



Highland Community Justice Partnership

Minutes of Meeting held 21 Jun 2022, virtually on MS Teams

Present: Ross MacKillop (Chair), Niall MacLennan SFRS, Daniel Jack Police Scotland, Caroline Cooper Families Outside, Gail Ward THC Housing, Ann Dowd DWP, Andrew Garraway HADP, Lynn Mackay NHSH, Sally Amor NHSH, Fiona Farquharson SCRA, Roddy Bailey SDS

In Attendance: Margaret McShane HTSI, Mhairi Wylie HTSI

1. Apologies:

Brian McKirdy SPS, Sheriff Sara Matheson, Maria Cano Montaner THC CJSW, Alan Grant HTSI, Chris Holloway Apex, Ruth Thomson SCTS

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.

Action – Margaret to arrange a meeting with CJSW regarding work around reducing the hours on CPOs

Actions 20 & 28/21 – Daniel to obtain an update on these

Action 27/21 – Ross will present information around this to the CPP

Mention was made that the Pathfinder Project in Inverness is being closed down.

4. Community Justice Update Template:

Ross mentioned that the template has been updated to reflect what may be taken into the new CJ Plan and what is not being considered for taking forward. Ross asked that members of the group should familiarise

themselves with this information and get back to Margaret with any comments.

5. Community Justice Update:

Margaret spoke to the paper that had been circulated. Specific mention was made in relation to the CJ Plan for Highland and the CJ Annual Report. Margaret will be contacting partners in the weeks ahead to get information in relation to both of these.

In relation to the Small Change for Justice projects Margaret asked if anyone would like to be a single point of contact for any of the projects. Roddy, Niall, and Ross offered to do this although others will be needed. If anyone else would like to do this, then get in touch with Margaret.

Concerns were raised by Mhairi around the Thriving Survivors advertisement for recruitment to the Restorative Justice Flying Squad. It wasn't clear whether this was going to cover the central belt or cover the whole of Scotland from the central belt.

Action – Ross will reply to Thriving Survivors in relation to these concerns.

Sally voiced her concerns in general around this project in relation to the vulnerability of some survivors, the impacts of crime and the limitations in terms of that survivor/perpetrator interaction.

6. Custody Link Worker Project Update:

Mhairi provided an update for the Custody Link Project. The Link Worker for Café 1668 is now being managed by Alan Grant. Thereafter Mhairi spoke of a case which had occurred recently within the café whereby the response of the ambulance service was not quite what it should have been. It is now being considered that staff within the café should be trained in the use of naloxone.

Daniel queried whether the police were involved as they will link in with the ambulance service regarding attendance to some incidents. Mhairi mentioned that she had informed Insp Fitzpatrick who oversees Operation Respect in relation to the foregoing incident.

The Big Lottery have agreed that the underspend from the project may be used to extend it. There has been enough demand for a fourth link worker, however this money will now extend the project to September 2023 instead of March 2023. The link workers will cease taking referrals in July 2023 to allow for a phased withdrawal period. As the Big Lottery will not fund the project again an application is being made to Investing in Communities for further funding.

Mhairi mentioned that this is something that will need to be picked up within the statutory organisations – is this project of value or not and are we going to fund it in the future?

Sally mentioned it could be taken to the Public Protection COG to see if they consider it worthwhile and if there is there added value.

Niall asked what partners would be expected to be involved and Mhairi recognised that while there is not much money available to organisations the key issues being dealt with are – mental health so NHS, housing so THC, alcohol & drug issues so HADP and reoffending so CJSW & Police.

Sally mentioned that the project is fundamental to trauma involved care and that through the evaluation this should be demonstrated.

Mhairi mentioned that the evaluation will extract the learning from the project and that Stirling University will provide a report. The information is gathered from various sources including the justice star, analysis of data and quantitative information from case recording system.

Daniel mentioned that there has been valuable feedback in relation to the Custody Link Project – the assistance and referral pathways have been described as second to none.

7. TOR:

Ross introduced the TOR document which had been circulated to members and asked if they were in agreement with the content.

AGREED that the TOR would stand

8. CJ Annual Report:

Margaret spoke to the document that had been circulated and mentioned that she will need engagement from the partners in relation to information to populate the report. She will be contacting those concerned over the next few weeks but if anyone has relevant information then to get in touch.

Sally suggested that perhaps pulling a meeting together late August would be good to see where we are and what else might be required. Margaret agreed this would be beneficial as the Annual Report will need to be agreed at the CJP Meeting on 8 September prior to submission to CJS.

Action – Margaret to organise a meeting late August to discuss the Annual Report

9. CJ Conference:

Mhairi proposed that the partnership hold a conference in the early 2023. This would enable a re-focus of the partnership with potentially some energising speakers perhaps from Scotland, perhaps more international. Potentially Eden Court could be considered as a venue. The group were asked for their thoughts around this.

Roddy mentioned he was supportive of the idea and that it seemed timely. Sally mentioned about collaboration with other organisations who perhaps deal with the same clients and issues e.g., poverty, mental health etc. Margaret mentioned that the last conference was a joint one with the CPC and although this had been successful it might be better to do this solely as the CJP.

Ross mentioned that work was ongoing to try and find ways to work more effectively with other partnerships.

Mhairi suggested perhaps this was one for the CPP to run which would recognise the links between the differing partnerships.

Ross mentioned the Compassionate Prisons Conference which he had attended and would share information once he has it to hand.

Roddy suggested that a small group from the partnership might be helpful to help organise.

Action – Margaret to organise group to discuss

10. Café/Prison Proposal:

Mhairi spoke about a proposal which had been submitted to Balfour Beatty who are building the new prison and who were looking for a community benefit legacy. This involves the café potentially providing food for the workforce whilst potentially providing opportunities for those who have been involved in the justice system through training/work experience. An update will be provided in due course if successful.

11. Vice Chair:

Ross updated the meeting that Lindsay Tulloch had accepted the role of Vice Chair, therefore Police Scotland will take on that role. This is most likely to be Supt Angus MacInnes.

Action – Ross will contact Angus to inform him

This is likely to be for a set period of time and thereafter this will rotate amongst the partners. Some cross-over is likely with the Chair role to prevent both roles being renewed at the same time.

12. Finance Update:

Mhairi updated the meeting that there is £50k + £12.5k from the SG which goes to Highland Council for community justice. They have been invoiced for the costs of the CJ Manager, Chair, and other budget costs.

There is an underspend of between 5 and 10k. If that continues, then we may be able to host a Small Change for Justice next year assuming the money can roll forward. There is also an underspend from the Community Justice Dragon's Den. Some of the underspend from Margaret's budget could go towards the conference but there will need to be a discussion around the Dragon's Den underspend.

Action – Discuss underspend in September CJP

13. Good News:

Margaret mentioned the article that had appeared in the Inverness Courier in relation to the work that Community Justice Scotland had done earlier in the year when they had photographed people involved in carrying out CPO work with Apex in Highland. The article was particularly good at getting the message around this out and featured quotes from Karen McCluskey. This link had already been sent to the partnership and uploaded to social media.

Ross asked if the group could revisit this and perhaps share through social media.

Action – Ross to contact Apex in relation to the potential for Apex to link in with the council regarding work that might need done which those on CPOs could assist with

14. AOCB:

Margaret mentioned that the Dashboard which Azets had produced had recently been updated and that she would get a chance to have a proper look at this as this information will be useful for the new CJ Plan.

Margaret mentioned that information about the National Care Service Consultation had been published and that although 62% of people voted for JSW to be included there were significant concerns regarding the lack of supporting evidence and the need for proposals to be co-designed. Therefore, there will be further evidence gathering and consideration given to this.

Margaret also mentioned the CJ Partnership Excellence Award which was currently open for nominations and closing on 30 June 2022. Partners were encouraged to make a nomination prior to the closing date.

Ross mentioned that we had Fiona from SCRA in attendance who is new to the partnership and that there was information in the Azets report mentioned previously which she may find of interest.

15. Date of next CJP Meetings:

Thu 8 September 1400 - 1600hrs

Tue 6 December 1400 – 1600hrs

Action Table

No	Action	Who	Due Date	Update
3/20	Delivery of employment training programme	Roddy & Ann		Jun '22, Roddy has contacted Ann at DWP and will follow up - ongoing
4/20	Discussion around procurement framework	All		Jun '22, Not discussed at Wash Up Session - keep for discussion at later date. Agreed to remove
5/20	Executive summary of findings following Small Change for Justice	All		Jun '22, Not discussed at Wash Up - keep for consideration after Small Change II
8/20	Update to CPP re. VRU project in Caithness & Sutherland Work ongoing but not of purpose to CJP	Ross		Mar '22, Sally unable to provide update at this meeting. Information still to be provided to CPP. Agreed to remove
19/20	Review communication of CJP information	All		Jun '22, ongoing – Comms Strategy for new CJ Plan
12/21	Consideration of good news around unpaid work being posted on twitter and/or facebook	Ross & Maria		Jun '22, Ongoing
18/21	Update TOR in due course and ensure attendance of SCRA and DWP are included	Mhairi		Jun'22, Complete
20/21	Raise the Rapid Response approach at the Suicide Prevention Steering Group	Lindsay		Jun '22, Ongoing – Daniel to follow up
24/21	Everyone to look at the update template and provide any update around their Actions to Margaret	All		Jun '22 Complete
26/21	Ross to speak to Alan & Peter to look at how key points and learning from the Custody Link Project can be shared	Ross		Jun '22 Ongoing Agreed to remove, discussions at Steering Group
27/21	Alan to produce information for the CPP on learning from Custody Link Project. Ross to present information to CPP	Alan		Jun '22 Ongoing

28/21	Lindsay to report back to the CJP on Pathfinder Project	Lindsay		Jun '22 Ongoing, Daniel to follow up
1/22	Margaret to contact Sally re update on outstanding Actions	Margaret		Jun '22 Complete
2/22	Ross/Margaret to revise previous Action around Update Template	Ross & Margaret		Jun '22 Ongoing
3/22	Margaret to follow up with Caroline & Gail re issue around those leaving custody gaining access to housing Individual cases will be discussed between Caroline & Gail	Margaret		Jun '22 Ongoing
4/22	Arrange meeting with CJSW re reduction of hours on CPOs	Margaret		
5/22	Reply to Thriving Survivors in relation to these concerns	Ross		
6/22	Organise a meeting late August to discuss the Annual Report	Margaret		
7/22	Set up group to organise the Conference for 2023	Margaret		
8/22	Contact Angus MacInnes re Vice Chair	Ross		
9/22	Discuss underspend in September CJP	All		
10/22	Contact Apex re. work that potentially those on CPOs could carry out	Ross		