**Drug Use, Smoking and Alcohol Policy**

Shekinah Support Care will ensure a positive commitment and approach, playing an active role in promoting all aspects of young people’s health, including education on issues in relation to those who consume and/ or misuse alcohol and any form of illegal substances.

* Young people are however not permitted under any circumstances to smoke in their bedrooms or anywhere indoors at the unit. We will also discourage young people from smoking tobacco around Shekinah Support Care’s units.
* Shekinah Support Care does not condone the consumption of illegal substances anywhere around the property, this includes staff or young people under any circumstances.
* Shekinah Support Care does not condone the consumption of alcohol within the units by young people as well as staff.
* Staff will signpost and support any young person who is making or wishes to make attempts to stop the use of illegal substances, alcohol or cigarettes.
* Ensure that young people are provided with advice, guidance and support on matters relating to alcohol/ illegal substance misuse.
* Ensure that young people have access to medical, including psychological and psychiatric advice, treatments and other services he/ she may require in relation to any addictions and/ or problems he/ she may have in terms of alcohol/ substance abuse/ usage. This would be done by working with Socials Services and Doctors.
* Alcohol and/ or any form of illegal substances must not be brought into, stored or exchanged in any property operated by Shekinah Support Care, by staff, young people or any other persons visiting.
* Staff must advise a young person that if they have reasonable suspicion that he/she is consuming on site /distributing/ or selling any illegal substances that this will be reported to the police.
* Staff must advise the police of any giving, selling / or exchange of illegal substances suspected or taking place in a property operated by Shekinah Support Care.
* Staff must not use any form of alcohol or illegal substances whilst on duty. or off duty but remaining within any of the units.
* Staff must not be under the influence of any alcohol or illegal substances before commencement of their duties.
* Staff must not purchase any alcohol or illegal substances for their own use, whilst on duty or for any other individual.
* Staff must not purchase any alcohol or illegal substances for young people, whilst on or off duty.
* Staff must not bring any alcohol or illegal substances onto any properties operated by G&H Care.
* Staff must not drive whilst under the influence of any alcohol or illegal substances whilst on duty.
* Staff must, in a sensitive manner, wherever possible monitor young people's spending patterns to ensure that monies are not being used to purchase alcohol or illegal substances.

Consideration will be given to the following in terms of actions taken to support the young
person:

* Any specific alcohol/ illegal substances and/ or related health needs
* Details of all medical personnel involved
* Medical history; past and present
* Monitoring arrangements
* Preventative health measures
* Records of developmental health checks
* Specific treatments
* The young person is not a habitual user

If staff are aware or become aware that local shopkeepers are selling alcohol to any young people accommodated by us, they must inform the local police who will take appropriate action.