
To: North Strathclyde Community Justice Authority

On: 12th December 2014

Report by: Chief Officer

Heading: Redesign of Community Justice Structures

1. Summary

- 1.1** The second consultation exercise on the redesign of the community justice structure closed on 2nd July 2014. Although the Government have now published all the responses they received they have not yet published their own formal response (at 20/11/14) and we are not expecting to receive it until later in December. When it is published it will provide clarity on the duties and powers of the new national body and the duties and powers being given to Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs).
- 1.2** Progress continues towards helping CPPs prepare for the change.
- A “Transitions” workstream has been established with representation on it from Government, COSLA, CJAs, Social Work Scotland, CPPs and the third sector. This group recently met with all CPP Managers in Edinburgh to begin to identify what assistance CPPs will require to help them take on the additional duties. Over the course of the year the group will organise a series of national and local events to increase CPPs awareness of national and local community justice issues.
- 1.3** The COSLA Leaders Group recently agreed to establish a Community Justice Sub Group which will be chaired by Councillor Harry McGuigan. The sub group will sit within Health and Wellbeing Executive Group structure and council leaders and CJA Conveners invited to attend. The purpose of the new sub group is to provide governance and oversight for the transfer of the new community justice duties to the CPPs.
- 1.4** CJA staff have requested a meeting with the Deputy Director, Community Justice Division to clarify the position of staff and the process of disestablishing the CJAs. This meeting will take place in Glasgow on 11th December and the

staff group have submitted a detailed initial list of questions / concerns they wish to have answered at the meeting. Justice Division are taking advice from both COSLA and Directors of Personnel regarding the position of CJA staff and have requested copies of all contracts of employment.

- 1.5** Preparations continue in relation to the establishment of the new national body. Justice Division has contracted consultants to provide a costing for this and have separately been meeting with Scottish Government IT and Estates regarding linked costs. Finally, there are ongoing meetings with the Public Bodies Unit around the establishment of the new Public Body.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1** The Authority is asked to note the content of this report.

3. Background

- 3.1** The Scottish Government published its response to the initial consultation on redesigning the community justice system on 16th December 2013.
- 3.2** It also stated that further consultation would take place to give stakeholders, practitioners and the public an opportunity to comment on and contribute to the ongoing development of the new model. Written responses had to be submitted by 2nd July 2014.
- 3.3** The formal response from the Scottish Government will be published before Parliament recesses on 19th December 2014.

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.