
To: North Strathclyde Community Justice Authority

On: 13 March 2015

Report by: Jonathan Hinds, Service Manager – East Renfrewshire CHCP

Heading: Redesign of Shared Criminal Justice Social Work Services: East Renfrewshire, Inverclyde and Renfrewshire

1 Summary

- 1.1** This report sets out the decision to disaggregate some criminal justice shared services provided across East Renfrewshire, Inverclyde and Renfrewshire, alongside the rationale for this decision, the work to date, formal consultation with Trade Union and staffing arrangements for future local service provision.
- 1.2** An option appraisal for DTTO and Throughcare service delivery considered the impact of reducing financial allocations upon continued shared service arrangements.
- 1.3** This process identified disaggregation as the preferred option, where each local authority would be responsible for DTTO and Throughcare provision in their areas.
- 1.4** Disaggregation offers opportunities for sustainability, resilience and the ability to meet local and national standards.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1** Following the agreement of local committees, the CJA Board is asked to note the contents of this report.

3 Background

- 3.1** Since 2002, the Drug Treatment and Testing Order (DTTO) service has been provided by East Renfrewshire Council across East Renfrewshire, Inverclyde and Renfrewshire.

- 3.2 A formal service review in 2010-11 anticipated changes in national grant allocations whereby future funding would be based on three-year workload averages at a time of reducing workload.
 - 3.3 A range of savings measures were implemented, however ongoing reductions in grant allocation and falling workload continued to place the DTTO service under considerable pressure.
 - 3.4 Throughcare services provided by Inverclyde Council support offenders preparing for release from custody; local authorities then manage offenders in the community.
 - 3.5 Shortfalls in Throughcare funding over recent years have been met by additional contributions from each council to enable the service to continue, alongside reviewing service priorities, staffing and some work being undertaken instead by local criminal justice teams.
 - 3.6 Partners recognised that additional funding contributions to sustain both services were not possible and that redesign was necessary to ensure continued statutory service delivery.
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Implications of the Report

1. Financial

It is recognised that shared services offered advantages to criminal justice provision across the three councils and it has been important to ensure that disaggregation offers sustainability, resilience and financial stability.

2. HR & Organisational Development

Discussion with key partners has included NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, local addiction services, Scottish Prison Service, the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service and the Scottish Court Service.

As some employees had office locations across the inter-authority area, it was apparent that some individuals would want to transfer to other local authorities.

A process of informal and formal consultation with staff and Trade Unions has supported progress to identify employment opportunities for all affected staff.

Services across the three Councils anticipate that staff preferences can largely be accommodated within service redesign in each local authority.

3. Community Planning

Safer and Stronger - Local DTTO and Throughcare provision is expected to enhance the ability to flexibly meet new demands arising from the integration of health and social care and the duties upon Community Planning partners within the national community justice redesign.

4. **Property/Asset**

No change to property/assets is expected as a result of Throughcare disaggregation.

DTTO services are provided from standalone premises in Greenock and Paisley. Lease termination notices have been served on landlords with both premises to be handed over on 31 March 2015.

5. **Information Technology**

Partners are working to agree secure transfer of electronic records for both services to each local authority – this work will be completed by 31 March 2015.

6 **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 because it is for noting only. 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.

Author Jonathan Hinds, Service Manager – Criminal Justice Social Work Services
East Renfrewshire Community Health and Care Partnership
Tel: 0141 577 8337 email: jonathan.hinds@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk