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**To: North Strathclyde Community Justice Authority**

**On: 11<sup>th</sup> March 2016**

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**Report by: Fiona MacKinnon. Partnership Manager, Sacro**

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**Heading: North Strathclyde Women`s Service**

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## **1. Summary**

- 1.1** For the previous few months, Sacro has been developing a Bail Supervision and Early Intervention Service for women in the Criminal Justice System, living in Renfrewshire, East Renfrewshire, Inverclyde and West Dumbarton. The service will be delivered, in the main, from the three main Sheriff Courts in the area – Greenock, Paisley and Dumbarton
- 1.2** Staff have recently been appointed and relevant documentation has been drafted
- 1.3** The first meeting of the Operational Steering Group is scheduled for 23 February 2016. This group will have representatives from the four local authorities and will be chaired by the local authority Criminal Justice Service Manager from Renfrewshire.
- 1.4** The first meeting of the Strategic Steering Group, led by the Chief Officer of North Strathclyde Community Justice Authority has been scheduled for Thurs 24 March 2016. Membership of this group includes SPS, COPFS, Police Scotland, Sacro, SCTS, Faculty of Solicitors and Local Authorities.
- 1.5** Sacro will shortly begin an induction training programme with all newly appointed staff to ensure they are able to safely support the service users.

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## **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1** North Strathclyde Community Justice Authority Board is asked to note the content of this report

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### **3. Background**

- 3.1** In September 2015 the Scottish Government formally offered North Strathclyde Community Justice Authority (NSCJA) a grant of £107,563.00, payable over the financial year 2015 – 2016, in connection with the delivery of Community Justice Services for Women Offenders.
- 3.2** The overall purpose of this grant was to provide additional support to the NSCJA in order to facilitate work towards reducing reoffending for women who offend, in the CJA.
- 3.3** The allocation of £107,563.00 was made specifically to support the expansion of Supervised Bail and early stage diversion initiatives for women.
- 3.4** This service will be provided in the following Local Authorities within North Strathclyde:  
East Renfrewshire, Inverclyde, Renfrewshire and West Dunbarton

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### **Implications of the Report**

#### **Equality & Human Rights**

The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Authorities website.

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