

## MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE NORTH STRATHCLYDE COMMUNITY JUSTICE AUTHORITY HELD ON 5<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2014

### PRESENT

Councillors Robertson (Argyll & Bute Council); O'Donnell (East Dunbartonshire Council); Lafferty (East Renfrewshire Council); Williams (Renfrewshire Council); and Casey (West Dunbartonshire Council).

Councillor Williams, Convener, presided.

### IN ATTENDANCE

J Hunter, Chief Officer and W Kennedy, Planning Officer (both North Strathclyde Community Justice Authority); C Sneddon (Argyll & Bute Council); K Gardner (East Dunbartonshire Council); J Hinds (East Renfrewshire Council); B Moore and A Howard (Inverclyde Council); A Scott, E Coventry, D Forbes and E Currie (all Renfrewshire Council); and N Firth and J Irvine (both West Dunbartonshire Council).

### APOLOGIES

Councillor McIlwee (Inverclyde Council); L Davis (Scottish Court Service); J Ryan (Action for Children); and J Miller (NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde).

### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest intimated prior to the commencement of the meeting.

#### 1. MINUTE OF MEETING

There was submitted the Minute of the meeting of the North Strathclyde Community Justice Authority held on 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2014.

**DECIDED:** That the Minute be approved.

#### 2. NO MORE VICTIMS

Tom Halpin, Chief Executive, SACRO, gave a presentation in relation to Circles of Support and Accountability, a model for the safer resettlement of those who committed sexual offences returning to the community.

**DECIDED:** That the presentation be noted.

#### 3. REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

There was submitted a joint revenue budget monitoring report by the Treasurer and the Chief Officer in respect of the Authority. The report intimated that expenditure on core services was anticipated to be £361,287 over budget and expenditure on non-core services was anticipated to be £164,508 under budget, which resulted in an anticipated £196,779 net overspend for the Authority.

East Renfrewshire Council was projecting an overspend of £139,788; Inverclyde Council was projecting a break-even position; Renfrewshire Council was projecting an underspend of £11,337 and Argyll, Bute and Dunbartonshire Criminal Justice Social Work Partnership was projecting an

overspend of £68,996. Any over-spend at the year-end was required to be met by the relevant local authority.

**DECIDED:**

- (a) That Argyll, Bute and Dunbartonshire Criminal Justice Social Work Partnership's virement of £129,485 from non-core services to core services of £129,485 be noted; and
- (b) That a reallocation of the grant be approved to increase Inverclyde Council's allocation by £143,963 and decrease Renfrewshire Council's allocation by £123,397 and East Renfrewshire Council's allocation by £20,566.

**4. ADMINISTRATION GRANT REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT**

There was submitted a joint administration grant revenue budget monitoring report by the Treasurer and the Chief Officer in respect of the Authority. The report intimated that expenditure against the administration grant was currently projected to result in an underspend of £1,700. Details of the projected expenditure were attached to the report.

**DECIDED:** That the report be noted.

**5. NORTH STRATHCLYDE COMMUNITY JUSTICE AUTHORITY ACTION PLAN 2014/15**

There was submitted a report by the Planning Officer relative to the North Strathclyde Community Justice Authority Action Plan 2014/15. The report intimated that the Authority was required to produce annual action plans to progress the overarching strategy of the 2014/17 area plan. There were 12 actions in the action plan which would be undertaken as a partnership and 37 associated activities, the majority of which were the responsibility of the Chief Officer or Planning Officer of the Authority. The report focussed on the four actions which were due for completion by the end of December 2014.

**DECIDED:**

- (a) That the report and appendix be noted; and
- (b) That authority be delegated to the Chief Officer, in consultation with the Convener, to amend the action plan if required.

**6. VICTIM AND WITNESSES (SCOTLAND) ACT 2014**

There was submitted a report by Victim Support Scotland relative to the Victim and Witnesses (Scotland) Act 2014 which introduced a number of general principles and specific measures to protect victims and witnesses and these were detailed in the report.

The report intimated that the main provisions of the Act came into force on 13<sup>th</sup> August, 2014 and was the Scottish Government's response to the European Directive 2012/29/EU on the rights of victims of crime. The Scottish Government intended to meet its ambition to place victims at the heart of the justice system in Scotland by strengthening rights, support and protection of people affected by crime. The general principles which underpinned the Act were that the safety of victims and witnesses was ensured during and after investigating and proceedings; victims and witnesses should be supported at all times; and victims and witnesses should be able to participate effectively in criminal justice processes.

**DECIDED:** That the report be noted.

## **7. REDUCING REOFFENDING PROGRESS REPORT – AUDIT SCOTLAND RECOMMENDATIONS**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer relative to progress on the five recommendations from the Audit Scotland report entitled 'Reducing Reoffending in Scotland', published in November 2012.

**DECIDED:** That the report be noted.

## **SEDERUNT**

Councillor Lafferty left the meeting during consideration of the following item of business.

## **8. LOCAL AUTHORITY ANNUAL REPORTS**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer relative to Annual Reports 2013/14 by the Chief Social Work Officers of Argyll, Bute and Dunbartonshires' Criminal Justice Social Work Partnership; East Renfrewshire Council; Inverclyde Council; and Renfrewshire Council providing information to the Authority on services which had been provided under the grant funding arrangement. The reports intimated that one of the functions of the Authority under Section 3(5)e of the Management of Offenders etc (Scotland) Act 2005 was to allocate to appropriate local authorities a grant in respect of Criminal Justice Social Work Services. At the meeting of the Authority held on 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2010 conditions of grant were introduced, one of which required constituent authorities to submit annual reports to the Authority outlining the services they had provided with the grant.

### **DECIDED:**

- (a) That the reports be noted; and
- (b) That Annual Reports 2014/15 be submitted to the meeting of the Authority to be held in September 2015.

## **9. NORTH STRATHCLYDE COMMUNITY JUSTICE AUTHORITY ANNUAL REPORT**

There was submitted a report by the Planning Officer relative to the North Strathclyde Community Justice Authority Annual Report for 2013/14. The report intimated that the Management of Offenders etc (Scotland) Act 2005 stated that Community Justice Authority (CJA) annual reports should be submitted as soon as practical after the end of each financial year. Accordingly, the Scottish Government had set a deadline of 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 for submission of the 2013/14 annual reports. The format for the Authority Annual Report 2013/14 contained seven main sections and these were detailed in the report.

The Authority Annual Report 2013/14 was confidential at this stage and would not be available to the public until 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 and as such it had only been issued to members of the Authority.

### **DECIDED:**

- (a) That the report be noted; and
- (b) That the Chief Officer, following consultation with the Convener, submit the North Strathclyde Community Justice Authority Annual Report 2013/14 to the Scottish Government by 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2014.

#### **10. MAPPA ANNUAL REPORT**

There was submitted a report by the Partnership Manager, Argyll, Bute and Dunbartonshires' Criminal Justice Social Work Partnership, relative to the 2013/14 Annual Report for Multi-agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) within the Authority area.

The MAPPA Annual Report 2013/14 would not be available to members of the Authority until it had been considered and approved by the MAPPA Strategic Oversight Group later in September 2014.

#### **DECIDED:**

- (a) That the report be noted; and
- (b) That authority be delegated to the Chief Officer, in consultation with the Convener, to accept the MAPPA Annual Report 2013/14 and publish it on the Authority's website on the due date.

#### **11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was noted that the next meeting of the Authority would be held on Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2014 at 10.30 a.m.