
To: North Strathclyde Community Justice Authority

On: 13th March 2015

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 the Draft NSCJA Action Plan for 2015/2016 in line with requirements to produce annual action plans under the overarching strategy of the 2014-17 Area Plan as specified by The Management of Offenders etc (Scotland) Act 2005
- 1.2 The plan outlines the activities that we intend to undertake in the second year of the 3 year Area Plan that will contribute to the realisation of the actions that stated in the Area Plan that 'we will do as a partnership'.
- 1.3 The Action Plan follows the same format as last year to align to the reformatting of the Area Plan.
- 1.4 There are currently 19 activities outlined in the plan, the responsibility for each activity lies with either an individual or one of the NSCJA sub groups.
- 1.5 The main focus of this year's activities will be the transition from the current structure to the new model of delivery.
- 1.6 The draft action plan has been circulated around partners for consideration and comment.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1** Note the content of this report
- 2.2** Approve the attached Action Plan.
- 2.3** Delegate authority to the Chief Officer in consultation with the Convener to amend Area Plan in line with any feedback from Scottish Government

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 2014-2017 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. Financial

Minor implications on funding to realise activities.

2. HR & Organisational Development

Implications during transition to new Community Justice Structures

3. Community Planning

Children and Young People

Some implications for children of offenders e.g. in addressing health inequalities

Community Care, Health & Well-being

Some implications when addressing health inequalities for offenders and families

Safer and Stronger

Significant implications to Community Planning during transition to new structure for Community Justice

4. Equality & Human Rights

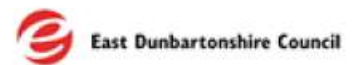
The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report as all people who have protected characteristics will have equal access to and benefit from services to reduce reoffending during the lifespan of this plan. 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.



North Strathclyde Community Justice Authority

Action Plan 2015/16

Strengthening Community Justice Together



Action Plan 2015/16

Introduction

The attached Action Plan has been developed in conjunction with our partners as a means of progressing the Area Plan 2014/17. The Area Plan set our broad strategic objectives to reduce re-offending within the North Strathclyde area. This Action Plan converts what we plan to achieve into specific activities and assigns a Responsible group or person and timescale to each.

Monitoring Arrangements

North Strathclyde Community Justice Authority has established an Area Plan Implementation Group which meets on a quarterly basis throughout the year. It is the function of this group to monitor the progress towards our strategic objectives of the Area Plan. In addition to the Area Plan Implementation Group the CJA has established a number of short term working groups to take forward specific areas of work. The short term working groups also report directly into the Area Plan Implementation Group. Once the work of the short term working groups has been completed a final report with clear recommendations is submitted to the North Strathclyde Community Justice Authority board. Following approval of the report the recommendations are subsequently put into effect. It is usual practice for the board to request regular progress reports on each particular initiative.

Consultation Arrangements

The attached Action Plan has been circulated around partner members who have had the opportunity to comment upon the proposed actions and agree the Responsible Officer and timescales for implementation. This Action Plan and other NSCJA planning documents are available on our website www.nscja.co.uk

Action Plan 2015/16

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 *Fiscal Work Orders* in the NSCJA area.
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 continue to 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 continue to 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.

Action Plan 2015/156

	Activities 2014-15	Contributes to Action	Responsible Group/Person	Timescale	Short/ Medium Term Outcomes	Resource Implications
1.	Support the sustainability of the enhanced women's services in Renfrewshire; Inverclyde and West Dunbartonshire.	1; 4 ; 6;12	NSCJA Women's Services Steering Group	March 2016	Increased uptake of services. Reduction in women offenders serving a custodial (including remand) or community sentence.	Sustainability of funding.
2.	Request and receive quarterly update reports for CJA board from Renfrewshire; Inverclyde and West Dunbartonshire enhanced women's services.	1; 4 & 6	Chief Officer	March 2016	Reports received and used to determine subsequent resource allocation.	Report writers' time. CJA staff time considering reports and determining future direction.
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	Chief Officer	March 2016	Appropriate services are put in place. SPS timescales are met.	Chief Officer; Planning Officer and identified partners time and input.
4.	Actively participate in both the HMP Low Moss PSP Governance and Operational Groups.	1;4; 7 & 8	Chief Officer/ Planning Officer	March 2016	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.	Chief Officer Planning Officer and Partners time to attend meetings and consider joint actions.
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	Chief Officer	March 2016	As per PSP outcome framework.	Chief Officer and Partners time to attend meetings and consider joint actions.
6.	Actively support the Joint national PSP group in promoting the PSP model	1;4; 7 & 8	Chief Officer	March 2016	Improved understanding of the added value that the PSP model offers to the justice system in achieving outcomes for offenders.	Chief Officer time
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	Chief Officer/ Planning Officer	March	All aspects of short term prisoner needs are met on liberation and all relevant universal agencies are engaging with justice agencies.	Chief Officer Planning Officer and Partners time to attend meetings and consider joint actions.
8.	Support Local Authority CJSW to continue to consult with communities on unpaid work projects as part of CPOs	1; 4; 6	CJA Staff	March	Improved visibility of unpaid work projects. Appropriate unpaid work projects carried out.	CJA staff time in attending meetings with partners.

9.	Support Local Authority CJSW in the roll out of Fiscal Work Orders (FWO) across NSCJA	1;4; 5; 6	CJA Staff	September 2015	Improved options in direct measure alternatives to prosecution.	£62500 allocation
10.	Engage COPFS and CJSW in a dialogue around the effective use of Fiscal Work Orders	1;4; 5; 6	CJA Staff	July 2015	Improved options in direct measure alternatives to prosecution.	CJA staff and partners time.
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	Chief Officer/ Planning Officer	March 2016	Integrated processes are in place between CPPs and NSCJA, working towards a smooth transition of duties and responsibilities.	CJA staff time in organising meetings and events with partners.
12.	Engage with CPPs in local authority areas to start dialogue re procedures for transition to the new structure.	1; 3 & 11	Chief Officer/ Planning Officer	March 2015	Integrated processes are in place between CPPs and NSCJA, working towards a smooth transition of duties and responsibilities.	CJA staff time in organising meetings and events with partners.
13.	Ensure Community Planning Partnerships and associated partners are invited to all stakeholder events.	1;2;311	CJA Staff	March 2016	Integrated processes are in place between CPPs and NSCJA, working towards a smooth transition of duties and responsibilities.	CJA staff time in organising event with partners.
14.	Through agreement with partners, develop and implement a CJA disestablishment plan.	1; 3 & 11	Planning Officer	July 2015	All NSCJA assets; SLAs and contracts and steering groups will be managed appropriately.	Planning Officer time to develop & manage.
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	Planning Officer	March 2016	Integrated processes are in place between CPPs and NSCJA, working towards a smooth transition of duties and responsibilities.	Planning Officer time in collating relevant information
16.	Coordinate and facilitate multi agency learning and development in line with national plan.	1;3 & 5	Training and Development Officer	March 2016	A fully informed and equipped Justice workforce.	Portion of £60K T&DO budget
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	Planning Officer	June 2015	Improved positive health outcomes for offenders and their families, in particular children.	Planning Officer time to develop & promote idea, attend meetings.
18.	Continue to engage with SGCJD and partners in the progression of the offender agenda.	1	Chief Officer/ Planning Officer	March 2016	Improved positive outcomes for offenders, their families and communities.	CJA staff and partners time
19.	Positively contribute to the development of the New National Community Justice Strategy through secondment to SGCJD	1	Planning Officer	March 2016	Improved positive outcomes for offenders, their families and communities.	Planning Officer time. Travel expenses to St Andrews House