

Community Justice Scotland
Ceartas Coimhearsnachd Alba

**Community Justice Outcome Activity Across Scotland
Local Area Annual Return Template and Guidance
2019-20**

April 2020

1. Background

The introduction of the Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 triggered the formal implementation of the new model of Community Justice in Scotland. A number of key documents are associated with the Act including the National Strategy, Justice in Scotland: Vision & Priorities and the Framework for Outcomes, Performance and Improvement.

The 2016 Act places a duty on community justice statutory partners to produce a Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan (CJOIP) which outlines key local needs and priorities and the plans and actions to address these against a backdrop of the documents noted above. Beyond this, the partners are also tasked with reporting, on an annual basis, the community justice outcomes and improvements in their area, again with reference to the associated strategy and framework documents and, when complete, submit those annual reports to Community Justice Scotland.

Community Justice Scotland is committed to working in partnership with community justice partners and have designed the template and guidance to support local areas in reporting on their annual outcomes and improvements in a meaningful way that captures necessary data in an effective and efficient manner.

2. Statement of Assurance

The information submitted to Community Justice Scotland using this template is for the purpose of fulfilling the requirement under s27 of the Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 for Community Justice Scotland to produce a report on performance in relation to community justice outcomes across Scotland.

The data submitted using this template will be used for this reporting purpose only. In the report, local authority areas will only be specifically identified with their consent. However, Community Justice Partnerships should be aware that any information held by Community Justice Scotland is subject to statutory Freedom of Information obligations.



3. General principles of the template

The template is designed to capture a range of important data in a way that allows local partners to highlight key aspects of community justice activities, outcomes and improvements over the specified period without it being onerous or time and resource demanding.

Most of the template is self-explanatory and, where this is the case, there is little guidance required. In the sections that require more direction for completion, please refer to the template completion guidance which was issued alongside this reporting template. The text (in blue) will outline what is expected in terms of reporting.

It would be helpful if responses in each of the “evidence and data” boxes within section 4 of the template (“performance reporting”) is held to a maximum of 300 words per indicator to ensure the main points are captured. This allows for an efficient analysis by Community Justice Scotland on return. The use of bullet points in your answers is acceptable.

Where the template asks for evidence, a written response will suffice and there is no expectation that you send additional supporting documentation – if there are any aspects Community Justice Scotland is unclear on it will be our responsibility to request clarification where necessary.

If any response or evidence requires details about people with lived experience (e.g. evidence in respect of someone’s life story) please **NO NOT** include any personal sensitive information (as outlined in Schedules 2 & 3 of the Data Protection Act 1998) as Community Justice Scotland does not require such information. If this is unavoidable then please ensure that the data is fully anonymised.

This is the third iteration of the template and guidance.



4. Template Completion

1. Community Justice Partnership / Group Details	
Community Justice Partnership / Group	Moray Community Justice Partnership
Community Justice Partnership Group Chair	Joyce Johnston
Community Justice Partnership / Group Co-ordinator	Mike Whelan
Publication date of Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan (CJOIP)	20 June 2019

2. Template Sign-off
The content of this annual report on community justice outcomes and improvements in our area has been agreed as accurate by the Community Justice Partnership / Group and has been shared with our Community Planning Partnership through our local accountability arrangements. Signature of Community Justice Partnership / Group Chair :  Date : 29 09 2020

3. Governance Arrangements
Please outline below your current governance structure for the community justice arrangements in your area : Since its inception in April 2017, the Community Justice Partners have been accountable to each other. Whilst not directly accountable to the Moray Community Planning Partnership, progress has been reported to the MCPP and plans, reports and minutes of MCJP meetings are published on the Moray Community Planning Partnership website, www.yourmoray.org.uk Work is now underway to formalise these links and it is the intention that, by March 2021, the Community Justice Partnership will report directly to the Moray Community Planning Partnership. The Partnership had operated a rotating Chair arrangement since its inception, with each of the statutory partners chairing the partnership for a period of six months. Following discussions and a Partnership survey, this was changed in February 2020 when a fixed Chair was appointed.



4. Performance Reporting – National Outcomes

NATIONAL OUTCOME ONE

Communities improve their understanding and participation in community justice

Indicator	Evidence and Data (max 300 words per indicator)	
	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
Activities carried out to engage with 'communities' as well as other relevant constituencies	• Moray hosted Community Justice Scotland's 'Second Chancers' audio-visual exhibition at Moray College UHI, 21-30 October 2019. This venue was chosen as the one most likely to attract CJS's target audience for this campaign (i.e. young people) • The Partnership operates a 'Twitter' account to publicise Community Justice events and messages • In February 2020, the Partnership launched the 'Community Justice News Moray' newsletter • There were 338 visits to the Community Justice section of the 'YourMoray' website during 2019-20 • Criminal Justice Social Work operates a 'Twitter' account showcasing unpaid work. It has over 300 followers • In December 2019, the Partnership produced 'Community Options: A guide to the alternatives to prosecution, remand and custody'. This publication sought to explain sentencing options and why different offences and offenders are dealt with in particular ways.	• We aim to raise awareness of the work of the Partnership and its partners. Individual feedback suggests that the aims of Community Justice are understood and supported but there are currently no resources to test the perception of the wider Moray public.
Consultation with communities as part of community justice planning and service provision	• Surveys are completed by people undertaking Unpaid Work, Supervision and Diversion and by organisations that benefit from Unpaid Work • A focus group comprising people undertaking Unpaid Work was held at the UPW Workshop on 12 August 2019	• Surveys completed by people undertaking Unpaid Work, Supervision and Diversion and organisations that utilise Unpaid Work continue to identify positive benefits from their engagement with Criminal Justice Social Work.

	• Moray's Community Justice Partnership includes representatives of the third sector, victims support, local college and the faith communities. • The Community Justice Coordinator is a member of Moray's Drug & Alcohol, Violence against Women and Girls and Corporate Parenting Criminal Justice Pillar Group partnerships, ensuring a joined-up approach in addressing issues of common interest. • The Moray Alcohol and Drugs Partnership Manager is a member of the Community Justice Partnership. • TSI Moray is represented on the Community Justice Partnership.	• The broad representation of organisations within the Community Justice Partnership and the regular engagement with groups and bodies that have a shared interest in the Community Justice cohort contributes to the effective planning and delivery of Community Justice services.
Participation in community justice, such as co-production and joint delivery	• People undertaking Unpaid Work operate in a number of community settings; communal spaces, charity shops, community food settings and charitable organisations that benefit local communities.	• The wide range of community settings where unpaid work takes place ensures that clients are found placements suited to their needs. This is measured through survey forms completed by people completing Unpaid Work Orders.
Level of community awareness of / satisfaction with work undertaken as part of a CPO	• Surveys were completed by organisations and individuals that benefitted from unpaid work: • 100% of survey responses indicated 'very satisfied' with the work done • 100% of survey responses indicated that they would 'definitely' use the service again in future • Work covered by these surveys included painting and decorating, gardening, furniture removal, joinery and building work. • Of those undertaking unpaid work who completed an exit questionnaire, 95% indicated that they thought that their work had benefitted the community. • Two specific local examples of Unpaid Work were also highlighted at the 'Second Chancers' event held at Moray College UHI in October 2019.	• Surveys completed by organisations that benefit from Unpaid Work and the individuals completing that work are very positive. • Wider public opinion is garnered via the Moray Unpaid Work Twitter account where many positive comments are recorded. This account has 300+ followers.



Evidence from questions to be used in local surveys / citizens' panels and so on	• Of those completing a Community Safety Survey in 2019-20, 73% said they felt 'very safe' or 'safe' in their community. However, 15% said they felt less safe than twelve months earlier, an increase of 5% since the previous year's survey • A survey of Moray's Citizens Panel informed the development of the Partnership's first Improvement Plan in 2017-18 but the Panel has since been disbanded so it has not been possible to re-survey this group to measure progress.	• Community Safety Surveys are completed by people reporting local issues so this is a useful measure of the perceptions of people experiencing problems in their local community.
Perceptions of the local crime data	• The Scottish Household Survey (2019) found that 87% of people surveyed in Moray felt safe walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark. This compares to the Scotland-wide figure of 85%. 98% felt very/ fairly safe in their own homes, the same as the Scotland-wide figure. • Public satisfaction with how police dealt with an incident in Moray was 87% in 2019-20, above the national average of 83.3%.	• Public perception is that Moray is a safe place to live.
Other information relevant to National Outcome One		
Our ambition is that we will deepen community engagement to improve public understanding of and participation in Community Justice.		



NATIONAL OUTCOME TWO Partners plan and deliver services in a more strategic and collaborative way		
Indicator	Evidence and Data (max 300 words per indicator)	
	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
Services are planned for and delivered in a strategic and collaborative way	Early & Effective Intervention (EEI) Of offences reported to the Police and committed by young people aged 8-17, 95 were dealt with by referral to Social Work, 2 were dealt with by referral to Education and 3 were dealt with by referral to SFRS	This measure confirms close working between agencies involved in EEI with young people. Data is reported on a quarterly basis.
Partners have leveraged resources for community justice	- Training events commissioned by the Moray Alcohol and Drug Partnership were made available to Community Justice Partners. These included training on drug use, bacterial infection, drug trends, use of Naloxone, Children affected by familial substance misuse, understanding LGBT+ identities, working with people who use drugs and alcohol, multiple risks and young people, sex, drugs and BBV, Benzodiazepines. Training was delivered by Scottish Drugs Forum, CREW, Aberlour Youth Point, Who Cares? Scotland and Skills Development Scotland - In November 2019, Families Outside and Scottish Prison Service jointly delivered CPD training to 42 teaching staff, detailing the impact of imprisonment and the practicalities of visiting a family member in prison.	- Feedback from attendees at training events is positive. - Raised awareness of the impact of imprisonment of a family member amongst Educational staff.
Development of community justice workforce to work effectively across organisational/ professional	Access to shared training (detailed above) has promoted better Partnership understanding of the impact that different issues have on the various services involved in the delivery of community justice.	Training events bring operational staff from the various partners together to share the training experience.



/geographical boundaries	• Regular ‘frontline forums’ included opportunities for networking between frontline workers, practitioners, service users and members of the public. • Criminal Justice Social Workers are co-located with Drug & Alcohol services to facilitate shared assessment.	• The co-location of Criminal Justice and Drug & Alcohol Services facilitates close partner working, including opportunities for joint-interviews and information sharing.
Partners illustrate effective engagement and collaborative partnership working with the authorities responsible for the delivery of MAPPA	• MAPPA operates on a Grampian-wide basis, alongside the Community Justice regime. Direction and oversight is provided by a Strategic Oversight Group whose members are drawn from the member authorities, and who provide quality assurance to the MAPPA process.	• MAPPA exists to maintain public protection and reduce the risk of serious harm



Other information relevant to National Outcome Two

The Partnership is in the early stages of developing more strategic and collaborative ways of working. It is our ambition that this should be realised within the next three years.



NATIONAL OUTCOME THREE People have better access to the services that they require, including welfare, health and wellbeing, housing and employability		
Indicator	Evidence and Data (max 300 words per indicator)	
	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
Partners have identified and are overcoming structural barriers for people accessing services	- Data sharing agreements between Scottish Prison Service and Moray Council (Housing & Social Work) facilitate the smooth transition of clients returning to the local community from prison. - Moray Food Plus (formerly Moray Foodbank) addressed food poverty/ insecurity, by providing food to people undertaking unpaid work.	- It has not previously been possible to identify all liberated people returning to Moray. However the signing of a data sharing agreement on 31/3/20 should ensure that all individuals are identified. This will enable better signposting to services for people in the Community Justice cohort. - Feedback from people undertaking Unpaid Work suggests that clients value this service.
Existence of joint-working arrangements such as processes / protocols to ensure access to services to address underlying needs	- There is a local Bail Supervision Scheme that has been promoted locally to the Courts, defence solicitors and the Police. - There are direct links between HMP's Grampian and Inverness and Moray's Integrated Drug and Alcohol Service, and the Alcohol and Drugs third sector provider, both of whom work together with the services to provide an outreach service to the Prisons.	- There were 4 Bail Supervision case in 2019-20, compared to 0 in 2018-19. - These working links ensure continuity of care beyond liberation.
Initiatives to facilitate access to services	Making every Opportunity Count (MeOC) is a three-tiered approach to support Realistic Medicine, with everyone, every system and service doing a little to enable people who use services, and the people who provide services, to live as well as can. This approach has been rolled out to public and third sector organisations in Moray to improve access to a wide range of support services within local communities. The range of services available include; health & wellbeing, welfare, befriending & care, Mental	- MeOC provides people with the gentle 'nudge' to facilitate opportunities to make changes, no matter how small to improve their health and wellbeing. Over a three-year period there have been 39 recorded MeOC conversations, resulting in signposting to a variety of support services in Moray. It is important to note that not all MeOC events are recorded. - To further support the implementation of MeOC, Healthpoint staff delivered a briefing to the Community

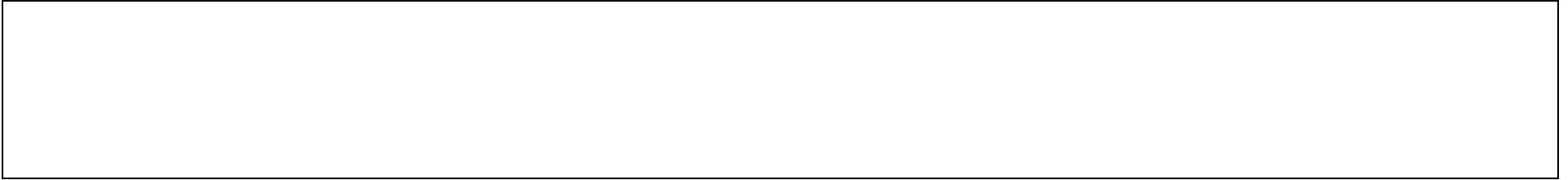


	Wellbeing, Personal care, tobacco and alcohol, helping hands and emergency services. • Staff are trained and supported to provide: Alcohol Brief Interventions (ABI's), motivational interviewing, trauma and tackling stigma. • Criminal Justice works with a range of community organisations to support those accessing services, for example, Moray Food Recovery Project, Men's Sheds, the Wellbeing Hub and a wide range of community projects. To further support this, Community Justice was a partner in the 'Moray Connect More'; an event aimed at bringing small community projects, large services and those using services together to facilitate a greater understanding of what's available and to build upon and increase connections. • A dedicated support worker works with Criminal Justice Social Work clients, providing support, signposting to services and advocacy on their behalf.	Justice team to highlight the practical support and services provided within localities to support clients; increasing knowledge and understanding of the team to enable signposting to supporting community services. The briefing resulted in an opportunity to further build on relationships with the Community justice team, as well as encouraging and supporting staff members to visit Healthpoint (which a team member actioned). • To support staff health and wellbeing, the MeOC Manager Toolbox is being implemented to offer additional staff support, especially as we navigate through COVID-19 recovery. Future Intentions: • To increase delivery of MeOC through Unpaid Work and the Women's Group will be implemented once COVID-19 restrictions are reviewed. The main priority will be to facilitate increased access to health and wellbeing support. The localised Healthpoint service will be implemented via the Mobile Information Bus, which will increase localised access to information, support within a safe and confidential space.
Speed of access to mental health services	• Emergency referrals – 24-hour on call service, psychiatric page holder, based at local hospital, who can take calls for advice • Urgent referrals – triaged daily (put in place during COVID-19 Pandemic and still in place); seen within 7 days of referral • GPs can refer to the mental health service on an emergency or urgent basis. The referrals are triaged on	• Data is not available for service access by the specific Community Justice cohort



	a daily basis and are seen within 7 days at the moment as we are still in Operation Rainbow NHSG and delivering essential functions only • There is a daily (Monday to Saturday) walk-in service at the mental health and wellness centre in Elgin, offering immediate crisis response and 1:1 short-term support if required. Also signposting to other agencies / support. • At the time of writing, NHS Grampian is planning for Operation Home First, a 12-week programme designed to reinstate and redesign services in the stepdown phase of the COVID-19 Pandemic.	
% of people released from a custodial sentence : a) registered with a GP b) have suitable accommodation c) have had a benefits eligibility check	• Data for 2019-20 is unavailable. However, following the signing of a data-sharing agreement with Scottish Prison Service (31/3/20), it should be possible to provide this information in next year's annual report.	• Access to this data should enable this section to be completed in future annual reports.
Targeted interventions have been tailored for and with an individual and had a successful impact on their risk of further offending	• In January 2019, Moray assumed responsibility for the delivery of the 'Moving Forward Making Changes' behavioural programme; it had previously been delivered by Aberdeenshire on Moray's behalf. There were 8 participants in 2019-20.	• The programme is aimed at men who commit offences with a sexual element. • 100% of programme participants reported that it had a positive impact on them.
Other information relevant to National Outcome Three		
Our ambition is to develop systems to enable monitoring of service-users' experience that provide assurance that services are accessible, responsive and informed by feedback from service-users.		





NATIONAL OUTCOME FOUR Effective interventions are delivered to prevent and reduce the risk of further offending		
Indicator	Evidence and Data (max 300 words per indicator)	
	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
Use of 'other activities requirements' in CPOs	• Surveys completed by clients undertaking Unpaid Work Orders during 2019-20 indicated that 34% had undertaken 'other activities'. The corresponding figure for 2018-19 was 13%. • These activities included counselling, engagement with money advice and employment services, offshore skills training, adult learning, PSV training, first aid and Construction certification.	• 'Other activities' undertaken by people completing Unpaid Work Orders are focussed on tackling issues that may contribute to offending behaviour and on improving their prospects of finding employment.
Effective risk management for public protection	• MAPPA operates on a Grampian-wide basis, alongside the Community Justice regime. 95% of offenders are managed through routine liaison and joint working (Level 1 management) across a wide range of agencies and services. Over the past three years, there has been an increase in the overall number of clients but the numbers managed at MAPPA Level 2 and 3 have notably decreased.	• MAPPA exists to maintain public protection and reduce the risk of serious harm
Quality of CPOs and DTTOs	Surveys completed by clients who undertook Unpaid Work orders, Supervision and Diversion (including DTTOs): • 99% indicated that they were given enough information before starting their order • 100% indicated that they were treated with respect • 85% indicated that their progress/ achievement was recognised • 95% indicated that their thinking or behaviour had changed • 95% indicated that supervision or diversion had helped to stop or reduced their offending	• Survey feedback indicates that CPO's and DTTO's are of high quality. There was a 4% increase in the number of surveys completed by clients in 2019-20 compared to 2018-19.



Reduced use of custodial sentences and remand : a) Balance between community sentences relative to short custodial sentences under one year b) Proportion of people appearing from custody who are remanded	• Data to complete this section is unavailable. Data on the number of people from Moray subject to a prison sentence of under one year is expected to be made available by the Scottish Government in February 2021. In 2017-18, there were 102 instances; in 2018-19 there were 97. • Data to complete this section is unavailable.	
The delivery of interventions targeted at problem drug and alcohol use [NHS Local Delivery Plan (LDP) Standard]	• In 2019-20, 443 Alcohol Brief Interventions were undertaken in Moray. 429 of these took place in priority settings (GP practices and sexual health clinics) and 14 in wider settings (Health points, prison, etc.). The delivery of these interventions was impacted by the Covid 19 pandemic • Work undertaken by the Moray Alcohol & Drug Partnership, using the Recovery Outcome Tool continues to show that the 'Offending' outcome consistently scores high on review and also high in the average change from assessment to review, with people making significant progress in reducing offending • In addition, the outcomes to increase the most (a positive indicator) by the second review were 'Offending' (up 1.9 points, averaging 9), 'Substance Use' (up 1.5 and averaging 6.1)	• Several research studies show that brief interventions are effective, particularly in primary care settings. They can reduce alcohol consumption among people who are drinking at hazardous or harmful levels, but who may not dependent on alcohol.



	• The relationship with HMP Grampian and HMP Inverness continues to be positive, with an established liaison system, ensuring continuity of care for people after liberation • There is a very positive working relationship between the Alcohol/Drug Services and the network of services Criminal Justices, with many examples of joint working e.g. running groups and regular individual work with those using services.	
Number of Police Recorded Warnings, police diversion, fiscal measures, fiscal diversion, supervised bail, community sentences (including CPOs, DTTOs and RLOs)	• Police Warnings (includes Recorded Police Warnings, verbal warnings, anti-social behaviour fixed penalties and Section 126 anti-social driving warnings) for aged 18 and over - 221 • Police direct measures 161 young people aged 8-15 were diverted 41 young people aged 16-17 were diverted • Fiscal measures: Fiscal fines and compensation - 48 Compensation - 45 Fiscal fine - 173 Fiscal Work Scheme - 6 Fiscal Fixed Penalty - 252 Fiscal Diversion - 46 • Supervised bail - 4 • Community Payback Orders – 356 (subject to verification)	• Diversion is an effective way of addressing the issues that contribute to offending behaviour.



Number of short-term sentences under one year	Data to complete this section is unavailable. It will be released by the Scottish Government in February 2021	
Other information relevant to National Outcome Four		
Our aim is to improve our evaluation of interventions to enable us to identify what is most effective in preventing or reducing offending.		

NATIONAL OUTCOME FIVE Life chances are improved through needs, including health, financial inclusion, housing and safety, being addressed		
Indicator	Evidence and Data (max 300 words per indicator)	
	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
Individuals have made progress against the outcome	Surveys were completed by 96 people who finished their supervision, unpaid work or diversion during 2019-20. 94% of people undertaking supervision rated the relationship with their social worker as 'good' or 'very good' - Of clients identifying pre-existing difficulties in their lives (housing, employment, education, training, drugs, alcohol, relationships, self-esteem, mental health, physical health, money issues and coping skills) 79%	- Survey results indicate that over a wide range of factors, clients felt that they had made progress in addressing issues that contributed to their offending behaviour. - Supervision is seen by nearly all clients as a significant factor in their desistance.



	identified improvements in the course of their supervision 97% said that supervision had helped to stop or reduce their offending.	
Other information relevant to National Outcome Five		
Our aim is to broaden the range of indicators used to measure improvements in life chances rather than relying solely on service-user feedback to measure progress in this area.		



NATIONAL OUTCOME SIX People develop positive relationships and more opportunities to participate and contribute through education, employment and leisure activities		
Indicator	Evidence and Data (max 300 words per indicator)	
	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
Individuals have made progress against the outcome	58% of people undertaking supervision who completed a survey linked into other support services during the course of their supervision – these services included Arrows, Community Psychiatry, Employers' Occupational Health Services, GP, Housing Services, Income Maximisation, Lifeskills, Moray Drug & Alcohol, Moray Youth Justice, Penumbra, SAMH and SHINE 86% of people who completed Unpaid Work Order surveys identified that Unpaid Work had helped them learn about working as part of a team.	- A valuable aspect of supervision is the opportunity to signpost people to other services that can help them address the issues that contribute to their offending. There was an increase in the number of people linking in to other services via supervision. The corresponding figure for 2018-19 was 49%. - The number of people identifying that Unpaid Work had helped them learn about working as part of a team also increased (81% in 2018-19).
Other information relevant to National Outcome Six		
Our aim is to broaden the range of indicators used to measure this outcome rather than relying solely on service-user feedback to measure progress in this area.		



NATIONAL OUTCOME SEVEN Individuals' resilience and capacity for change and self-management are enhanced		
Indicator	Evidence and Data (max 300 words per indicator)	
	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
Individuals have made progress against the outcome	- Of clients who completed surveys and identified pre-existing difficulties in their lives (housing, employment, education, training, drugs, alcohol, relationships, self-esteem, mental health, physical health, money issues and coping skills) 79% identified improvements in the course of their supervision 97% indicated that their thinking and behaviour had improved during supervision	The survey findings indicate the positive benefits of quality supervision in helping clients address factors that may be contributing to their offending behaviour.
Other information relevant to National Outcome Seven		
Our aim is to broaden the range of indicators used to measure this outcome rather than relying solely on service-user feedback to measure progress.		



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5. Priority Areas of Focus

A number of local priorities emerged from discussions that preceded the development of Moray's Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan 2019-22. These included:

- focussing on the links between alcohol /drug use and mental health
- issues related to health and wellbeing
- sustaining tenancies whilst people are in custody.

6. Case Studies

A case study that contributed to the delivery of National Outcomes 2 (Partners plan and deliver services in a more strategic and collaborative way) and 4 (Effective interventions are delivered to prevent and reduce the risk of further offending):

Client S was identified through the SPS weekly updates as being scheduled for release 10 weeks prior to release.

S had been in prison since 2012 and was due to leave prison without having any accommodation to return to. In recognising this was likely to be a stressful time for any prisoner being released after such a long time, the relationships between partner agencies needed to be cohesive to offer and provide necessary support to S. Links with SPS and Criminal Justice in the first place enabled S to complete a housing application and have that registered on the housing system prior to his release.

Discussions took place between Housing Needs and Criminal Justice to consider the type of property and location that would be most suitable. The temporary accommodation address was scanned to have an awareness of any potential risk factors. The Criminal Justice Team was advised of the address identified for S. The property selected was a terraced bungalow, rather than a flat, in a quiet location. This was partly to allow S to come back out in to the community in an area where he wouldn't necessarily be immediately identified until he felt settled in the community.

In the lead up to the release date, a homeless officer was assigned and with the assistance off HMP Grampian staff, a homeless interview was carried out by telephone. S was notified at this time of the temporary accommodation address which he acknowledged he was happy about.

On the day of release S had to attend the Criminal Justice office in Elgin. As the main Council offices are currently not open to the public, arrangements were made for all housing related paperwork to be dropped off at the Criminal Justice office to be signed and returned.



Matters were made more complicated by the timescale and delays by the Parole Board. Criminal Justice and Housing had been working towards provision of accommodation for S's earliest release date in August. S applied for earlier release on parole and a date in June was then fixed for the tribunal. Criminal Justice alerted Housing to the potential earlier release and efforts were made to put in place acceptable accommodation in the event that the Parole Board granted release on parole.

On the day of the tribunal the Parole Board indicated they required additional information and personal representation at a further hearing with the date still to be fixed. After some delay awaiting the date of the hearing, Criminal Justice was able to advise Housing of the new date and request that suitable accommodation be identified again in the event that release was ordered immediately. Housing identified options once again and risk assessments were completed.

The hearing decided not to release S at which point we reverted to working with the original date for release. Housing was contacted again and the search resumed for an appropriate property. After initial screening by Housing, the proposed accommodation was checked against information held by Criminal Justice Social Work and confirmed as meeting S's needs and the requirements for victim safety and public protection.

Protocols that exist for information sharing and for joint risk assessment and risk management are well established between Housing and Criminal Justice Social Work. The flexibility that is employed by both departments enables a positive 'joined up' approach to housing and offender management (National Outcomes 2 and 4).

Since moving into the temporary tenancy there have been no issues highlighted so far. S has maintained contact with Housing Needs when they have contacted him. A settling in visit from the Temporary Accommodation Team was carried out within a few weeks to ensure that he was staying there and maintaining the property to a reasonable standard.

Ongoing contact with the Criminal Justice Team and Housing Needs will continue throughout the period in temporary accommodation.

7. Challenges

The Community Justice Partnership met on a quarterly basis throughout 2019-20. All of the meetings were well attended by statutory and non-statutory partners. Since the Covid outbreak, face to face meetings have been suspended and meetings held via video link.

Challenges:

- Obtaining data on the specific Community Justice cohort to inform the development of plans is problematic, given that non-justice services will be unable, or indeed have no need, to differentiate this group from its wider client group
- Financial restraints on public, private and third-sector bodies have led to organisations focussing on the delivery of 'core' activities, making it more difficult to obtain buy-in for change or activity that is perceived to be an 'add on' to core service delivery.
- Partnership Chairing arrangements, now resolved.



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8. Additional Information

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