

Drug forum proposed for community

By Declan Rurenga
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JUNEE residents could soon be presented with an opportunity to learn more about the encroaching scourge of crystal meth-amphetamine.

Junee High School is considering hosting a forum to spread information about the substance.

The idea follows revelations of a high level of drug detections among drivers.

“There’s certainly an ice problem and users have no insight into their behaviour,” general practitioner Darren Corbett said.

“There’s not many people in Junee using it daily, but there are people experimenting with it recreationally.

“Once recreational use begins, it can be quite a quick downward spiral,” he said.

Dr Corbett said a forum to spread the correct information about the drug would help the community tackle the problem.

“Often it’s a case of helping the people who need help,” he said.

“From a medical point of view, it’s often supporting addicts through withdrawal, there is no medical substitute and teaching them to function without the drug.

“Withdrawal can be quite dramatic,” Dr Corbett said.

June High School principal Terry Vercoe said drug education had a high profile.

“We take our social responsibilities very seriously,” Mr Vercoe said.

The school had utilised several resources, through its own personal development and physical health syllabus, to using a video featuring inmates at June jail.

“GEO Group have presented a video on the consequences of poor decision making,” he said.

Mr Vercoe said the school was considering hosting an ice forum in the third term.

“Through what we see, we understand there is a need in the community to bring in experts in the field to provide information to the community,” Mr Vercoe said.

<http://www.juneesoutherncross.com.au/story/3332709/drug-forum-proposed-for-community/?cs=1505>