



CÙRAM IS SLÀINTE NAN EILEAN SIAR

WESTERN ISLES HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP

COMMUNITY JUSTICE OUTCOME IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Report by Chief Officer, Health and Social Care

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To update members on the progress of our local work on community justice.

COMPETENCE

2. There are no legal or financial constraints to the recommendations being implemented.

SUMMARY

3. Since 2012, the Scottish Government has pursued a process of reform in respect of the delivery and planning of community justice services, culminating in the Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016, which is now in force and sets out the vision and new governance arrangements for community justice in Scotland. That legislation signalled a move away from regional Community Justice Authorities to a local Community Justice Partnership, which would be accountable to the Community Planning Partnership. At a national level, Community Justice Scotland was also created to maintain an overview of progress across Scotland.
4. In addition, the Scottish Government produced draft National Outcomes for Community Justice in July 2016 and these were finalised later in the year. These will be reported on annually to Community Justice Scotland and the first reporting will take place following 2017/ 2018. In November 2016 the Scottish Government produced the National Strategy for Community Justice.
5. Each Community Justice Partnership was expected to complete a Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan (CJOIP) before 31st March 2017. The Outer Hebrides plan was developed by the local Community Justice Partnership between October 2016 and March 2017, and was based on a comprehensive needs assessment. The final draft was agreed by the Community Planning Partnership in time for the beginning of the financial year 2017/18. The CJOIP sets out a range of actions which will be carried forward over the course of the year, focusing on both victims and offenders, with a clear focus on community engagement.
6. The IJB has a specific interest in the community justice agenda given that it has delegated responsibility for criminal justice social work and given its interest in the work of the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership. It has also received specific updates on the Outcome Improvement Plan.
7. Over the period 2017/18, the Community Justice Partnership has achieved a number of objectives, including:
 - Agreed governance and oversight arrangements, with buy-in across all partners;
 - A developing relationship with national partners like the Scottish Prison Service and Community Justice Scotland;
 - Awareness raising at locality level, with community engagement a clear principle of mission;





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- A number of specific policy outputs including a needs assessment, local directory of services and a communication and participation strategy.
8. On the other hand, the Partnership hasn't always achieved consistency of participation at CJP meetings and has come up against capacity issues in delivering against all of the intended actions set out in the Outcome Improvement Plan.
 9. The Partnership has now received feedback from Community Justice Scotland on the Outcome Improvement Plan. That feedback was very positive and our community focus, evidence base, leadership and prioritisation were all complimented. Community Justice Scotland also felt that we could do more around measuring impact, be more specific around implementation and spread the load beyond the lead officers.
 10. We are now at a stage of review in respect of the Outcome Improvement Plan and aim to have a new plan in place by the autumn of 2018. The CJP is seeking the views of partnership bodies around the content of the future plan. The three proposed priorities of the new plan are:-
 - The effective use of data, information and intelligence, to better understand the efficacy of intervention in supporting offenders into sustainable lives in the community;
 - A focus on early intervention and prevention, to ensure that we are taking opportunities to prevent people offending;
 - Community engagement and participation, to maximise community support and understanding of the community justice agenda.
 11. We would also anticipate more work on operational delivery, and benchmarking against other partnerships.
 12. Over the spring and summer, we will step-up community engagement processes, with a view to coproducing the next iteration of the Outcome Improvement Plan. The Integration Joint Board will continue to be informed of progress.

RECOMMENDATIONS

13. It is recommended that the IJB:
 - (a) Notes the reforms to the community justice landscape in Scotland; and
 - (b) Comments on the priorities of the new Outcome Improvement Plan.

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Chief Officer
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