



Highland Community Justice Partnership

Minutes of Meeting held 19 December 2019

Present: Niall MacLennan, SFRS (Chair), James Maybee Highland Council, Cllr Margaret Paterson, Ann Dowd DWP, Roddy Bailey SDS, Robert Kay VSS, Libby Bligh Libertie project, Sally Amor NHSH,

In Attendance: Margaret McShane HTSI, Mhairi Wylie HTSI, Aodhan Byrne Highland Council, Andrew Garraway Highland Council

1. Apologies:

Suzy Calder NHSH, Ruth Thomson SCTS, Pat Griffin SPS, Lewis Hannah Highland Council, Alan Prosser VSS

2. Declaration of interest:

None

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Notes of the previous Community Justice Partnership Meeting in March were circulated for noting.

Agreed as correct, approved by James and Roddy.

Actions from Minutes:

James mentioned that the Public Protection COG which covers MAPPA/Child Protection/Adult Protection and VAW also has a link to community justice and that he has a seat at that table.

Action – James to raise the CJP at the PP COG to ensure they are fully sighted on what is happening with the Community Justice Partnership. James will raise at next PP COG – **To be done**

Action – James & Niall to discuss off table.

Margaret Paterson thanked Margaret for the updates and emails around Community Justice.

Action – Margaret to update on the Listen Campaign – **to be done**

Activity: Provision of survive and thrive group course – Michael Perera
Access to computerised CBT – Michael Perera

Niall updated after his meeting with Michael Perera that these activities are now set up and in use.

Activity: Development of employability pilot – Libby Bligh

Libby updated that the pilot is being progressed, but they have been unable to recruit to date. Libby to send details of the role to the CJP. The research around the pilot is due in April 2020 and trend reports are due soon.

Action – Sally to resend the Director of PH Report to the group

Action - Margaret to check this has been done- **to be done**

Activity: Deliver employment training programme...

Action – Roddy & Ann to progress – update this is in hand

Activity: Develop Highland CIP

Action – SPS to provide update at next meeting – carried forward to 2020

Activity: Explore possibility of Housing First

Action – Housing present at today's meeting with update

4. Community Justice Update:

Margaret spoke to the update that had been circulated. A few items were highlighted –

CJ Practitioner Forum – Lochaber/Fort William was held earlier in December. It was a positive meeting and suggestion was made they would benefit from meeting quarterly. They highlighted they would welcome information around third sector organisations in the area.

The CJ Third Sector Forum is still running and thought to be of benefit.

The Newsletter was recently sent out.

The Employment Event went well and as a follow up from this the Chamber of Commerce have extended an invitation to speak at a Networking lunch for businesses in January.

Lidia is continuing with the Needs Assessment and a plea was made for the Partnership to assist her where possible.

The Joint Conference will be held on 28 February, Margaret requested the partners put this in their diaries.

5. Housing First/Rapid Rehousing:

This item (10 on Agenda) was taken to allow those presenting the information leave the meeting early.

Aodhan spoke about the Housing First Pilot which will run from Invergordon to Nairn until March 2021. The staff will deal with 10 clients who will have complex needs. They will provide support, but the client must agree to that support. It is hoped this approach will reduce re-offending.

People will be provided a tenancy straight away under the Housing First scheme. They will be provided with wrap around support as opposed to waiting 2 years until tenancy ready.

They will have increased choice of a more specific location and a grant to support housing.

They must be homeless. It requires them to take the full programme including support.

Rent is paid at a non-supported rate so they will pay the same as everyone else.

There were concerns raised by Margaret Paterson about the area service which stops at Invergordon not Tain and why is it not aligned to the health area. Aodhan updated that other Housing Officers will be recruited to support complex cases and will be in post at the beginning of 2020.

Margaret Paterson mentioned that she was concerned about the pilot and the ongoing funding and the need to ensure there is thinking about funding.

Andrew spoke about Rapid Rehousing which will cover areas further West, North and South of Inverness and there will be someone in post at the beginning of 2020.

Action – Aodhan to provide electronic slides around his presentation

Aodhan and Andrew left the meeting.

6. Review of CJ Plan:

Margaret mentioned the email that had been sent regarding the Outcome Indicators within the CJ Plan and whether they are achievable. There has

been no response to this. Margaret asked if the members of the Partnership could respond to this.

Action – ALL to consider the Outcome Indicators (Baseline 2018/19)

Margaret updated the meeting around the Action which Michael Perera had.

Mhairi updated the meeting that the original dates on Actions within the Plan should remain.

A discussion took place around a query from Sally as to who was carrying out the work which Michael Perera had provided the update for. Niall provided further detail.

James updated the meeting that the work around the 'Extend the provision of an employment and employability service.....' is in hand, date had been modified to be more realistic of delivery time.

Libby mentioned the Challenge Fund which could help with gaps in provision around this. Anne asked if we were aware of any needs. The deadline for applications is 24 Jan.

James updated that Apex would like to expand but don't have the finances.

There was discussion around other options in relation to this including No One Left Behind. There was also discussion about the procurement framework.

It was suggested that perhaps there is a strategic need to consider this more broadly.

Mhairi suggested there is a need to understand the market as a whole.

Action – discussion needs progressed off table perhaps at a future Development Day

Action – Action Plan review of new actions following the Needs Assessment which Lidia Dancu is preparing

7. Small Change for Justice:

Margaret spoke to the paper which had been circulated.

It was agreed that the event should be held before the end of the financial year whereby surplus funding could be allocated to the overall funds.

Discussion took place about producing an executive summary for the process which would enhance the statutory agencies knowledge around this.

Action – Margaret, Libby and Niall to discuss Jan/Feb

AGREED that the Small Change for Justice event goes ahead in March.

8. Bail Supervision:

James updated the prison population is currently circa 8,200 with 20/30% of this being those on remand. Bail Supervision is under used and asked if there is something as a CJP we could do to promote?

Niall asked about work that has been done elsewhere and asked if we could learn from this.

James updated that the CJP may be able to provide more weight to that. Sheriffs preferences are very influential on this. James also updated that the number of people on remand who don't receive a sentence is high.

James mentioned that the SG are providing more money to increase bail supervision.

A discussion took place around a 'target message' and how this could be done with partners including the PF and Defence Agents.

Action – Niall to meet with James to discuss how the CJP can drive this forward

Margaret mentioned a discussion had taken place between herself and Mhairi in relation to raising awareness of the Link Workers with Sheriffs.

Action – Margaret to find out if a meeting with Sheriffs could be set up to discuss the Link Workers and other items including bail supervision

9. Second Chancers:

Niall spoke to the paper which had been circulated.

Discussion took place around where the exhibition could be hosted

Action – Margaret to contact Eden Court to see if they can host the exhibition

Action – Others to consider venues and get back to Margaret
James – Council HQ, Glen Urquhart Rd

Roddy – Outside Inverness
Libby – Albyn/Wick
Sally – Could take out
Roddy – Community Partnerships

10. Update on Throughcare Support/Prison Population:

No one from SPS attended the meeting to provide an update, therefore, this item was carried forward to the next CJP meeting in March.

11. Finance:

James spoke to the financial situation.

£50k balance

£38K – paid for Custody Link Worker project

£12K for Small Change event

There is also an underspend re Margaret's finances currently

£50K for next year confirmed

£5K for Research of CLW project

12. Update on VRU:

Sally updated the meeting about the project with the VRU. Caithness and Sutherland Community Partnerships are working with the project looking at substance misuse.

Sutherland

Focus on violence domestic abuse/alcohol

Caithness Community

Violence home/community Drugs/alcohol

From Jan – Mar 2020 stories will be collated from those within the justice system and how do communities come together to provide resilience. Services who are in the area already will be looked at to see how they can link into the conversations around this.

Starting with people's stories/experiences to inform discussion with CPP partners

- Housing
- Learning/skills/education
- Employment
- Access to health services
- Access to third sector support
- Family wellbeing/support

Aligned to services (statutory/third sector) as currently available and delivered

In progress:

Driver diagram Re Community Justice Scotland

Utilising

Public Health Scotland Whole System Approach

From Apr to Jun the project will look at how the communities respond. Following this there will be a test of change period and the project will also look at the impact this has made when people are treated with a different approach.

Tests of change to develop *Resilience Hub* approach in the context of remoteness and rurality

Identify gaps in service and support

Action – Niall and Sally to take this to the CPP for information

13. Good Practice:

Anne mentioned 2 pilots which are being done by DWP in Cornton Vale and Peterhead around sorting out people's benefits prior to exiting prison to relieve the stress on exit. The pilot started on 5 December and there is also work being done within DWP for staff to try and understand the journey of people in the justice system.

14. Good News Stories:

Mhairi updated the meeting about the Link Worker Project. Three female staff have been appointed, all who have youth work experience. Hannah Lind formerly of Crocus, Gemma Cooper from Connecting Young Carers and Ainya Taylor who was a Community Engagement Officer. They will start on 13 Jan and have an Induction until the end of Feb. They will commence their shift work in March. If you would like to sit down and have a chat with the link workers, then please get in touch.

The formal Launch of the project will be held on 20 Feb and will offer a marketplace for referral/service providers. A formal invitation will be sent.

The Academic Evaluation of the project will be carried out by Stirling University – Hannah Graham and Niall Hamilton-Smith.

The Justice Outcome Star will be used within the project.

Margaret updated the meeting that Lidia Dancu should complete the Needs Assessment at the end of January/beginning of February.

15. AOCB:

Libby mentioned Thursdays in Black. Workplaces can sign up to this and it's against sexual violence against women.

Action – Libby to follow up with information

Margaret mentioned the lunch for the Link Workers which the Partnership are welcome to attend on 14 Jan from 12 – 13.30 in the Spectrum Centre, Inverness.

Margaret also mentioned the Horizon Scanning workshop in relation to the needs assessment that Community Justice Scotland will host. The Partnership are invited to attend. This will be held on 20 Jan at Police HQ.

Niall Mentioned the Highland Rugby Club will host a Christmas dinner for young people who are care experienced and alone. Transport can be arranged.

Margaret Paterson mentioned about trying to coordinate events that are run around Christmas time.

Mhairi mentioned HTSI might be able to do something around this and start advertising events taking place around Christmas in October.

Mhairi also mentioned that a merger would most likely be taking place whereby HTSI will take responsibility for In This Together including the Recovery Café and Handyperson Service. More information will be shared in March.

16. Date of Next Meeting:

Thursday 12 March 2020 **TBC**