change is the requirement of Special Liquor Licenses for venues to host large events or remain open past their normal trading hours. The application for these licenses asks about areas such as availability of food, non-alcoholic beverages, steps to promote responsible consumption of liquor. Venue managers reported that district licensing representatives may check that the stated procedures are indeed in place for an event. The police explain that these special licenses are a way of influencing the adoption of SDP practices, for example making the provision of free water a condition of a special license.

4.4 Fewer Dance Parties

It should be noted that changes have also occurred to the Auckland dance party and music festival scene that are unrelated to the SDP project. Stakeholders explain that the current economic climate has contributed to the reduction in size and number of dance parties and music events in Auckland. There are not nearly as many large dance parties as there were previously and the city's largest annual music festival, The Big Day Out, no longer exists. Many Auckland promoters have left the business, others have changed the focus of their events and others have scaled back the size or the number of dance parties they organise. In contrast, an increasing trend is for large, multi-day music festivals to be held outside in rural areas, particularly around New Years Eve. Some stakeholders believe another change for dance parties has been a reduction in the drug taking culture. They report the quality of illicit drugs previously associated with dance parties, such as Ecstasy or GBH, that is currently available in NZ is low.

4.5 The effectiveness of SDP project components

This section of the report will focus on the three strategies that are the focus of the SDP project:

- Security search training: improving the effectiveness of the entry search procedures through training;
- Drug security boxes: lockable boxes for storing illegal drugs seized at dance events;
- The utilisation of a safety net for partygoers through the use of safe zones with support from members of the Red Frog service.

4.5.1 Patron searches:

All stakeholders agreed that patron search procedures have improved over the last few years. Patrons now routinely undergo searches on entry to events. Security company personnel usually search patrons' bags for drugs and alcohol, and may also ask patrons to turn out their pockets and open their jackets. Participants report that search procedures have become more standardised and formalised. They believe the new search procedures have contributed to patron safety. A St John event volunteer reported that improved search procedures were reducing the amount of drug related medical problems at dance parties.

The procedures are improving. When I first started 3 years ago, we would get 10-15 people on Ecstasy and those drugs a night. I recently did a dance party and I didn't see one person all night on drugs..... I attribute that to better search procedures.

Stakeholders also report that the effectiveness of patron searches vary depending on the quality, motivation and training of the security company and the individual security guard. Security personnel also explain that procedures may vary depending on the expectations of event organisers. Venue managers explain that they would sometimes like to utilise additional security personnel but those extra resources cost money and this industry has small profit margins. St John and Red Frogs representatives explain that they can tell how effective the drug search procedures have been on a given night and this will partially determine how many cases they deal with. A Red Frog representative explained:

You can see at a venue how well the security are doing, how seriously they're taking it, how well-trained they are. They're some that are incredible, they do such a good job and you see by the drug box how much they put in there. But we've done an event recently where we had a guy that St John was helping and right here in his pocket (indicates his chest), he had a huge bulge of different pills and marijuana and everything and we were like, how did that get through? It's definitely getting better compared to a few years ago though.

Participants believed security personnel need additional training in patron search strategies, particularly better training in identifying illicit drugs. Currently, security companies brief their staff immediately before an event; at these meetings a representative from Downtown Licensing sometimes offers a 15 minute briefing on identifying illicit drugs. All security guards that we spoke to had worked at events for years but had not received specific drug search training. An NZ police representative explained that security personnel have not had sufficient training on searching for, identifying and knowing where to look for illicit drugs on patrons and identifying intoxicated people. A security company manager advocated for staff to have consistent understandings of intoxication levels while another manager argued there should also be more training on the effects of drugs and alcohol on patrons. He explained that security guards also increasingly need training in understanding the law as it relates to their job and training in customer service, because of the changing role of security guards.

While patron search procedures have improved, stakeholders reported that when the procedures were first implemented, more drugs were discovered than are found now. Participants believed patrons now expect to undergo a search so they may have become more clever in where and how they hide drugs. Participants reported that security personnel need more training to learn the current methods patrons have for carrying illicit drugs. Several stakeholders expressed the opinion that it was impossible to completely stop drugs entering venues, as patrons might hide a tiny pill on their body or females might hide it in their bra. An NZ Police representative explained that legally, the police cannot search a patron's person without reasonable grounds to believe they possess illicit substances.

We got a huge amount of drugs right at the start, but now they have become a little bit more savvy and they are hiding those drugs on their person. As soon as you hide those drugs on a person, then you can't do a personal search. We can't as police come in and search them without reasonable grounds...to believe that the person has drugs on them.

While the Police are clear on the legal requirements for searches, other stakeholders report there is some confusion over exactly what search procedures are appropriate and legal for security personnel to undertake. Some stakeholders also report that there is not a clear understanding among the groups involved as to what should happen to a patron caught with illicit drugs.

Many stakeholders felt that searches should not be so intrusive as to alienate patrons. Particularly, venue managers and promoters do not want search strategies to become so heavy handed that they diminish the relaxing experience for patrons. A promoter pointed out that in determining the search procedures to use, the type of event and crowd should be

considered. Some events will require stricter regulations than others; for example, a smaller event targeted at an older crowd run by an experienced promoter may require fewer drug search procedures. Patron feedback indicated that patrons may resent more intrusive search strategies such as drug sniffing dogs.

Stakeholders explained that patron searches at events organised for under-18 year olds may be approached differently. Organisers of these events also search patrons' bags for items such as fireworks, permanent markers or cigarettes. One organiser of these events explained that patrons no longer attempt to bring any contraband in their bags because they know it will not be permitted. The organisers we spoke to indicate they do not tolerate preloading and publicise to their patrons that they will be taken to a sober room if they arrive intoxicated and will not be able to enjoy the party. None of the organisers of these events we interviewed has discovered any youth with illegal drugs. One community group that organises dance parties for patrons under 18 has recently instituted new search procedures such as breathalysing all patrons at entry and reserving the right to do pat-downs, both of which are advertised as conditions of entry. Several stakeholders believed that patrons under 18 years old may be more used to being searched and therefore more tolerant of it. A promoter of events for under-18 year old patrons wanted more clarification of acceptable search procedures:

We'd like some information from the Council and the police about what the laws are on searching kids. We're pretty confident kids don't sneak alcohol in because we do a fairly thorough search but when you're talking about a party pill that's half the size of my fingernail, there's many places to hide that. So we'd like some feedback on that and to be to pass on to our security companies about what we can actually do. The less [drugs] that gets inside, the better. But at this stage, we're a little bit in the dark as to what the rules are with that. Especially when you're dealing with minors.

Security personnel, venue managers and promoters believed it was important to keep the queue for entry moving quickly. Several stakeholders explained that promoters want a quick queue so as not to diminish the patron's experience. Security personnel and venue managers also described that if left in line too long, patrons may become restless, start fighting or try to drink as much alcohol as possible while waiting in line. They believed patrons were safer and easier to manage once they were inside a venue. A police representative advocated purposely slowing down the queue to allow alcohol to take its full effect on patrons who had been preloading, though other stakeholders saw this practice as problematic.

One of the strategies used to speed up the queue is targeted searches or profiling patrons for searches. This has led to more males than females being searched but one security manager explained that male patrons now often have females carry drugs into the venue because they are less likely to be searched.

An additional search strategy that participants advocated was for security to continue patrolling venues once patrons were inside. Toilets are particularly important to regularly patrol because stakeholders have noticed this is a common area for patrons to consume or sell drugs. Security personnel noted the necessity of female security guards to patrol the women's toilets.

4.5.2 Drug security boxes

Several years ago, the Downtown police identified that illicit drugs confiscated at dance parties and music festivals were not being handled in a secure manner. A police representative described going to a dance party, walking into the office where the head of security is stationed and seeing confiscated drugs lying around unsecured:

When I first went to a dance party, I walked in to the ICP [incident control point] and it was just a mangled mess on the desk with anyone having access to it. So that was an example of it not being dealt with well and that is when we brought the drug box in.

The officer researched options for more secure handling of drugs and found the idea of a locked drug box (see Case Study: Change over time, for more details). CAYAD provided funding to purchase permanently-mounted drug boxes for several of the large venues in Auckland and the police have also obtained a mobile drug box that can be taken to events at venues without a permanent box. The specially designed boxes are expensive and future funding of these may require an industry/community response, or fundraising. Any drugs confiscated are placed in the box with a log of the details of what was found, when and where. The police have the keys to the box and pick up the drugs at a later time. The boxes are designed to provide standard procedures for lawfully dealing with confiscated drugs. A police representative explained:

It is all very well that you need to tell security that they need to search, but then once they find these drugs, police are not always there...So the drug box is like a police man on the wall so to speak. Once the security has already found the drug and then they need to lawfully deal with that.

All of the participants that use the locked drug boxes, such as police, security personnel and venue managers are pleased with the concept and with the way it functions. Stakeholders explain that it was not difficult to convince venues to implement drug boxes were because they enable legal requirements. The drug boxes allow illicit drugs to be dealt with in a legal and secure way and provide a better understanding of the correct procedures. A venue manager reported.

It provides a better understanding of what needs to be done.

Security personnel who have used them are pleased with the drug boxes. Security company managers explain that without a drug box, security personnel may be intimidated to confiscate and be holding illicit drugs. Using the drug box alleviates some of the risk for security guards. A company manager explained that security guards might be more motivated to confiscate drugs if there is a procedure for handling them securely.

If the guys don't know what to do about it, they are not going to take it off customers.

Some stakeholders involved in dance parties and music festivals are not aware of the use of the locked drug box since they are not directly involved with them. For example, most Red Frogs volunteers and St John staff were not familiar with the use of drug boxes.

Only minor issues or suggested improvements were mentioned regarding the drug boxes. The police believe the only issue with the drug boxes is that they are a bit small. A venue manager explained that police sometimes take a week to come empty the box which can make the venue feel vulnerable. A representative of CAYAD recommended that each police district have two mobile drug boxes for venue use. Going forward, the police could consider these issues raised concerning the locked drug boxes.

Patron Safety Net Strategies

4.5.3 Places of Safety

Part of the CAYAD approach to creating safer dance parties and music events is creating a safety net for patrons once they are inside a venue. To ensure safety, events have used strategies such as St John first aid services for years but recently other practices have been put in place to reduce the harm of alcohol and illicit substances. The main strategy is to employ places of safety for intoxicated patrons; these are often staffed by support groups such as Red Frogs. In this section, we will explain the concept of a place of safety, the ways

in which their use has affected those in the industry and stakeholders' perspectives on the effectiveness of the Red Frogs approach.

Under the Alcohol Harm Reduction Act, police can prosecute a venue if they find an intoxicated person on their premises unless the person is being cared for in a place of safety. Traditionally, if a patron arrived at a venue intoxicated or became intoxicated inside the venue, security would eject from the event. Venue managers, promoters and security companies were concerned about legal action arising if they had an intoxicated person in their venue. Over the last few years, the approach has shifted to one in which venues can now put intoxicated patrons in a place of safety inside the venue, rather than ejecting them. These places of safety are referred to by many names: sober room, chill-out zones, safe zone, etc. Once taken to a safe zone, patrons could be offered food and water, encouraged to sit and rest and their intoxication levels can be monitored. If a patron appears to sober up, they may return to the event and if their condition worsens they are referred to medical care. The same strategy can be employed for patrons who arrive at events intoxicated. Patrons may also choose to go to a chill out area to have space to take a break from the party or to access additional assistance if needed.

Utilising a place of safety for intoxicated patrons has had a significant effect on events in Auckland. The overall mind-set has shifted to one which takes a duty-of-care approach to patrons. Representatives from the police explain that they would prefer venues to place an intoxicated person in a place of safety rather than eject them from an event, leaving them possibly alone and vulnerable outside a venue. Stakeholders agreed that it is not safe to throw out an intoxicated person, particularly a young female, into a potentially dangerous situation to fend for themselves so they now take a duty of care approach and look after intoxicated patrons in a place of safety in the venue. Stakeholders in this evaluation agreed that chill-out zones are essential. Utilising a place of safety is important for venues as it can prevent police prosecution for allowing intoxicated patrons to remain.

Utilising safe zones and patron safety net strategies has also affected the role of security personnel. Their role has shift from solely being bouncers or enforcers to becoming hosts with a duty of care. Security companies like the concept of a chill out zone because security personnel can encourage intoxicated patrons to sit down, have some food and water and "hang out" while they sober up rather than automatically ejecting a patron from an event. Security staff can intervene earlier before a patron is too intoxicated, allowing them to send a message to patrons about behaviour that will not be tolerated without having to eject patrons onto the street. Patrons appear to appreciate this new role for security personnel; when we

asked patrons what helps them feel safe at dance parties and music festivals, the most frequent response was the availability of security personnel that have a helpful attitude.

4.5.4 Red Frogs

Recently an additional strategy is using Red Frogs volunteers to staff venues' places of safety and provide peer support to event patrons. Stakeholders that are familiar with Red Frogs agree they are very effective. Participants explained that Red Frogs are effective because young people can relate to them and find them approachable. They are trusted because they're not seen as authority figures and are not judgemental. Participants believed that patrons are willing to tell Red Frogs volunteers more information about any drugs they've taken than they would share with police, security or St John. A representative from the NZ Police was enthusiastic about the Red Frogs:

They would be probably the biggest success story we have from the safer dance parties.

And a venue manager summed up his feelings about the service:

The Red Frogs have been a massive step forward.

Participants believe the Red Frogs are particularly effective for two types of situations: 1) those times when a patron is intoxicated and requires some assistance, but not so intoxicated that they require medical treatment from St John and 2) when patrons have become separated from their friends. Patrons explained that being with a group of friends at events helps them feel safer and they feel most vulnerable when they lose their friends. Red Frogs can also help when a patron arrives at a venue having pre-loaded and security refuses to let them enter. Red Frogs can look after them until they have sobered up enough to go in. Participants explained that the presence of Red Frogs makes patrons, and for under-age events parents, feel safer about the event. Some stakeholders commented that Red Frogs are suited for events targeted at younger patrons. Stakeholders also explained that security personnel, St John or the Police may choose to call involve Red Frogs if a patron is being difficult as Red Frogs volunteers might be able to talk to the patron and calm them down. A promoter of events for under-18 year olds explained that one area they asked Red Frogs to monitor was the safety of young girls.

Other stakeholder groups rely on the Red Frogs. Event promoters report that Red Frogs provide them peace of mind and are extra people who help manage a good event. The presence of Red Frogs volunteers at dance parties frees-up the time of other service

personnel. St John representatives report that having Red Frogs at a venue reduces their workload and allows them to focus on medical emergencies. They explained that one intoxicated person can consume a lot of St John's attention when the patron does not actually require medical assistance. Red Frogs and St John have developed a positive working relationship since September 2010. A St John staff member explained:

I recommend to our customers that they use Red Frogs especially for a dance party or an event with alcohol involved. It takes a lot of the pressure off our staff so we can deal with the real medical injuries. They can deal with the intoxication. They're really, really good.

When the Red Frogs were first introduced to New Zealand, the Downtown police advocated for venues to utilise the service, but this was met with some resistance. Some venue management was reluctant to embrace the model; for example, even when they reluctantly agreed to allow the Red Frogs to work at an event, management placed them outside the venue where they could not be as effective. A police representative explained one reason for this resistance was that venue managers perceived Red Frogs as distributing too much free water, causing the venue to lose revenue. A venue manager explained that some event organisers may be reluctant to use the Red Frogs because they are associated with a Christian group and their volunteers may attempt to proselytize to patrons. A Red Frogs representative believed venues and promoters may have initially been worried that the police were trying to reduce the fun at events but then they saw that Red Frogs weren't trying to operate as an authority figure but were trying to support an event and make it safer. A police participant explained that there has been a change in attitude over time so the police no longer need to request Red Frog involvement because it has become a service that venues want to have.

With the patron safety net strategies, the acceptance of Red Frogs [has changed] from not being accepted to grudgingly being accepted to we don't even need to get involved now. The organisers and promoters are inviting Red Frogs.

While the Red Frogs are building a reputation in the dance party scene, stakeholders believe there is insufficient awareness about the services of Red Frogs. Red Frogs volunteers agree there is not enough awareness among patrons about their services. Many patrons do not yet know they can receive assistance at music festivals and dance parties if they need it. None of the patrons involved in this evaluation showed awareness of Red Frogs. Stakeholders recommended more publicity for the Red Frogs, with one event promoter suggesting that the Red Frogs create a Facebook page that event promoters and venue managers could link to their event promotions. A Red Frog participant hopes the group can become part of the

culture of dance parties so that patrons just know that dance parties and Red Frogs go together. Red Frogs will be more effective if they have an actual partnership with venues and promoters rather than being a tag-on or afterthought.

An additional issue for Red Frogs is the amount of training their volunteers receive. Participants from various stakeholder groups believed that Red Frogs have received a great deal of training on dealing with situations that may arise at events. However, the current group of volunteers has only undergone one brief training session before helping at events. Red Frogs are planning to run three to four additional training sessions over the course of the year on topics such as drugs and alcohol, basic first aid and sexual abuse awareness training. It appears that Red Frogs volunteers should undergo more than one training session before assisting vulnerable young people. While Red Frogs are not expected to replace St John as first-aiders, they may be the first person to see a patron requiring assistance and are often expected to assess whether a patron requires further medical attention. In addition, they may be exposed to emotionally-charged situations, for example an intoxicated person discussing suicide. Red Frog volunteers do not need to become professional first-aiders or counsellors, but a great deal of responsibility is placed on them and further training would enhance the volunteers' and patron's emotional and physical safety.

Another concern expressed by stakeholders was the need to continue to build capacity of Red Frogs in other ways as well. As a fledgling project in New Zealand, Red Frogs requires additional funding and capacity-building to become more professional and sustainable. Some patrons pointed out that it was important to ensure sufficient numbers of female volunteers, as an intoxicated female may feel more comfortable with another female caring for her. As demand for their services grows, venue managers are concerned that the Red Frogs may not be able to accommodate all requests to work at events. One venue reported the desire to establish an in-house, Red Frogs type service of its own to deal with this situation.

While Red Frogs is the largest such peer-support group, other groups have been established. A community group that runs dance parties for patrons under 18 has its own in-house group of young people that provide a service similar to Red Frogs. They explained that having a chill out zone staffed with trained volunteers allows them to take a mentoring approach to assisting a young person who arrives intoxicated. For example, the day after an event the volunteers follow up with any patron who has been involved with drugs, alcohol or injury. This group admits that it took time to build up trust and rapport with the patrons.

4.5.5 Water

Another patron safety net strategy discussed by stakeholders was the availability of free water at events. Because water is one of the revenue sources for venues, some venues have seen free water as cutting into their profit margin, so this change has been more difficult than some other strategies. Participants reported that there has indeed been a change over the last few years, with venues ensuring more availability of water at events. Turning off cold water in the toilets is not a practice that is observed any more. A patron offered an example of the change: approximately five years ago one of the smaller event venues had scalding water running in the bathroom taps and the same venue now has glasses of free water available at the bar. Several stakeholders described venues now having free water available in large tanks at some of the bigger concerts. Some stakeholders suggested venues charging for the first bottle of water and then allowing patrons to refill their bottles for free. A representative from the NZ police argued that it is important not only to have free water available, but to offer it in easily accessible areas with prominent signage promoting it. Stakeholders believed the availability of water is improving but is an issue that still needs to be addressed.

4.6 Case Study: Change over time

Venue Z can be seen as a case study of the change over time in attitudes and practices around safety at dance parties and music events. Venue Z is a large venue in Auckland that can accommodate more than 10,000 people or be partitioned to host smaller events. It is the site of many concerts and dance parties. Over the last three to four years, management at the venue have changed their policies and strategies around Safer Dance Party practices, particularly with the handling of drugs, availability of water and use of Red Frogs.

One of the first changes in Safer Dance Party practices at Venue Z was the adoption of a locked box for drugs confiscated at events. In fact, the use of the drug box in Auckland came about because of a police officer's experience at a dance party at Venue Z several years ago. At the end of the event, the police officer found a large number of pill baggies on the floor, indicating that patrons were bringing a significant amount of drugs into the venue. In addition, the police officer was frustrated at the handling of drugs that were confiscated at the venue entrance. A NZ police officer described seeing drugs being managed in a non-secure manner.

Because the officer believed there had to be a better, more secure way in which to manage confiscated drugs, she investigated the handling of drugs at venues and learned of the concept of a locked drug box being used in England. This work was not her police unit's core business, but she felt strongly about finding a solution to the problem and the idea seemed good so she was encouraged to pursue it. CAYAD purchased a locked drug box and the first drug box in New Zealand was installed at Venue Z, apparently with no objections from the venue.

After their successful use at Venue Z, drug boxes were installed at a number of other venues around Auckland and a mobile drug cabinet has also been purchased. The drug box appears to be functioning well at Venue Z. The manager explained the venue's attitude to the drug box:

The police are happy with the functioning of the boxes and so are we. It provides a better understanding of what needs to be done.

The police explained that the locked drug box was the easiest Safer Dance Party strategy to convince Venue Z to adopt.

They are happy for the drug box, because that looks after the legal side of things for drugs.

Other strategies were harder to implement at the venue. An initiative that was met with resistance was greater availability of water. The police explained that at Venue Z the water in the taps in the toilets was running warm so patrons had to buy bottles of water for \$5.00 or \$6.00 and couldn't refill their bottles. A participant from the NZ police explained:

The water in the toilets was running as either warm or hot so there was no cold water available.[Patrons] were forced to buy it and if you didn't have the money, and as these dance parties are quite expensive then they just couldn't afford it.

The same police participant explained that the practice of providing free water was one of the most difficult policies to enact at Venue Z because this affects the venue's profits. One way in which the police persuaded Venue Z to provide water was by making this a condition of the special license the venue needed to obtain to extend their trading hours for a dance party. A participant from the NZ Police explained:

With the free water, initially it didn't concern us but then we realised that a lot of these people were going to the St John's room to get water because they

couldn't afford to buy it....So inspiring these venues to provide free water as a condition of their special license to us has been probably one of our biggest hurdles. We got past the initial hurdle and now it's the norm and that's how it should be.

Another Safer Dance Parties strategy that has been utilised at Venue Z is the use of the Red Frogs. Like the provision of free water, this strategy proved difficult to enact and the venue was resistant to providing the service of the Red Frogs in the beginning. One example of the venue's lack of cooperation was their locating the Red Frogs station outside the venue where they could not be as effective. The police believe part of the initial resistance was to the Red Frogs providing free water to patrons who needed it. Two police representatives explained what happened the first time Red Frogs volunteered at Venue Z:

The hardest thing to get in is the Red Frogs, because it took a long time to get into [Venue Z]. When we first started with Red Frogs, they were put outside. We couldn't even get them in the venue... Allowing people to come in and set up the chill out zone and give out free water and ice blocks and things like that. That is where you get the most resistance.

The first time they were used at Venue Z we wanted them to be inside. They said they could be inside and when they got there on the day they were told they couldn't be inside and they were moved outside into the front area, a significant distance away from the door, out on their own. Ridiculous.

Over time, when Venue Z saw the Red Frogs in action and learned more about their approach, the venue's attitudes changed and Red Frogs was invited to work inside and provided with space for a chill out zone. In fact, Venue Z now provides a large VIP room for Red Frogs to use as their chill out zone. This proves effective for Red Frogs. A Red Frog representative explained the change over time:

Venue Z [now] says, we back you. Instead of like a few years ago, venues were going, "Red Frogs are going to be here, where can we put them just to make them happy?" Now it's, "where can we put you so you can be effective because we see the value?" For us, that's huge.

One of the Red Frog volunteers pointed out the placement of Red Frogs at Venue Z is still not perfect as some patrons are not aware of the purpose of the room and do not know they are welcome in there, thinking that it is a VIP room, but there certainly has been a change over time.

The use of Red Frogs has also allowed Venue Z to change their approach to dealing with intoxicated people, from a policy of ejecting them from the venue to a policy of caring for them. The venue manager at Venue Z explained the shift in thinking for security personnel:

[Security] have to adopt a different way of dealing with intoxicated people. Instead of ejecting intoxicated patrons, as usually would happen, they need to take them to get help, look after them, take them to the Red Frogs, make sure they get water, rest, a lolly pop, and let the Frogs look after them. Security need to know it is an issue and not just a matter of getting rid of drunks.

The value that Venue Z places on the Red Frogs is also indicated by the fact that it is the first venue that has committed to making an on-going, substantial financial contribution to the group to assist with all of their activities, not just at Venue Z. Red Frogs representatives take this as a sign of the importance and trust that Venue Z holds about Red Frogs. Red Frogs believe this also reflects an approach where the venue and Red Frogs are true partners in patron safety, rather than Red Frogs being an add-on or afterthought.

The venue manager at Venue Z also speaks very highly of Red Frogs. He believes their security staff and the St John staff are pleased to have Red Frogs working with them. The manager expressed to the NZ Police that:

We have found Red Frogs to be extremely useful as a go between the venue and patrons. As youthful volunteers it gives dance party crowds someone they are more able to relate to who are not necessarily an authority figure, so they can put them at ease if they have had a little too much of something and feel relaxed in a comfy environment. This helps with our duty of care, as we do not need to evict someone who can then either be harmed or cause harm whilst under the influence.

Red Frogs representatives have noticed the change in policies at Venue Z and now it is one of their preferred places to work. A Red Frogs participant explained that Venue Z now has a high regard for patron safety and wellbeing.

The team at Venue Z are really interested in making sure their host responsibility is high... They're really proactive in asking, what are the needs, what are the challenges, which is good.

In summary, over the last four years, Venue Z has changed many of their practices and has adopted Safer Dance Party strategies in an attempt to ensure patron wellbeing at their events. Initially, this change occurred because of pressure from

CAYAD and NZ Police, but now these actions have become incorporated into the venue's standard practice.

4.7 Evidence for the effectiveness of SDP strategies: NZ Police and St John reports

4.7.1 NZ Police Reports

Prior to 2008 there was no established procedure in New Zealand for the seizure, storage and disposal of drugs found on patrons entering dance party venues. Some venues searched patrons as they entered an event, some didn't; the venues that did confiscate drugs from patrons during point-of-entry searches stored the drugs insecurely and disposed of them as they saw fit.

In 2008 the NZ Police initiated a programme to minimise the harm caused by drug use in venues in New Zealand. The police programme was based on the principle of harm minimisation and was in-keeping with the National Drug Policy 2007-2012. Some venues were already operating drug searches and the police policy sought to help venues take the correct course of action to ensure the safety of all staff and to act within the law when dealing with the seizure and disposal of drugs (NZ Police, 2012).

The use of drug security boxes in New Zealand was based on national best-practice, developed in the UK. Drug boxes serve the purpose of preventing people from committing an offence while in possession of confiscated drugs, or of the seized drugs finding their way back into the community.

The use of formalised drug search procedures and drug security boxes, already being promoted by the police, were promoted by CAYAD, along with the use of a safety net in the form of the Red Frog organisation, beginning in 2009, as a part of the Safer Dance Parties (SDP) strategy.

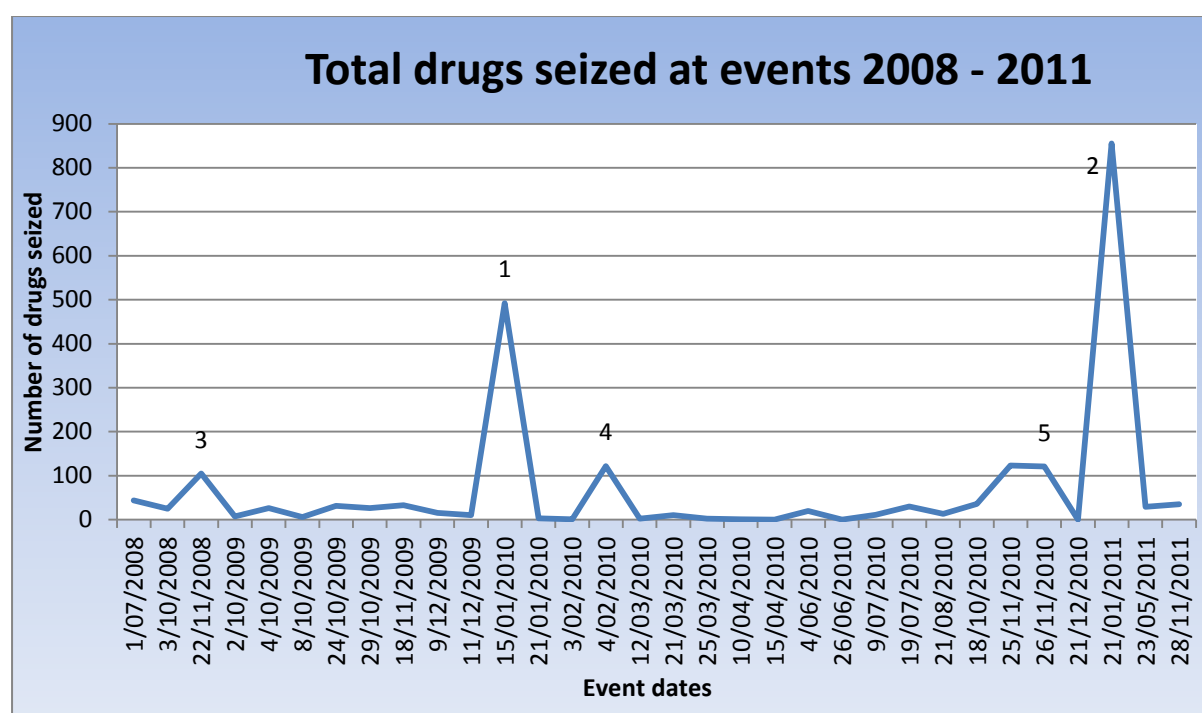
The absence of a formal drug search, storage and handover policy, prior to 2008, makes it difficult to compare the amount of drugs confiscated before and after the SDP strategies were implemented. The records of drug confiscations that we were provided with began in 2008, around the same time as the SDP strategies.

The majority of drugs confiscated during searches are ecstasy, cannabis, unidentified tablets, unidentified powder and party pills. Other items include nitrous oxide canisters and

liquid GHB held in small plastic containers. The ways in which people attempt to smuggle drugs into events include hiding them in tobacco pouches and cigarette packets, in their pockets, socks and bags.

We examined NZ Police reports from Auckland venues hosting dance parties and events during the period 2008 to 2011. We recorded the numbers of drug confiscations (including ecstasy, party pills, cannabis, unknown powder and unknown pills) for events during that period.

Table 1, Drug seizures resulting from searches at Auckland dance parties and events



Five significant events appear in Table 1. **Number 1** is a Big Day Out (15/01/2010) festival attended by 45000 people which resulted in 492 illegal drug items being seized. **Number 2** is a Big Day Out (21/01/2011) festival attended by 45,000 people which resulted in 855 illegal drug items being seized. **Number 3** was a Deep Hard n Funky (22/11/2008) event, attended by approximately 6,000 people, which resulted in 105 drug items being seized. **Number 4** was an ACDC concert (4/2/2010) which was attended by 60,000 people which resulted in 121 drug items being seized. **Number 5** was two U2 concerts, held on consecutive days (25/11/2010 & 26/11/2010), attended by 41,000 and 51,000 people respectively and resulted in 123 and 121 drug items being seized on those days.

The number of drug seizures over the period 2008-2011 fluctuates greatly. The graph is dominated by five large events, four of which are rock-type events and one a dance party event. In between the five large events, are many dance parties, which typically do not result in anywhere near as many drug seizures.

During interviews and focus groups, several stakeholders reported that drug searches were more successful when they were first introduced as they took people by surprise, but as time went on people got used to the searches and became more inventive at hiding drugs. The opposing stakeholder view, reported during interviews and focus groups, is that search techniques are improving and becoming more effective through training, organisation and the establishment of set procedure.

The former view of decreasing effectiveness would produce falling rates of drug seizures, while the latter view of increasing effectiveness would result in rising rates. Neither belief was supported by the evidence; though the former process may be offset by the latter.

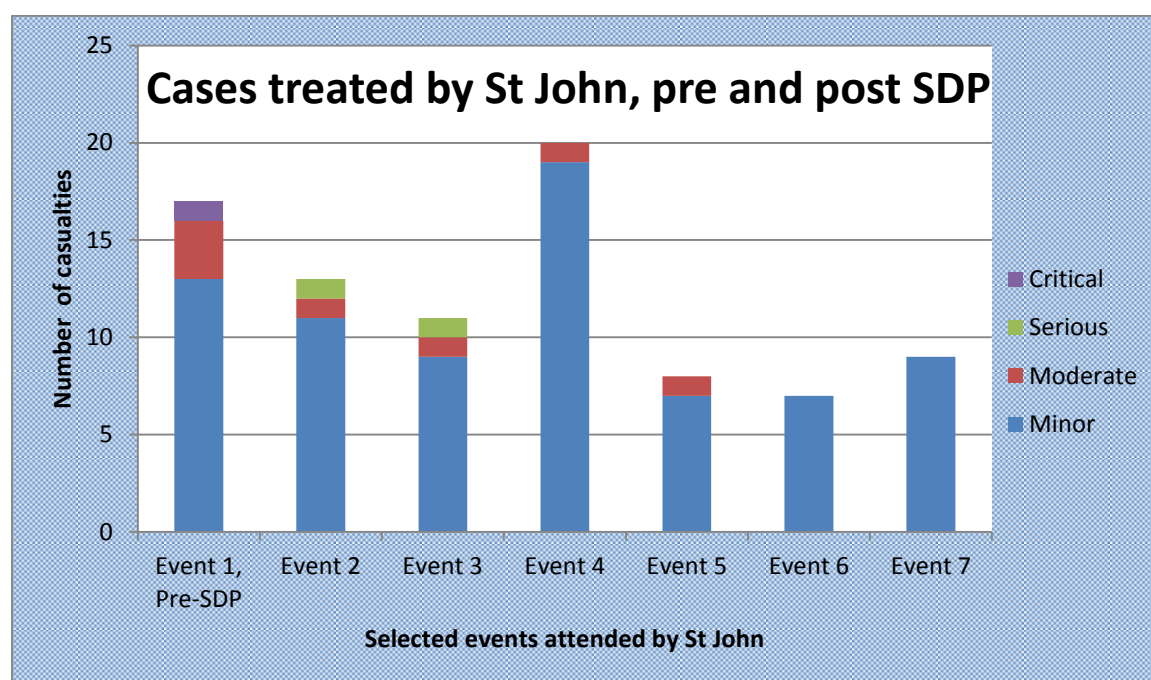
According to a report from November 2009 entitled *CAYAD Success Stories*,

A successful outcome is that venues that have received the training have confiscated twice the amount of drugs.

4.7.2 St John Event Debrief Reports

We also examined selected St John debrief reports for dance parties and music events in the Auckland region for the period 2008 – 2012. St John records the number of cases treated at an event and classifies the casualties treated as minor, moderate, serious and critical injuries. Minor cases could include blisters, nosebleeds, bruising, pre-existing injury or headache.

Table 2, Injuries treated by St John at Auckland events 2008 - 2012



As seen in Table 2, 80 cases were either minor or moderate, with only 3 serious or critical injuries over the period. The only critical case occurred at an event in 2008 before the SDP strategies were implemented; at that event two patrons with drug overdose were transported to hospital. Two trends in the data should be noted. One is a decrease in injuries at Auckland dance parties and music events over the period 2008-2012, the other is a decrease in severity of injuries over that period. Results from St John debrief reports reveal seven people were sent to hospital by ambulance from dance parties during the period 2008 to 2012. Three of those were victims of drug overdose; the remainder appeared to be non-drug related injuries, for example, fractured ankle or fainting.

Interview data from St John staff indicates that they are dealing with fewer drug related incidents. A St John volunteer reported:

At certain dance parties the search procedures are fantastic. Some events they're really slack. We'll see a lot more people on drugs at those events. The procedures are improving. When I first started 3 years ago, we would get 10-15 people on Ecstasy and those drugs a night. I recently did a dance party at Deep Hard N Funky, and I didn't see one person all night on drugs. I only saw one drunk person. I attribute that to better search procedures. I saw security at the entrance and they were frisking everybody and having them turn out their pockets.

Ongoing monitoring of drug-seizures and drug-related injuries at dance parties will enable further assessment of the effectiveness of the Safer Dance Party strategies.

4.8 Suggested Additional Practices

At dance parties and music events, responsible venue managers, promoters and security companies currently employ many effective strategies in areas such as health and safety, crowd control, risk management, environmental factors and host responsibility. This section will focus on additional practices that could make a positive difference in minimising the harm of alcohol and illicit drugs in dance parties and large events. These are practices that are currently not widespread, but were identified during this evaluation.

4.8.1 Education

Among stakeholders the most commonly suggested strategy was increased education for young people about the effects of drugs and alcohol and about “safe partying”. There were two suggested forms this education should take: 1) wider societal education and 2) health promotion messages before and at events.

Wider Education

Many stakeholders explained that intoxication at music events was related to a wider binge-drinking culture over which they had no influence. They notice a lack of awareness among young people about the effects of drugs and alcohol and about practices that young people should utilise to keep themselves and their friends safe. Stakeholders suggested increased education on these issues in secondary schools, perhaps in a similar manner as has been employed with popular sexual health education programmes. Participants point out the importance of delivering these messages in a way that young people will respond to. Another suggested strategy was a public awareness campaign on safe partying through media such as radio, TV, internet and social media.

Before and at events

A suggested practice that is not widely used in New Zealand is to employ health promotion messages for patrons before and at events. Information can be provided about safer partying and risk reduction strategies. This information can be provided in a manner that emphasises harm reduction and not heavy-handed enforcement. This can include messages about:

- Safer sex and awareness of sexual assault;
- Making a plan about getting separated from friends;

- The risks associated with drug use, particularly the risks of mixing drugs, and mixing drugs and alcohol;
- Taking time out to cool down and rest;
- Looking after friends;
- Making a plan about transportation home before heading out for the night;
- The availability and location of assistance such as St John, Red Frogs and chill out zones.

Messages could be communicated through marketing emails, social media and other promotional materials, information printed on or provided with tickets, posters displayed in the toilets at events or signage at entry. Promotional materials could also provide links to information on resources such as Red Frogs to help create patron awareness of those services. It is also important to include the conditions of entry on the ticket and/or in promotional material about the event.

4.8.2 Physical Environment

Many steps are already in place at events to ensure the safety of patrons. Stakeholders believed that by providing a quality environment it encourages good patron behaviour. Stakeholders also believed several strategies should be expanded.

- Have free water available, accessible and clearly signposted. The availability of water is slowly improving but it's an area that still needs to be addressed;
- Ensure the availability of a chill out or cool down area that is quieter than the dance area and has some seating, where patrons can choose to go for a break from dancing and loud music. This area should be separate from--or at least not interfere with--the activities of St John and Red Frogs. This could also be designated as the area for friends to meet up if they get separated;
- Ensure that toilets are monitored regularly;
- No dark corners, well lit around toilets and in view of security or place guard outside;
- Layout clear and logical so easier if patrons become isolated and lose friends they can find the safe zones easily.

4.8.3 Stakeholder Coordination

Many stakeholders suggested there should be increased coordination and communication among the various groups involved in dance parties and music events. Stakeholders explained that it is important for all groups to be on the same page and work together to look after the health and safety of patrons. A security company participant explained:

There has to be effective communication with everyone involved so that it is clear and definitive about what is required and expected from those involved. There is too much "them and us" mentality within the industry. Making sure everyone is on the same page will minimise misunderstanding and promotes efficiency and effective problem solving.

Before a large event, stakeholders such as the promoter, security company, police and the venue manager sometimes meet to coordinate activities. This may not be necessary before all events but many stakeholders have found this process valuable. A representative of Red Frogs indicated their group would like to be included in this process. In addition to planning meetings, event organisers usually create a full event management plan. One aspect of this is for all people working at an event to have a consistent definition of patron intoxication and all security utilising similar search strategies. This involves communication and planning. Security company managers would like the police to be more involved in the early stages of the event planning process because some promoters want to cut corners and do not want to accept security company recommendations. Several stakeholders believe Council or the police should look more closely at an event's operational plan to make sure the event has met the requirements of safety, security, health and fire, including strategies like drug searches, Red Frogs and St John. Stakeholders suggested that before an event organisers should inform the police and emergency services that an event will occur. Some stakeholders also suggested that the police initiate meetings of stakeholders around these issues to increase awareness of strategies. However, they admitted that getting some stakeholders, such as security companies to cooperate can be challenging since some of their practices are their intellectual property and it is a competitive field. A police representative believes the Special Liquor License process would be more effective if it involved a collaborative effort from many stakeholders. Another stakeholder suggested that one group such as venue management could take overall ownership/coordination and there needs to be clear guidelines around responsibilities.

4.8.4 Events for Under 18 year old patrons

Responsible event organisers currently employ many effective strategies specific to the under-18 crowd, including ensuring events are drug, alcohol and smoke free; giving greater consideration to holding events in safer locations; not allowing patrons to leave events and re-enter; finishing events earlier; providing additional security monitoring of the surrounding area; and not playing music as loudly as at adult events. However, there are three factors that warrant closer scrutiny of under-age events: 1) the special *In Loco Parentis* responsibility of event organisers, 2) the fact that promoters often use unlicensed venues, for example, effectively turning a warehouse into a venue and 3) the fact that organisers are not currently required to have a permit to hold an under-age dance party in Auckland. When promoters “create” a venue in a warehouse for example, there is no additional safeguard of a venue manager who is experienced in event safety strategies. While creating a venue is not necessarily dangerous, it does place additional responsibility on the event promoter. In addition, youth events do not generate as much money because there are no alcohol sales and venue costs are high, so the *potential* exists for cost-conscious event promoters to reduce their costs by reducing safety net strategies. For these reasons, some stakeholders recommend implementing a requirement that organisers obtain a basic permit to hold an under-age dance party to show they have an operational plan. Since no alcohol will be served, the requirements of a Special License are not necessary, but promoters should be able to demonstrate they have safety strategies in place and make police aware that an event will occur. With this permit requirement, once a promoter has been vetted and proven they successfully utilise a number of Safer Dance Party strategies, the approval process could be streamlined. Events for patrons under 18 should also utilise strategies suggested for adult events, such as the use of health promotion messages. It is also recommended that these events have information available for parents, for example on a website.

5.0 Conclusions

Auckland CAYAD, police and district licensing have invested a great deal of effort in promoting and implementing strategies to reduce the harm from alcohol and illicit drugs at dance parties and music events. It appears that their message has indeed been heard by stakeholders. Positive change has occurred over the last few years and stakeholders have implemented practices to ensure patron safety. There is currently a real momentum for the acceptance of these strategies. In addition, stakeholders have begun to take a more collaborative approach to harm minimisation and are beginning to cooperate on these

issues. This process has increased during this evaluation, with members of the evaluation stakeholder committee coming together three times to discuss their unique perspectives and common goals on the issue. We would encourage CAYAD to continue this collaborative approach as stakeholders report that these relationships facilitate implementation of SDP project strategies.

5.1 Event Safety

Participants in this evaluation explain that dance parties and music events are currently generally safe, well-managed events with resources in place to protect patrons. Several stakeholders noted that over the last three years, they have observed venues and promoters taking more responsibility for safety and taking more interest in host responsibility.

All patrons we spoke to reported personally feeling safe at dance parties and music events. Stakeholders explain that the atmosphere at dance parties tends to be positive, with few fights or violent incidents. Several stakeholders argued that inexperienced or unscrupulous promoters who do not do things properly give this type of event a bad name and give the impression that dance parties can be dangerous. Several stakeholders commented that dance parties are safer and more controlled than bars in the city on any given Saturday night. Several stakeholders also believed more attention needed to be given to music festivals held outside in rural areas, as they can be high risk.

Stakeholders explain that additional costs are the biggest barrier to implementing SDP strategies. Event organisers might like to hire more security for example but those practices cost money.

6.0 Recommendations

1. Implement a standardised voluntary code of practice for training security personnel. Security personnel play an important and changing role in patron safety. Security personnel need a consistent understanding of intoxication so they are able to screen patrons at entry and monitor them throughout an event. Security personnel require enhanced training on illicit drug searches at entry, including an understanding of how to identify drugs, how patrons are carrying them and the acceptable processes for confiscating drugs. The police can provide enhanced clarification for security companies and event organisers on acceptable search strategies for patrons. Security personnel also need adequate understanding of their role in providing patrons with a duty of care rather than ejecting them from events. Encourage security personnel to coordinate activities with venue and bar staff to ensure consistency around patron safety.
2. Encourage patrons to take greater personal responsibility for their wellbeing through increased knowledge and awareness of safer partying. Patrons in this evaluation explained that most young people are not aware of safety issues and do not consider strategies for ensuring their safety. Increasing awareness can take a multiple-method approach through: increased education in secondary schools, a public awareness campaign in the media and increased use of health promotion messages at dance parties and music events. Examples could include promoting the practices of looking after your mates while at an event, especially if they are intoxicated, and for young people to have a plan in place to get home safely after an event.
3. Encourage venue managers and event organisers to cooperate to take joint responsibility for patron safety. Areas of priority are free water prominently available, increased health promotion messages. Ensure that conditions of entry are advertised before the event and printed on the ticket.
4. Consider instituting a method to recognise venues that have adopted Safer Dance Party practices, such as an award or certificate. The industry should reward those who excel in demonstrating SDP to a high standard.
5. CAYAD should continue to strengthen the cooperation and collaboration of various groups involved with SDP activities. Build on the strength of the relationships that have developed among various stakeholders. In addition, share the lessons learned with

events occurring outside Auckland. Some of the strategies that have been developed in Auckland could be used in the large, multi-day music festivals being held in rural areas.

6. Strengthen the processes of the Red Frogs. Ensure greater clarity around their role—what they are and what they are not. Implement more formalised agreements with venues so Red Frogs become true partners and not an add-on activity. At the moment their participation in events is ad-hoc. This process could involve guidelines on the amount of advance warning required to request their services at an event, enhanced understanding of their needs at an event such as allocation of space, the provision of water for them to distribute to patrons in need, a greater understanding of the venue's responsibility in ensuring the safety of the young volunteers and an expectation of some financial contribution from event organisers. Well-defined boundaries are required to protect the individual volunteers and the organisation as a whole. The potential exists for industry stakeholders to take advantage of the goodwill of the Red Frogs. In addition, ensure Red Frogs have additional training, with more than one training session required before volunteers can attend events. Continue to build the capacity of Red Frogs and secure additional funding to enable project sustainability.

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Appendices

Appendix 1 Stakeholder Survey

Safer Dance Parties in the Auckland Region

We invite you to take part in a 10 minute survey for stakeholders interested in safer dance parties in the greater Auckland region.

Hello,

Impact Research NZ is a research company interested in safer dance parties in the greater Auckland region and we would like to hear from stakeholders interested in safer dance parties in the greater Auckland region. E.g. event organisers/promoters, St Johns, Fire Service, NZ Police, Red Frog, CAYAD, venues and security companies.

We have conducted interviews with industry stakeholders and now we are surveying patrons and stakeholders to seek your views on dance party safety.

Your comments will be treated as confidential and you will not be identified in any analysis or reporting of results.

THIS SURVEY OPENS ON 27TH JUNE 2012 AND RUNS THROUGH TO 9TH JULY 2012, WHEN IT CLOSSES. WE WILL NOT LOOK AT RESULTS AFTER 9TH JULY 2012.

1. What is your involvement with dance parties?

St Johns	Tick button
NZ Police	Tick button
Fire Service	Tick button
Red Frog	Tick button
CAYAD	Tick button
Security company	Tick button
Promoter	Tick button
Venue	Tick button
Other	What?

2. What does "safety" at dance party events mean to you?
3. How might safety at these events be improved?
4. What helps you in adopting SDP practice?
5. What hinders you from adopting SDP practice?
6. Which SDP strategies are the most effective?
7. What are the biggest safety problems you see at dance parties/music festivals?
8. How effective are the safety-net strategies at these events?
9. As a result of these SDP strategies, what changes have you noted?
10. Would you like to change any of these SDP strategies?
11. What other SDP strategies would you like to see included?
12. In what way have the Red Frogs helped you?
13. What is important to you at the venue?

Thank you for your time

<http://www.impactresearch.org.nz>

Appendix 2 Patron Survey

Your views on Safer Dance Parties in the Auckland region

We invite you to take a few minutes to give your views on safer dance parties in the greater Auckland region.

Hi,

Impact Research NZ is a research company interested in safer dance parties. The purpose of this research is to investigate ways of making dance parties safer.

We would like to hear from anyone who has attended a dance party in the greater Auckland region in the past 12 months. We are seeking your views on dance party safety.

By dance party safety we mean any aspect of the dance party organisation, practice, staff, venue or services that you find unsafe (e.g. shutting the cold water off in the toilets so people can't refill their water bottles).

Your comments will be treated as confidential.

THIS SURVEY OPENS ON 27TH JUNE 2012 AND RUNS THROUGH TO 9TH JULY 2012, WHEN IT CLOSSES. WE WILL NOT LOOK AT RESULTS AFTER 9TH JULY 2012.

If you have attended a dance party in Auckland in the past 12 months, please answer the following:

1. Did you and your friends feel safe?
2. Did you see anyone in an unsafe situation?

Yes	No
Yes	No

3. What helps you feel safer at dance parties and music festivals?

4. What are the problems at dance parties these days?

5. Is there anything else that you think could be done to improve your safety or enjoyment?

Please share this survey or forward the link to your friends who attend dance parties.

Thanks,

www.impactresearch.org.nz

Appendix 3 Focus Group and Interview questionnaire

Questions for SDP Focus Groups and Interviews

1. What are the patron safety issues you see at dance parties and music events?
2. Which of these safety issues do you think are most important?
3. In your experience, what strategies are you aware of that can be used to make these events safer for patrons?
4. Three Safer Dance Party strategies have been promoted by CAYAD. In your experience, how effective are the following practices at these events?
 - a) Drug search procedures
 - b) Locked drug boxes
 - c) Patron safety net strategies
5. How could each of the above practices be improved?
6. Do you have any specific evidence these strategies are working?
7. What difference does the presence of Red Frogs make for an event? (maybe compared to an event without Red Frogs present)
8. Which venues and promoters have adopted these Safer Dance Party strategies?
 - a) Locked drug boxes
 - b) Drug search procedures
 - c) Safety net procedures
9. How many security firms have been trained in drug search procedures and other Safer Dance Parties strategies?
10. There are many different groups involved in these events (police, St John, security, promoters, venues). How do they coordinate activities around patron safety?
11. How have the Safer Dance Party strategies been received by venue managers and event promoters?
12. How are these Safer Dance Party practices spreading?/ How do people learn about them?
13. What makes it difficult to implement SDP practices?
14. What else could be done to minimise the harm of alcohol and illicit drugs in dance parties and music events?

Appendix 4 Phone interview questionnaire

Questions for SDP Phone Interviews

Before tape: Can you tell me about your involvement in this field and in this project.

1. What are the patron safety issues you see at dance parties and music events?
2. In your experience, what strategies are you aware of that can be used to make these events safer for patrons?
3. Three Safer Dance Party strategies have been promoted by CAYAD (drug search procedures, locked drug boxes and patron safety net strategies). In your experience, how effective are each of these practices at these events?
 - d) Drug search procedures
 - e) Locked drug boxes
 - f) Patron safety net strategies, like chill-out zones or Red Frogs
4. How could each of the above practices be improved?
5. What difference does the presence of Red Frogs make for an event? (maybe compared to an event without Red Frogs present)
6. What security firms do you normally work with? What is their approach regarding drug search procedures and other Safer Dance Parties strategies?
7. There are many different groups involved in these events (police, St John, security, promoters, venues). How do they coordinate activities around patron safety?
8. How have the Safer Dance Party strategies been received by venue managers and event promoters?
9. Sector-wide, what makes it difficult to implement SDP practices?
10. What else could be done to minimise the harm of alcohol and illicit drugs in dance parties and music events?