
To: North Strathclyde Community Justice Authority

On: 11th March 2016

Report by: Planning Officer

**Heading: North Strathclyde Community Justice Authority
Action Plan 2015-2016**

1. Summary

- 1.1** The purpose of the report is to present a final progress report (attached Appendix 1) of the NSCJA Action Plan for 2015-2016.
- 1.2** The Action Plan aligns to the aims and objectives stated in our 2014-17 Area Plan.
- 1.3** The Action Plan consisted of 12 actions and 19 activities that were associated to the actions.
- 1.4** Of the 19 activities in the plan, 18 (95%) have been achieved within timescale, 1(5%) have not been achieved.
- 1.5** With the exception of Action 5, the majority of actions will continue into the Action Plan for 2016-17
- 1.6** A number of activities, particularly around the transition work, will carry forward into subsequent action plans.
- 1.7** The 1 activity that was not achieved within timescale was influenced by external factors out with the control of NSCJA.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1** Note the content of this report and Appendix 1

3. Background

- 3.1** The Management of Offender etc (Scotland) Act 2005 Section 3 (5) establishes a function of Community Justice Authorities to prepare in consultation with its partners a Plan which is aimed at reducing re-offending within its area. These plans must be prepared and submitted at the frequency specified by Scottish Ministers. At the present time Plans are required to cover a three year period.
- 3.2** The Action Plan is not just a freestanding document, it should show clear links to local priorities set out in the 2014-17 Area Plan, and provide the basis for measuring progress on an annual basis. It should enable the CJA to demonstrate the 'value-added'.
- 3.3** The Action Plan is a dynamic document that will change to reflect new national developments and translate these into local initiatives.

Implications of the Report

1. 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 as the report is for noting. 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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What Actions we will do as a Partnership.

1. We will continue to work effectively in partnership to ensure the coordination of plans/strategies; interventions and workforce learning and development to reduce reoffending.
2. We will agree an Action Plan each year with our partners and others, which will set out specific actions that we will manage and monitor through regular progress reports to NSCJA.
3. We will be responsive to developing policy initiatives by including these within our existing partnership structures or establishing new structures where required to implement at a local level.
4. We will take into account the recommendations of the Commission on Women Offenders and ensure all resources are utilised effectively across a multi agency and multi sector approach to addressing the needs of women offenders in the NSCJA area coordinated through the NSCJA Women's Services Steering Group.
5. We will ensure the effective roll out of '*Moving Forward, Making Changes*' in the NSCJA area, as well as continuing to work in collaboration with a wide range of partners to develop effective interventions for domestic abuse perpetrators as well as support for victims.
6. We will continue to support the increased, appropriate use of all forms of community sentences and alternatives to custody. We will progress any appropriate actions arising from the current review of Community Payback Orders and the unit cost of CPO's, and review the delivery of Drug Treatment and Testing Orders across the NSCJA area.
7. We will continue to support the Scottish Prison Service; in particular taking advantage in the opportunities presented by the developing estate within the NSCJA area, whilst continuing to offer support to the innovative initiatives that have already been introduced.
8. We will continue to support the National; Local and exemplar Public Social Partnerships and through these we will communicate examples of good practice and success to our wider partnership group. We will work with key public sector bodies to secure sustainable funding for successful PSPs.
9. We will work with NHS GG&C and other partners to pursue innovative initiatives that incorporate a 'Whole Family Approach' to address health inequalities experienced by offenders and their families.
10. We will work in partnership with local Alcohol and Drug Partnerships to improve equity of service access and reduce the instances of drug related deaths and alcohol related deaths in the NSCJA area.
11. We will work with Scottish Government Community Justice Division; Community Planning Partnerships and other partners and stakeholders to ensure the smooth and efficient transition of duties and functions to the new structure for Community Justice.
12. We will use flexibility and innovation in the way that we allocate funding whilst keeping a focus on 'What Works' and interventions that have the most impact on reducing reoffending

Progress against the 2015-16 Action Plan

Key

● action achieved within timescale
 ● action will be achieved within timescale
 ● action will not be achieved

	Activities 2015-16	Contributes to Action	Short/ Medium Term Outcomes	Timescale	Progress	Comments
1	Support the sustainability of the enhanced women's services in Renfrewshire; Inverclyde and West Dunbartonshire.	1; 4 ; 6;12	Increased uptake of services. Reduction in women offenders serving a custodial (including remand) or community sentence.	March 2016	●	This is an ongoing commitment over the lifespan of the current funding and existence of the CJA. The planning officer sits on the steering group of the Renfrewshire service. Both the Renfrewshire and West Dun services has been awarded further funding of £30K for 2015/16. NSCJA has supported all initiatives over the lifetime of this plan
2	Request and receive quarterly update reports for CJA board from Renfrewshire; Inverclyde and West Dunbartonshire enhanced women's services.	1; 4 & 6	Reports received and used to determine subsequent resource allocation.	March 2016	●	Ongoing reports are tabled at the Women's services steering group meetings. Regular reports are submitted to NSCJA board .
3	Continue to work with the Scottish Prison Service and other partners in the ongoing development of a throughcare model for women offenders.	1; 4 & 7	Appropriate services are put in place. SPS timescales are met.	March 2016	●	Since the decision to withdraw from the building of HMP Inverclyde, we are awaiting outcomes from the women's estate project at SG. Thus this activity has not been achieved.
4	Actively participate in both the HMP Low Moss PSP Governance and Operational Groups.	1;4; 7 & 8	Engaging prisoners are supported after liberation. All aspects of short term prisoner needs are met on liberation and all relevant agencies are engaging with PSP team.	March 2016	●	Both the chief officer and planning officer continue to contribute to the governance and operational steering groups. Regular update reports are received and shared with partners. The last operational group meeting was 19/11/15 which the Planning Officer attended.

	Activities 2015-16	Contributes to Action	Short/ Medium Term Outcomes	Timescale	Progress	Comments
5	Actively participate in the Reducing Reoffending Change Fund PSPs governance groups, to deliver and sustain mentoring services to offenders in the NSCJA area.	1;4; 7 & 8	As per PSP outcome framework.	March 2016		Chief Officer sits on governance groups for all PSPs operating within NSCJA area both at a national and local level.
6	Actively support the Joint national PSP group in promoting the PSP model	1;4; 7 & 8	Improved understanding of the added value that the PSP model offers to the justice system in achieving outcomes for offenders.	March 2016		The Chief Officer is instrumental in the PSP sustainability group. Funding has been secured up to March 2017.
7	Continue to work with key public & third sector service providers within the NSCJA area to ensure that there is equity in access, for short term offenders, to relevant universal services (housing, healthcare, benefits, etc.)	1;4; 7 & 8	All aspects of short term prisoner needs are met on liberation and all relevant universal agencies are engaging with justice agencies.	March 2016		Part of NSCJA core business. This will be ongoing throughout the lifespan of the plan. Specific work carried out around healthcare through involvement in OPHI, NPHN. Health Justice Framework. Housing issues addressed through PSP housing sub group chaired by Anne Carruthers from Renfrewshire, and the integration of the Housing First model in Renfrewshire and East Dunbartonshire.
8	Support Local Authority CJSW to continue to consult with communities on unpaid work projects as part of CPOs	1; 4; 6	Improved visibility of unpaid work projects. Appropriate unpaid work projects carried out.	September 2015		Ongoing throughout the lifespan of plan. All local authority CJSW have engaged with communities and held events around unpaid work.
9	Support Local Authority CJSW in the roll out of Fiscal Work Orders (FWO) across NSCJA	1;4; 5; 6	Improved options in direct measure alternatives to prosecution.	July 2015		FWO were rolled out in NSCJA in April 2015. Early indications suggest that there is limited use of this alternative to prosecution across NSCJA.
10	Engage COPFS and CJSW in a dialogue around the effective use of Fiscal Work Orders	1;4; 5; 6	Improved options in direct measure alternatives to prosecution.	March 2016		A number of discussions and conversations took place prior to the roll out of the orders across NSCJA. This involved West Dunbartonshire which was one of the pilot sites. FWOs have been rolled out across the CJA area.

	Activities 2015-16	Contributes to Action	Short/ Medium Term Outcomes	Timescale	Progress	Comments
11	Work in partnership with Scottish Government and Community Planning Partnerships, both nationally and locally to facilitate information sharing and awareness events in preparation for the new structure.	1; 3 & 11	Integrated processes are in place between CPPs and NSCJA, working towards a smooth transition of duties and responsibilities.	March 2016	●	NSCJA officers are actively engaged both locally and nationally with the transition process. The Chief Officer is a member of the Renfrewshire Community Justice Steering Group. The Planning officer is a member of the Inverclyde Community Justice Transition Group. Both officers have participated in planning events for the AB&D Transition Plan. Nationally the Chief Officer sits on the Transition Steering Group and the planning officer is joint lead on developing the new strategy for community justice.
12	Engage with CPPs in local authority areas to start dialogue re procedures for transition to the new structure.	1; 3 & 11	Integrated processes are in place between CPPs and NSCJA, working towards a smooth transition of duties and responsibilities.	June 2015	●	As Above. Dialogue is ongoing at a local level with CPP managers and Justice coordinators. NSCJA Transition Plan distributed. Draft CPP transition plans shared with NSCJA.
13	Ensure Community Planning Partnerships and associated partners are invited to all stakeholder events.	1;2;3;11	Integrated processes are in place between CPPs and NSCJA, working towards a smooth transition of duties and responsibilities.	March 2016	●	As above
14	Through agreement with partners, develop and implement a CJA disestablishment plan.	1; 3 & 11	All NSCJA assets; SLAs and contracts and steering groups will be managed appropriately.	March 2016	●	Asset register developed; transition plan developed and maintained; disestablishment plan created. Discussions with various stakeholders held.
15	Compile a local information package for CPPs to assist in the transfer of CJA functions and duties to the new structure.	1; 3 & 11	Integrated processes are in place between CPPs and NSCJA, working towards a smooth transition of duties and responsibilities.	March 2016	●	National Transition resource produced by CJAs and has been put on Knowledge Hub. Both officers attend local authority transition groups.
16	Coordinate and facilitate multi agency learning and development in line with national plan.	1;3 & 5	A fully informed and equipped Justice workforce.	March 2016	●	Ongoing work throughout the lifetime of the transition.

	Activities 2015-16	Contributes to Action	Short/ Medium Term Outcomes	Timescale	Progress	Comments
17	Progress work with NHS GG&C, GCJA and appropriate partners, based on a 'Whole Family Approach' to address health improvement of offenders and their families.	1 & 9	Improved positive health outcomes for offenders and their families, in particular children.	March 2016	●	Draft Framework presented to sponsor in September 2015. Multi agency workshop held through the HJIC in November looking at proposed long term outcomes, and links to 4 pillars of new CJ strategy. Work ongoing. Multi agency event
18	Continue to engage with SGCCJ and partners in the progression of the offender agenda.	1	Improved positive outcomes for offenders, their families and communities.	March 2016	●	Planning Officer currently working with SGCCJ in development of new national strategy for community justice, and the development of Electronic Monitoring in Scotland. The Chief Officer is a member of the Transition Steering Group, the Guidance Sub Group and the Funding Group.
19	Positively contribute to the development of the New National Community Justice Strategy through secondment to SGCCJ	1	Improved positive outcomes for offenders, their families and communities.	March 2016	●	Planning Officer is joint lead in the development of the new strategy for community justice. National and regional engagement events have taken place.