

Highland Community Planning Partnership

Community Planning Board – 3 October 2019

Agenda Item	8.
Report No	CPB 10/19

The Highland Community Justice Partnership Annual Return

Report on behalf of the CJP

**Recommendation**

The CP Board is asked to note the attached report.

1. Background

1.1 Following the implementation of the Community Justice Scotland Act (2016), which delegated responsibility for the implementation of Community Justice to CPPs, we established the Highland Community Justice Partnership in April 2016.

On behalf of the Highland CP Board the CJP provides an annual return to Community Justice Scotland (CJS) on the attached template. Additionally this year a public annual report shall also be produced, at the request of CJS, and shall be circulated later in October.

The return provides a variety of information and pulls from the activity contained within the current CJP plan; which is available [here](#), runs till 2021 and includes some ambitious activities which we believe demonstrate a genuine desire for collaboration and innovation.

2. Highlights

2.1 Small Change for Justice Round Up: Small Change for Justice was originally held in 2017. This was a participatory budgeting event held by the Community Justice Partnership which initially saw seven projects funded with a further eight projects being funded from February 2018. The organisations were given a year to complete their projects and submit a report to the Partnership.

A Roundup Event was held in March 2019 celebrating the work of the fifteen projects including Abriachan Forest Trust, Apex, CALA Care and Learning Alliance, Crocus Group, Families Outside, Highlife Highland, The Libertie Project, Lochaber Hope, Men’s Shed Dingwall, Newstart Highland, RASASH Rape & Sexual Assault Service Highland, Serenity, Signpost (now In This Together), Skye & Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations (SLCVO) and Youth Highland.

To date, the Community Justice Partnership have funded fifteen third sector projects across Highland who are working with those who have committed crime, have been affected by crime or working towards the prevention of crime being committed. This process has enabled some of the



projects to produce evidence around what they have achieved and source further funding to continue with their work.

2.2 Pitch your Problem: The Pitch Your Problem Event also took place in March 2019 and saw three 'problems' being 'pitched' by statutory agencies (two from the police and one from criminal justice social work) to a third sector audience. One of the 'problems' pitched by the police in relation to anti-social behaviour is being progressed with the assistance of the third sector.

2.3 Greg Berman, Director for Court Innovation in New York - in Inverness: In September 2018, Greg Berman, who was instrumental in setting up the Red Hook Justice Center in Brooklyn, New York spoke at an event in Inverness where he wowed the audience mainly made up of those working within the justice field with his experience of an innovative approach that had been taken to justice. The court was created to address the unique social and judicial needs of its surrounding neighbourhood.

The winner of multiple national awards for innovation, the Red Hook Justice Center houses a courtroom in which a single judge hears cases that under ordinary circumstances would go to three different courts—Civil, Family, and Criminal. The tools at the judge's disposal include community restitution projects, short-term psycho-educational groups, and long-term treatment. Beyond the courtroom, the Justice Center offers an array of unconventional programmes that work to improve both public safety and trust in justice.

If you would like to find out more about this approach and the outcomes achieved, then please visit:

<https://www.courtinnovation.org/programs/red-hook-community-justice-center>

2.4 Fireskills Courses – A Good News Story: Fireskills Employability Awards are run for up to 10 High School pupils who are identified through engagement with education. Pupils are those who are lacking attainment, may not be attending school or may be on the verge of exclusion.

The Fireskills courses utilise Scottish Fire and Rescue Service personnel as positive role models to build confidence, team-working abilities, social responsibility etc. Pupils learn about the work of SFRS, learn practical skills including the use of equipment, first aid etc. Other partner agencies are involved, and this includes the Police in relation to Anti-Social Behaviour, and most recently a visit to Airport Fire Service at Inverness Airport.

Attendees, upon completing a successful portfolio will attain 4 credit points at SVQ Level 4. Two courses have been delivered and completed in Inverness during 2018 and early 2019 (Inverness High, and Charleston Academy). Feedback is very positive with contact being maintained with the schools' post course.

Feedback from course 1 identified improved attendance and attainment at school, desire to maintain involvement in social projects, improved confidence and even anecdotal evidence of one attendee who has shared knowledge with peers to prevent anti-social behaviour impact upon SFRS operational activity.



### 3. Challenges

3.1 While the partnership continues to benefit from a core group of regular attendees general participation and engagement across agencies and different departments is not as strong as we would like. This impacts on the ability of the CJP and the CJ Manager to understand the wider landscape of contributing actions and opportunities within Highland.

Additionally the ongoing challenges of public sector cuts, Highland geography and access to sufficient data and analysis continue.

Specifically and most recently the withdrawal of the Through Care Service provided by Scottish Prison Service is likely to have notable, possibly significant, impacts on the reduction of reoffending.

A separate paper on the 'Presumption Against Short term Sentencing' (PASS) is before the CPB, we await to see how both the needs and implementation of this approach are fully understood and embraced within Highland.



**APPENDIX I**

**HIGHLAND CJP ANNUAL RETURN**



**Community Justice Scotland**

**Ceartas Coimhearsnachd Alba**

## **Community Justice Outcome Activity Across Scotland Local Area Annual Return Template**

**2018-19**

### **1. Background**

The introduction of the Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 triggered the formal implementation of the new model of Community Justice in Scotland. A number of key documents are associated with the Act including the National Strategy, Justice in Scotland: Vision & Priorities and the Framework for Outcome, Performance & Improvement.



The 2016 Act places a duty on community justice statutory partners to produce a Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan (CJOIP) which outlines key local needs & priorities and the plans & actions to address these against a backdrop of the documents noted above. Beyond this, the partners are also tasked with reporting, on an annual basis, the community justice outcomes and improvements in their area – again with reference to the associated strategy and framework documents and, when complete, submit those annual reports to Community Justice Scotland.

This guidance, which underpins the reporting template, was produced as a response to views and opinions gathered by the Community Justice Scotland Improvement Team following the publication of the 2017-18 annual report.

Community Justice Scotland is committed to working in partnership with community justice partners and have designed the template and guidance to support local areas in reporting on their annual outcomes and improvements in a meaningful way that captures necessary data in an effective and efficient manner.

## **2. Statement of Assurance**

The information submitted to Community Justice Scotland using this template is for the purpose of fulfilling the requirement under s27 of the Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 for Community Justice Scotland to produce a report on performance in relation to community justice outcomes across Scotland.

The data submitted using this template will be used for this reporting purpose only. In the report, local authority areas will not be specifically identified. However, Community Justice Partnerships should be aware that any information held by Community Justice Scotland is subject to statutory Freedom of Information obligations.



### 3. General principles of the template

The template is designed to capture a range of important data in a way that allows local partners to highlight key aspects of community justice activities, outcomes and improvements over the specified period without it being onerous or time/resource demanding.

Most of the template is self-explanatory and, where this is the case, there is little guidance required. In the sections that require more direction for completion, the text (in blue) will outline what is expected in terms of reporting.

It would be helpful if responses in each of the “evidence and data” boxes within section 4 of the template (“performance reporting”) is held to a maximum of 300 words to ensure the main points are captured. This allows for an efficient analysis by Community Justice Scotland on return. The use of bullet points in your answers is acceptable.

Where the template asks for evidence, a written response will suffice and there is no expectation that you send additional supporting documentation – if there are any aspects Community Justice Scotland is unclear on it will be our responsibility to request clarification where necessary.

If any response or evidence requires details about people with lived experience (e.g. evidence in respect of someone’s life story) please **NO NOT** include any personal sensitive information (as outlined in Schedules 2 & 3 of the Data Protection Act 1998) as Community Justice Scotland does not require such information. If this is unavoidable then please ensure that the data is fully anonymised.

This is the second iteration of the template and guidance. It is anticipated that this template will remain largely unchanged for the reporting periods 2018-2019 and 2019-2020.



#### 4. Template Completion Guide

1. Community Justice Partnership / Group Details	
Community Justice Partnership / Group	Highland Community Justice Partnership
Community Justice Partnership Group Chair	Niall MacLennan, SFRS
Community Justice Partnership / Group Co-ordinator	Margaret McShane
Publication date of Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan (CJOIP)	March 2018

2. Template Sign-off	
<p>The content of this annual report on community justice outcomes and improvements in our area has been agreed as accurate by the Community Justice Partnership / Group and has been shared with our Community Planning Partnership through our local accountability arrangements.</p>	
Signature of Community Justice Partnership / Group Chair :	Date :
.....	.....

3. Governance Arrangements
<p>Please outline below your current governance structure for the community justice arrangements in your area:</p> <p>The governance of the Community Justice Partnership in Highland is as follows – The group meet on a quarterly basis and the meetings are being chaired until March 2020 by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. The group report to the Chief Officers Group for Highland which ultimately reports to the Community Planning Partnership. The Community Justice Plans that have been produced for Highland have been signed off by the CPP.</p>



#### 4. Performance Reporting – National Outcomes

##### NATIONAL OUTCOME ONE

Communities improve their understanding and participation in community justice

Indicator	Reported?	Useful?	Evidence and Data (max 300 words per indicator)
Activities carried out to engage with 'communities' as well as other relevant constituencies	Yes	Yes	<p>The Highland Community Justice Plan 2018-21 Launch Event was held in April 2018 with 26 attendees from the Partnership, statutory and third sectors.</p> <p>The Community Justice Third Sector Forums are held quarterly for those within the third sector who have an interest in community justice. On average 10 attendees per session with various relevant speakers attending.</p> <p>Greg Berman Red Hook Justice Center Event which was held in Inverness in September 2018, approximately 80 attendees from all sectors, the CJ Partnership and the judiciary.</p> <p>An Extraordinary Meeting of the CJP held in January 2019 to coincide with the Director of Public Health Report for Highland which mainly focussed on ACEs. The invitation to the event was extended to the Community Partnership Chairs across Highland and the Resilience film was shown at this event. In total there were 15 attendees.</p> <p>The Small Change for Justice Roundup/Pitch Your Problem Event took place in March 2019 and saw many of the 15 projects who had received funding through the process come back together to share their success and learning points. The Pitch Your Problem event was held the same day. In total, three 'problems' were pitched by statutory agencies with a plea to third sector organisations to try and think of a solution. One 'problem' is being taken forward by the police and third sector. There were 34 attendees at this event.</p>
Consultation with communities as part of community justice planning and service provision	No	Yes	CJSW consults with communities about the nature of unpaid work and other activities to be undertaken by offenders (Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010). This takes many forms, e.g. distributing leaflets; attending ward forums; community council meetings etc
Participation in community justice, such as co-production and joint delivery	No	Yes	
Level of community awareness of / satisfaction with	No	Yes	<p>% of Unpaid Work Beneficiaries who were satisfied with the standard of work carried out – 18/19 99% 102/103</p> <p>% of Unpaid Work Beneficiaries who were of the opinion that the work was of benefit – 18/19 99% 102/103</p>





work undertaken as part of a CPO			
Evidence from questions to be used in local surveys / citizens' panels and so on	No	Yes	No data available
Perceptions of the local crime data	No	No	
<b>Other information relevant to National Outcome One</b>			

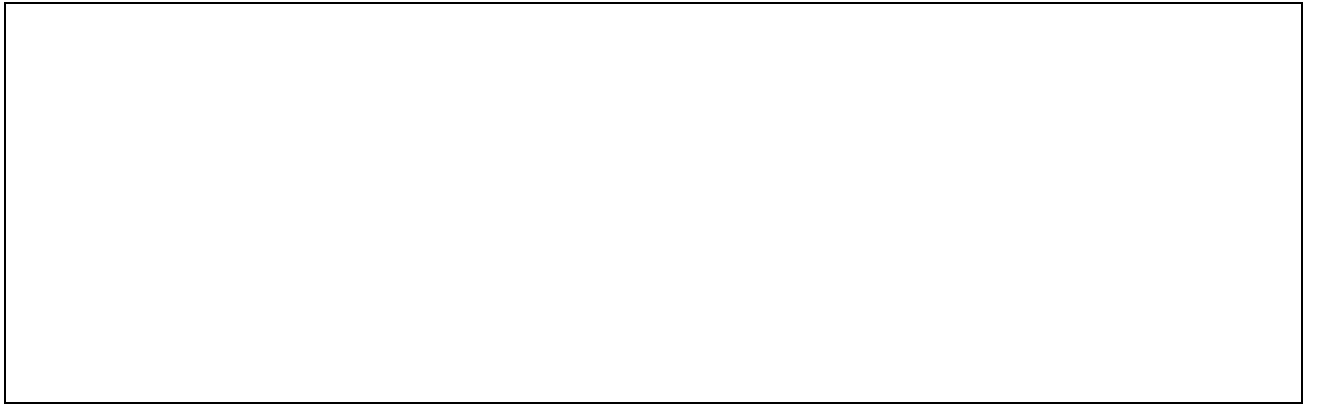


**NATIONAL OUTCOME TWO**

Partners plan and deliver services in a more strategic and collaborative way

Indicator	Reported?	Useful?	Evidence and Data (max 300 words per indicator)
Services are planned for and delivered in a strategic and collaborative way	Yes	Yes	<p>Following a review of the DTTO service, CJSW plans to roll-out DTTO2s (or lite) in recognition of a younger age and drug using (poly drug use) profile of people using drugs. It is hoped this will lead to an uptake in orders. Funding has also been secured from HADP until March 2021 for extra social work and nursing staff specifically to roll out DTTO2 in the north and west.</p> <p>The Positive Outcomes Project (renamed from Persistent Offenders) was subject to rigorous evaluation in 2018. This showed reductions in convicted offences, disposal, custody and offence-related costs and a 27% reduction in economic and social costs of crime (£173,167) since the project started in late 2016.</p> <p>2018 Director of Public Health Annual Report on Adverse Childhood Experiences, Resilience and Trauma Informed Care considered the cost and impact of crime for the population of NHS Highland and how a reduction in such experiences would reduce the cost and impact of crime. This informs next year's activity in Caithness and Sutherland with the Violence Reduction Unit to work with Community Planning Partnerships and local communities and services.</p>
Partners have leveraged resources for community justice	Yes	Yes	Proposed Link Worker Project – £38K from CJP, £10K from Police Scotland, £15K from Robertson Trust.
Development of community justice workforce to work effectively across organisational/professional /geographical boundaries	Yes	No	<p>Small Change for Justice Roundup/Pitch Your Problem Event. Three 'problems' were pitched, one of which is being followed up by Police Scotland and Feis Rois in Ross-shire.</p> <p>Action for Children made links with Robertson Construction through the CJ Third Sector Forum and whilst working with 2 clients helped them into employment through a new employability experience/strategy.</p>
Partners illustrate effective engagement and collaborative partnership working with the authorities responsible for the delivery of MAPP A	No	No	Since 2007, the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPP A), a set of statutory arrangements of which the primary purpose is to maintain public protection and the reduction of serious harm, has operated effectively. The 4 Responsible Authorities in Highland are the local authority, Police Scotland, SPS and NHS. The 2018/19 Annual Report is not yet available; however, the 17/18 report showed there were 297 registered sex offenders and only 1 convicted of a further Sexual or Violent offence.

**Other information relevant to National Outcome Two**



**NATIONAL OUTCOME THREE**

People have better access to the services that they require, including welfare, health and wellbeing, housing and employability

Indicator	Reported?	Useful?	Evidence and Data (max 300 words per indicator)
Partners have identified and are overcoming structural barriers for people accessing services	No	Yes	The statutory and many third sector organisations including Apex, Libertie Project, Newstart Highland, CALA are working to overcome identified barriers such as criminal records, unemployment, mental health and addictions for those trying to access services.
Existence of joint-working arrangements such as processes / protocols to ensure access to services to address underlying needs	No	Yes	<p>CJSW has established Service level Agreements with Apex Scotland, Action for Children and Pulteneytown People's Project for the delivery of employability services, offending awareness programmes and bespoke support for individuals respectively.</p> <p>HMP Inverness currently works in partnership with the following National and Local services. Partnership Agreements &amp; Disclosure Scotland are currently in place.</p> <p>Referrals can be made through Core Screen interviews at Induction upon admission or via the individual submitting self-referrals to the establishments Links Centre throughout their term in custody.</p> <p>List of current National and Local Partners:</p> <p>New Routes; JCP; CAB; Fife College; Alcoholics Anonymous; APEX Scotland; Highland Homeless Trust (HHT); Poppy Scotland; Combat Stress; Cale House (supported accommodation); Beechwood House (addictions services); Osprey House (addictions services); Arrows (addictions services Moray); Moray Drug and Alcohol; Highland Alcohol and Drug Partnership (HADP); Crossreach Scotland (counselling services); VAW Partnership; SMART Recovery; Highlife Highland (adult literacies); Social Work (Highland &amp; Moray); DTTO; NHS Oral Health; NHS Mental Health; Prison Fellowship.</p> <p>*Number of Diversion Cases 18/19 – 70            *Number of New CPOs 18/19 – 608            Number of New DTTOs 18/19 – 13            *Number of New RLOs 18/19 - 14</p> <p>Those marked with * subject to change until final submission of CPO Unit Return &amp; Aggregate Return to Scottish Government.</p>
Initiatives to facilitate access to services	No	Yes	Further to a Rapid Process Improvement Workshop in June 2017, service access was changed to include telephone screening and a revised assessment clinic model, this has allowed for rapid access in line with the NHS HEAT A11 Standard. There are also drop in



			sessions in Caithness and Inverness providing advice and support.
Speed of access to mental health services	No	Yes	Patients can be seen same day if in crisis by the Mental Health assessment Team or via Accident and Emergency Liaison Psychiatry Team. Mental Health Forensic Team will assess patients referred by the Courts and Prison. Dependent on circumstances same day assessments Monday to Friday can be delivered by the Forensic Community Mental Health Team.
% of people released from a custodial sentence : a) registered with a GP b) have suitable accommodation c) have had a benefits eligibility check	No	yes	<p>a) Individuals who are sentenced to six months or more are automatically de-registered by the individuals GP Surgery.</p> <p>The re-registering of individuals for liberation has been carried out by the establishments Throughcare Support Officers (up until 16th September 2019) and via the establishments NHS Team.</p> <p>There are no percentage figures available to quantify the exact numbers, however there were 270 liberations from HMP Inverness from 2018 – 2019.</p> <p>b) From April 2018 to April 2019, HMP Inverness had 270 liberations.</p> <p>198 had accommodation upon liberation (73.34%)</p> <p>72 were registered as no fixed abode - NFA (26.66%). (Stats taken from SPS Liberation Tracker)</p> <p>c) After admission and induction, all individuals who are seen or have been referred to Job Centre Plus (JCP) will have their benefits eligibility checked or updated automatically by the JCP Work Coach. JCP interview approximately 16 individuals per week within the Links Centre on Tuesdays &amp; Thursdays. This equates to approx. 832 appointments per calendar year.</p> <p>There is no data to give an exact figure to quantify specific numbers as individuals may be seen on several occasions throughout their term in custody.</p> <p>100% of individuals who are seen by the JCP Work Coach will have had their benefits eligibility checked or updated.</p> <p>SPS Throughcare Support Officers have checked, updated or applied for Benefits for Service Users prior to their liberation on 64 occasions. All enquiries were specifically for Benefit purposes.</p>
Targeted interventions have been tailored for and with an individual and had a successful impact	No	Yes	% of those offenders surveyed, subject to supervision, who felt their drug/or alcohol issues had improved following supervision – 18/19 100% 25/25



on their risk of further offending			<p>% of those offenders surveyed, subject to supervision, who felt their mental health issues had improved following supervision - 18/19 77% 17/22</p> <p>% of those offenders surveyed, subject to supervision, who felt that supervision has helped them to reduce their offending behaviour – 18/19 82% 28/34</p> <p>All of above based on a total of 52 individuals surveyed = approximately 9% return rate.</p>
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**Other information relevant to National Outcome Three**

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**NATIONAL OUTCOME FOUR**

Effective interventions are delivered to prevent and reduce the risk of further offending

Indicator	Reported?	Useful?	Evidence and Data (max 300 words per indicator)
Use of 'other activities requirements' in CPOs	No	No	Number & % of CPOs made during 18/19 where "other activities" were recorded – 18/19 8% 48/506 9.5% (please note this figure may be subject to change post CPO Unit return submission)
Effective risk management for public protection	No	Yes	Since 2007, the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA), a set of statutory arrangements of which the primary purpose is to maintain public protection and the reduction of serious harm, has operated effectively. The 4 Responsible Authorities in Highland are the local authority, Police Scotland, SPS and NHS. The 2018/19 Annual Report is not yet available; however, the 17/18 report showed there were 297 registered sex offenders and only 1 convicted of a further Sexual or Violent offence. The Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) and Multi Agency Tasking & Coordination (MATAC) processes are well established for protecting vulnerable women and targeting perpetrators of domestic abuse respectively.
Quality of CPOs and DTTOs	No	Yes	CJSW has a well-established quarterly and annual performance and quality assurance framework. The 2018/19 CPO Annual Report is not yet available; however, the 17/18 report showed there were 64% of unpaid work placements started on time; 94% of individuals felt the work was worthwhile; 96% felt they had received good support; and 96% of beneficiaries were very happy with the work done.  For supervision, 52% felt supervision helped them to reduce their offending behaviour and 89% felt their thinking had changed. In terms of quality assurance, for example, 95% of all cases had a risk assessment; 81% of individuals were seen in accordance with the identified level of intensity in LS/CMI.
Reduced use of custodial sentences and remand :  a) Balance between community sentences relative to short custodial sentences under one year  b) Proportion of people appearing from custody who are remanded	No	No	a) There were 608 CPOs issued in the year 2018/19  Figures for 2018/19 are not yet available but figures for 2017/18 in relation to short term sentences -  Up to 3 months 97 3 – 6 months 112 6 – 12 months 46  Total 255  b) Please refer to the table below pertaining to HMP Inverness's prisoner court appearances for those individuals who are on remand for 2018 – 2019.  (Stats taken from SPS Escort Booking Forms)



			MONTH (2018- 2019)	TOTAL PRISONERS TO COURT	TOTAL PRISONERS AT COURT ON REMAND	PERCENTAGE
			April	96	53	55.21%
			May	129	77	59.69%
			June	119	62	52.10%
			July	93	59	63.44%
			August	116	51	43.97%
			September	110	76	69.09%
			October	130	51	39.23%
			November	118	67	56.78%
			December	113	62	54.87%
			January	101	61	60.40%
			February	116	61	52.59%
			March	105	65	61.90%
			<b>Totals</b>	<b>1346</b>	<b>745</b>	<b>55.35%</b>
The delivery of interventions targeted at problem drug and alcohol use [NHS Local Delivery Plan (LDP) Standard]	No	Yes	<p>There were 19 alcohol and 3 drug treatment requirements made as part of a CPO; there were 20 DTTOs.</p> <p>The CJSW Drug &amp; Alcohol Intervention Team provide interventions to individuals with drink and/or drug use; similarly, the multi-agency DTTO team comprising social workers, CPN(A)s and para-professionals offer treatment and interventions for individuals on an order.</p>			
Number of Police Recorded Warnings, police diversion, fiscal measures, fiscal diversion, supervised bail, community sentences (including CPOs, DTTOs and RLOs)	No	Yes	<p>*Number of Diversion Cases 18/19 – 70            *Number of New CPOs 18/19 – 608            Number of New DTTOs 18/19 – 13            *Number of New RLOs 18/19 - 14</p> <p>Those marked with * subject to change until final submission of CPO Unit Return &amp; Aggregate Return to Scottish Government.</p>			
Number of short-term sentences under one year	No	Yes	<p>Figures for 2018/19 are not yet available but figures for 2017/18 in relation to short term sentences -</p> <p>Up to 3 months 97            3 – 6 months 112            6 – 12 months 46</p>			





			Total	255
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**Other information relevant to National Outcome Four**

A successful bid in partnership with Women's Aid was made for funding to implement the Caledonian System, a nationally accredited domestic abuse programme for perpetrators, which also offers support to women and children. Go-live will be late-Spring 2019.



**NATIONAL OUTCOME FIVE**

Life chances are improved through needs, including health, financial inclusion, housing and safety, being addressed

Indicator	Reported?	Useful?	Evidence and Data (max 300 words per indicator)
Individuals have made progress against the outcome	No	No	<p>There were 608 CPOs issued in the year 2018/19</p> <p>There were 19 alcohol and 3 drug treatment requirements made as part of a CPO; there were 20 DTTOs.</p> <p>The CJSW Drug &amp; Alcohol Intervention Team provide interventions to individuals with drink and/or drug use; similarly, the multi-agency DTTO team comprising social workers, CPN(A)s and para-professionals offer treatment and interventions for individuals on an order.</p> <p>The Positive Outcomes Project (renamed from Persistent Offenders) was subject to rigorous evaluation in 2018. This showed reductions in convicted offences, disposal, custody and offence-related costs and a 27% reduction in economic and social costs of crime (£173,167) since the project started in late 2016.</p>

**Other information relevant to National Outcome Five****Case Study:****Prison Work Coach DWP**

The customer had been in and out of prison a lot over a couple of year period. He had previously worked as a chef but struggled with addiction issues and this led to him becoming violent in public and constantly being arrested. I had met him a couple of times before I was a prison work coach, but he was re-arrested arrested again. I then met him again when I started as a prison WC and he was released soon after. He then began to engage with support available to him such as the Positive Outcomes Project team. He had difficulty with his housing, living in temporary accommodation he found it difficult with the people around him not to be influenced with the drugs that were easily accessible. After being moved several times he eventually was in a property that meant he could settle into a routine. He met a partner who had a job and he felt that he wanted to be able to share in the same positive lifestyle that his partner had through having a wage. We looked at different ways in which he could engage with other support as well as the POP team and decided it was best that he go to APEX. He took part in a construction course. He got a certificate out of this and was a very influential and popular member of the course for the two weeks he was there. He is now working with APEX to get his CSCS card but also looking at hospitality as an option as he has experience of this. We have been working on preparing applications and interview skills for him to be able to move towards work.



**NATIONAL OUTCOME SIX**

People develop positive relationships and more opportunities to participate and contribute through education, employment and leisure activities

Indicator	Reported?	Useful?	Evidence and Data (max 300 words per indicator)
Individuals have made progress against the outcome	No	No	All to consider

**Other information relevant to National Outcome Six****Case Study:****CALA, Care and Learning Alliance**

A partnership was established between Care And Learning Alliance CALA, Scottish Prison Service and Highland Council through funding from the Small Change for Justice grant. A Family Support Project Coordinator (FSPC) would work with Dads/Male Carers who would benefit and engage with the programme, are identified by the Family Contact Officer at Porterfield Prison and invited to participate in the peep sessions. Peep is an Adult Learning Programme that focuses on strengthening the relationship between adult and child. Parents are supported to recognise their own learning potential and achievements. Our sessions have an extra element, the Progression Pathway, this gives the adults the opportunity to gain an SCQF-credited unit (level 3, 4 or 5). This is based on the parents' own learning and reflections on an aspect of child development, linked to play and learning activities that they do with their child during the session, then record in a portfolio. The children can be any age from 0-5 years, so the courses have used the mixed-age 'Early Child Development' unit. This includes Learning Together Programme topics such as Helping children feel good about themselves, Play and language, Sharing books with babies/young children, Maths in everyday routines and Food for life.

For one Dad who found himself unexpectedly incarcerated, he was able to access the peep course from early on in his sentence. He had been engaging with peep in the community on a one to one basis with the peep coordinator who just happens to co deliver peep in the prison, this already established relationship and prior knowledge meant he was engaged and enthusiastic from the start. He was prepared to complete peep without his child being present, in fact his baby was born while he was in prison and he had very little access to information about the baby but continued to engage with the programme, he began to have contact during the peep sessions and had a natural ease around his child but needed guidance and support to learn how to meet their needs. Peep offered the perfect opportunity for this in a small and supportive environment he was able to change his first nappy, engage in messy play with his baby, learn about child development and his role in supporting his child to reach the next milestone.

We asked him what impact peep had had on him and this is what he said.....

"It's made me a better person"

"We get guidance/support from the practitioners about life things"

"Even getting to stand up with my daughter makes a huge difference, in normal visit sessions we can't get off our seats"

"Massive – wouldn't of had that opportunity to bond with my baby"

This Dads personal officer told us she had noticed the difference in his attitude, engagement and appearance since he started attending Peep .

Every week he showed up at peep, his baby was brought in and they shared a couple of hours together, during this time he attended every meeting about his child that he



could and worked hard to address his own personal issues. The peep sessions were a place of support and positivity and all professionals and even the other inmates were able to offer advice and support as this Dad began to fight for his child. He listened and he did all that was asked of him. A few short months on and he has a home, full time custody of his child and as a professional I feel honoured to have been a small part of their journey.

We were joined during a session by Minister for Children and Young People, Maree Todd, after her visit she sent us some remarks

“I expect the work being done at these sessions will have a powerful impact. It will improve the health and wellbeing of the prisoners and their families as well as protect the children from some of the harm which occurs when a parent is in prison. I believe it will reduce the intergenerational transmission of ACEs and there is likely to be a lasting benefit – the PEEP programme is well evidenced.”

**NATIONAL OUTCOME SEVEN**  
Individuals’ resilience and capacity for change and self-management are enhanced

Indicator	Reported?	Useful?	Evidence and Data (max 300 words per indicator)
Individuals have made progress against the outcome	No	No	All to consider

**Other information relevant to National Outcome Seven**

Case study:  
Libertie Project Prisoner Vocational Program

As part of our Prisoner Vocational Program, we run 6 week block courses at HMP Inverness which gives the participants the opportunity to learn and apply the practical and design skills needed for sublimation printing. We receive orders from outside agencies; the prisoners then have to apply some amount of problem solving skills and teamwork to get the order completed in time and ensure the quality of work is to a high standard.

One participant first joined up with a Remand group and then after conviction joined in with the Convicted group mid-way through the course.

His attendance at the education department had been noted; he stuck to his timetable and joined in with most activities and his behaviour in the halls had been described as good. After conviction it was made apparent to me that this individual had not been attending regular education classes within the department for personal reasons and his behaviour and demeanour had become withdrawn, anxious and his physical appearance was not good.

This individual missed one week of our course and upon his return the following week he was apologetic – he explained he was “preoccupied” and his head wasn’t in the right place. After a chat with the prisoner and encouragement to work with his team to get the order completed, he really made effort and showed great enthusiasm for the community cause the order was for. The order in question was for t-shirts pupils at a



local school would be wearing during a music performance which had an anti-drug message.

The prisoner then attended without absence, worked well with others and showed a real sense of team comradery – encouraging the other participants to get the job finished. I believe having a deadline, a community cause and a team really aided him in some recovery and gave him a focus which in turn aided his mental health at that time. He also gained core skills certification in level 4 communications as well as vocational skills and experience. While his attendance at regular education classes was still poor, the work placement with our course was something he felt a loyalty towards; he didn't want to let me or the team down.

Every participant on our course has the opportunity to gain realistic core skills qualifications and Personal Development Awards – over 75% of participants have achieved certifiable qualifications by completing the program.



## 5. Priority Areas of Focus

Mental Health & Wellbeing  
Diversion & Early Intervention  
Employment & Employability

## 6. Case Studies

As outlined in National Outcomes 5, 6 & 7

## 7. Challenges

Engagement of the partnership, geography, resource particularly cuts to public sector, recruitment freeze, data, turnover of staff, withdrawal of Throughcare Service, challenges from PASS

## 8. Additional Information

