
Shadow Orkney Community Justice Partnership

Minutes of the Shadow Orkney Community Justice Partnership Meeting held on 27 June 2016 at 11:30 in the Conference Room, Orkney College, Kirkwall

Present	Caroline Sinclair	Orkney Health and Care Integration Joint Board (<i>Chair</i>)
	Gill Learmonth	Community Justice (<i>Secretary</i>)
	Anna Whelan	The Orkney Partnership
	Arlene Stuart	Scottish Government
	Gordon Deans	Police Scotland
	Frances Troup	Housing, Orkney Islands Council
	Debbie Sutherland	Y-People
	Fiona Mathieson	Criminal Justice, Orkney Health and Care
	Tom McGuire	Mental Health, Orkney Health and Care
	Jon Humphreys	Orkney Health and Care
	Billy Wilson	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
	Marie Robertson	Skills Development Scotland
	Gail Anderson	Voluntary Action Orkney
	Peter Willox	Northern Community Justice Authority

1. Apologies for absence

Alicen Winston	Police Scotland
Angela Smith	G4S
Anthony Standing	Skills Development Scotland
John Richards	Integration Joint Board and OIC Elected Member
Robert Strachan	Scottish Prison Service
Russ Madge	Integration Joint Board Chair and OIC Elected Member
Vicky McNeice	G4S
Zelda Bradley	Orkney Rape Crisis

2. Welcome and introductions (Caroline Sinclair)

Caroline welcomed the group to their first meeting and provided some basic information about the purpose of the meeting and the role of Partners.

3. Local Context (Jon Humphreys)

- 3.1 Jon provided background information on how Criminal Justice work has been delivered locally in the past, and noted the challenges for the islands in aligning with National Services and Strategies, citing examples where, for defensible reasons around local circumstances such as small teams and lower overall numbers of offenders, matters have been approached in a different way. He also highlighted good examples of previous partnership working and use of local resources

where he detailed some of the projects which had been undertaken through Community Payback Order and case by case individual placements.

- 3.2** It was noted that the membership of the local Orkney Youth Crime Review Group, which ran from 2000 to 2010, is similar to the membership of this Partnership.
- 3.3** The group was reminded that reoffending is different to reconvictions, and acknowledged that it is more challenging to establish numbers in relation to reoffending. Local reconviction statistics have, however, been generally reassuring and encouraging, with recent publication of one-year reconvictions at lower than 10% continuing this pattern.
- 3.4** Billy Wilson suggested that it may sometimes be helpful to present statistics in their number form rather than percentages due to Orkney's low statistical base.

It was noted that in the past we have been better able to capture narrative data in relation to Diversionary activities, but very low numbers have left little scope to gather "harder" statistical data – though we are by no means alone in this.

4. National Perspective (Arlene Stuart)

- 4.1** Arlene provided a summary of the main drivers for reform which led to the Scottish Government's decision to undertake a review of how Community Justice Services are managed and delivered. An extensive consultation and engagement process was undertaken to identify a new model for delivery, with the one chosen focusing on management being led locally, by the people who know their area best, whilst still placing a focus on collaborative working with other areas.
- 4.2** Arlene informed the group that the draft versions of the National Strategy for Community Justice, Outcomes, Performance & Improvement (CJOPI) Framework and Guidance for local partners are available, and that work would be done on these over the summer, with a ministerial launch of the final versions later in the year.

5. Transition Process (Peter Willox)

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- 5.1** Peter explained that the current Community Justice Authority is made up of Elected members from each local authority area, with there being areas making up the Northern Community Justice Authority (NCJA). He highlighted some the challenges of delivering Community Justice, with particular reference to the challenges that the isles faced. As part of the consultation on the new model of Community Justice, each Community Justice Authority voted for the process which we are currently going through in the redesign of the new model. The Community Justice Authorities will work alongside Shadow Community Justice Partnerships over the coming months in the transition, and will be disestablished on 31st March 2017, with the new Community Justice Partnerships being fully established on 1st April 2017.
- 5.2** The NCJA has done a lot of work to at ways of addressing reoffending Over the years, and this can be reflected in the 9 year low reconviction rate (26.3%) across the NCJA. The new model will provide an opportunity to be more efficient with a broader range of Partners during the transition process, and beyond.
- 5.3** Billy Wilson wanted to ensure the group were aware of the work being done through 'Our Islands Our Future' and asked how funding might be distributed. Arlene Stuart explained that details of the S27 Formulae Review went to the Settlement and Distribution group in May but they required more information. It was suggested that Indicative funding would be useful and Arlene explained that funding would be split in to core and non-core funding but it would be difficult to estimate at this point. Non-core would be provided to make more use of things such as Bail Supervision and the Moving Forward Making Changes Programme.
- 5.4** It was questioned how funding would be offered to the Third Sector. Arlene explained that £1.5m would be made available to concentrate on Services for Women who offend, with £4.5m provided for Community Sentences. This will be kept separate from main funding. It was noted that there will be a requirement for all funding to be reported to the relevant Local Authorities for transparency. Anna Whelan asked if there are currently any national services that are available locally. Jon Humphreys informed the group that there is currently mentoring available for young offenders up to 25 years old. The Women's mentoring services, SHINE, is also available but we have had no women go to prison in over 3 years. Arlene informed the group that Community Justice Scotland will be looking at Commissioning in relation to need through Public Social Partnership commissioning arrangements.

6. The Orkney Partnership (Anna Whelan)

Anna provided an introduction to the Community Planning Partnership, their recent redesign and the strategic priorities set out in the Orkney Community Plan 2015 -2018, which incorporates the Local Outcomes

Improvement Plan. She explained that there was no definitive model as to how the Community Justice Partnership would fit with the Community Planning Partnership, but every local authority had assumed a hierarchical relationship of some sort in their transition plans, with CJPs reporting to CPP boards. It would be sensible to establish a working relationship and a common "look and feel" between the two partnerships, starting with their terms of reference, and the Orkney Partnership's Terms of Reference were tabled for information. Terms of Reference. Anna explained that the membership of the Orkney Partnership Board comprised the statutory participating partners as specified by the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, plus some local and co-opted partners, including the Improvement Service, who had been very helpful in establishing the new Board.

7. Chair and Vice Chair Elections (Caroline Sinclair)

7.1 Caroline agreed to Chair this inaugural meeting of the Shadow Community Justice Partnership and is happy to continue as Chair. If anyone would like to express an interest in taking over as Chair for future meetings, they should contact Gill Learmonth before the next meeting. A voting process would then follow to establish Chair.

Action: All

7.2 Billy Wilson offered to be Vice Chair, and the group accepted.

8. Community Justice Scotland (Arlene Stuart)

8.1 Arlene informed the group that the new body's role would provide leadership for the sector, opportunities for innovation, learning and development and independent professional assurance to Scottish Ministers on the collective achievement of community justice outcomes across Scotland and to provide improvement support where required. Community Justice Scotland will be established in statute as an Executive Non Departmental Public Body and will be directed by its Board. Relationships will be established with Statutory and Non Statutory Partners as early as possible and a Training Development Officer will be appointed to provide continuity of Training and of service delivery.

8.2 Jon Humphreys asked if it was intended for Community Justice Scotland to be sat around the table to feed directly in to Partnership discussions. Arlene agreed to discuss this with the Watchteam lead but the expectation would be to establish a link person approach.

9. National Strategy, Outcome, Performance and Improvement Framework (Arlene Stuart)

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- 9.1** Arlene informed the group that there are 4 priority areas for action:
- **Improved Community Understanding and Participation** – so that stronger engagement with communities informs effective policy and services and addresses stigma;
 - **Strategic Planning and Partnership Working** - so that partners work together to improve community justice outcomes;
 - **Equal Access to Services** - so that people get the help they need, when they need it, to make a real difference to their lives;
 - **Effective Use of Evidence-Based Interventions** - so that fewer people go to prison and fewer people return to prison.

9.2 Arlene provided the group with some background to the Outcome, Performance and Improvement Framework. She explained that the Framework will be supported by the guidance with a focus on the national strategy to improve aims and actions to progress the achievement of the outcomes and the penal policy vision. It is important to reflect what is happening locally, and how this aligns with and contributes to the national outcomes and strategy. The Framework is to be used to drive improvement and evidence impact.

10. Development of the Community Justice Outcomes and Improvement Plan and Needs Assessment (Gill Learmonth)

- 10.1** Gill explained that there is a requirement to produce a Community Justice Outcomes and Improvement Plan (CJOIP) by 31st March 2017 and gave details of the necessary elements as well as a template which has been provided for guidance. She informed the group that one of the elements of the CJOIP was to evidence the local Community Justice needs and priorities and advised that a Needs Assessment would provide the context for this.
- 10.2** It was proposed that the Partnership produces a Needs Assessment to feed in to the CJOIP, and there were no objections. Gill asked for anyone who was willing to help with the content of the Need Assessment, to email her in the next few weeks. **Action: All**
- 10.3** It was suggested that the CJOIP should take in to consideration the format of The Orkney Community Plan and make reference to it where relevant. This would help to establish the family relationship between the two plans.
- 10.4** The group were reminded that the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership produced a Needs Assessment in the last few years and there might be some useful content in it which we could use.
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11. Communications Strategy (Gill Learmonth)

11.1 Gill produced a draft version of a Communications and Engagement Strategy, which she shared with the group. Anna Whelan suggested that we look at the format of The Orkney Partnership's Communications Strategy for reference, since this was designed for partnership use and had already been adopted locally.

11.2 Gill shared a proposed activity / meeting Schedule for 2016-17 with the group. The schedule noted proposed informative sessions with various groups. Marie Robertson informed the group that the next Employability Strategic Group meeting is on 2nd August 2016, and there might be an opportunity to present at it. Gill to contact Marie to arrange this. Gill also suggested a session could be arranged at the next Third Sector Forum meeting. **Action: Gill**

12. Guidance (Caroline Sinclair)

Caroline provided the group with details of what the guidance featured, specifically the Needs Assessment, Criminal Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan and Outcome, Performance and Improvement Framework. It was noted that the Outcome Performance and Improvement framework guidance will be updated in the near future.

13. Dates of Next Meetings

The Northern Community Justice Authority is meeting in Orkney on Friday 16th September and it was agreed that we would hold our next meeting in conjunction with this.
