



Highland Community Justice Partnership

Minutes of Meeting held 8 September 2022, virtually on MS Teams

Present: Ross MacKillop (Chair), Niall MacLennan SFRS, Caroline Cooper Families Outside, Maria Cano Montaner THC CJSW, Alan Grant HTSI, Chris Holloway Apex, Andrew Garraway HADP, Tina Brown Apex, Heather McDonald SDS, Dawn Kotschujew RASASH

In Attendance: Margaret McShane HTSI, Mhairi Wylie HTSI

1. Apologies:

Brian McKirdy SPS, Sheriff Sara Matheson, Ruth Thomson SCTS, Ann Dowd DWP, Gail Ward THC Housing, Lynn Mackay NHSH, Fiona Farquharson SCRA, Roddy Bailey SDS, Carol Spratt NHSH, Bev Horton NHSH, Jenny Valentine Police Scotland, Debbie Stewart HADP, Richard Thomson CJS

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 contact Daniel Jack for an update around Actions 20/21 and 28/21

Ross queried whether Apex are getting CPO work and Chris mentioned that they could take more.

4. Community Justice Update Template:

Ross mentioned that the template has been updated as far as it can prior to the compilation of the new plan. There were no comments forthcoming since the previous meeting therefore, the actions agreed to be taken forward into the new plan will be looked at again at the CJ Plan Meetings.

5. Community Justice Update:

Margaret spoke to the paper which had been circulated, mentioning that the Annual Report would be discussed later in the meeting.

Margaret also mentioned the vacancy which is being advertised for a Development Officer to assist with the uptake of third sector organisations in providing activities for those carrying out CPOs.

It was also mentioned that we are still looking for people from the Partnership to be the 'points of contact' with the organisations who received funding through Small Change for Justice and Community Justice Dragon's Den.

6. Custody Link Worker Project Update:

Alan provided an update and spoke to the paper that had been circulated. He mentioned that those coming into custody on the project are mainly in need of help, not punishment. There have been several referrals to Addictions Counselling Inverness. Housing and Mental Health services both seem to have long waiting times. The work of the Custody Link Workers has allowed them to compile some useful and insightful case studies.

DBI training would be beneficial for Custody Healthcare Staff.

Ross mentioned about the Wellness Court in Nova Scotia which he had recently found out about. It deals a lot with mental health, substance misuse and diversion. It has a compassionate approach and those who plead guilty are not imprisoned but referred to a programme to assist their needs.

Alan mentioned that it's important to look at all aspects of the person's life when trying to assist them.

Mhairi mentioned that the Custody Link Project will wrap up next September unless funding can be found. An application has gone into Investing in Communities and the result should be known in December whether this has been successful.

Ross mentioned the facility in Saltcoats, Ayrshire which is a rehabilitation centre and can take families from across Scotland – Harper House.

Action – Margaret to circulate details of this facility to the group

7. CJ Annual Report:

Margaret spoke to the document that had been circulated and mentioned that she will need to submit the report to Community Justice Scotland by 24 September 2022. The group were asked that if they were satisfied with the content of the report.

AGREED in principle for submission.

The group were asked if they have anything further to add or not in agreement with, then they should contact Margaret by 20 September.

Action – Margaret to contact the group prior to submission of the Report

8. CJ Plan 2023:

Margaret spoke to the paper that had been circulated outlining the proposal and timelines for the compilation of the new CJ Plan.

The group were asked if they were content with the Focus areas and that the priorities already identified by the Partnership would be incorporated into these areas.

It was suggested that 'Women' could also include their dependents.

There was some discussion around young people and the fact that the CPC have a section on Youth Justice, therefore it's felt important to avoid duplication and we might want to look at that.

Andrew mentioned Integration and that there are already teams/services who are dealing with this. Andrew will share some information around this.

Action – Andrew to share information on Integration

Action – All – to let Margaret know by 30 September if they are in agreement with the outline for the CJ Plan

9. CJ Conference:

Margaret gave a brief update about the Conference which will be held on Friday 17 March 2023 in The Drumossie Hotel in Inverness. The theme of the Conference will be the impact of poverty on the justice system. Details are still at the early stages and further details of this event will be discussed in the next CJP Meeting.

10. Finance Update including Underspend/New Post:

Mhairi updated the meeting that there is approx. 12.5K which isn't committed at the moment. The Conference is covered from funds from previous years and Ross and Margaret's posts are also covered.

The money from the Small Change for Justice and Community Justice Dragon's Den is already committed.

Mhairi then asked the Partnership how they think this money should be spent. She confirmed that it should be spent strategically and not on individual grants.

Some ideas were floated –

- Pilot study using partners in relation to better outcomes
- More input from ‘lived experience’
- Look at the full journey and how each organisation assists with this
- Look at case studies to concentrate on the gaps – independent review
- Opportunity to work with HADP

Caroline mentioned that Moray CJP have compiled a report which might be useful to the partnership.

Action – Caroline to send the Moray report to Margaret for circulation

Andrew mentioned experiential data through MAT Standards and that SDF are advertising for a Peer Naloxone Support Worker.

Maria mentioned there could be an overlap with the CJ Conference around the work of the HADP in relation to Diversion from Prosecution.

Margaret also mentioned there could be something in relation to either Diversion from Prosecution or Bail Supervision. Maria mentioned they have had difficulty recruiting into the Bail Supervision roles which are advertised.

A discussion then took place around involvement of the third sector and the Development Officer/CPO post.

Andrew mentioned a Complex Need Service – a multi-agency disciplinary service all on one site.

Ross mentioned that Geography might be a challenge in all of this.

Action – Ross to chase up the CPP re implementation of the Harm Reduction Hub in Caithness

11. Good News:

Mhairi updated the meeting that Caroline from Families Outside had recently been awarded the Community Justice Excellence Award and had been presented with this at the HTSI Awards Ceremony in Strathpeffer Pavilion on 2 September.

12. AOCB:

Margaret mentioned that it would be good to get a photo of the Partnership as the ones we have are quite dated. Margaret will try and arrange a date/venue for this to take place.

Action – Margaret to arrange a photocall

Mhairi mentioned funding which has been provided by Big Lottery/HADP/Corra for Youth Highland to engage young people around alcohol and drugs. There is £80K which will follow a participatory budgeting process.

There is currently guidance around the criteria etc. for the Communities Mental Health & Wellbeing Fund which opens on 17 October. There will be grants of £10k or under and a maximum of £25k. The applications close at the end of January and decisions will be made in February and certainly before the end of March. Some of these projects will be linked to community justice. There is £703,000 in total.

Funding which has come predominantly from EU funding to support Employability Services in Highland is due to finish in 2023. There is not currently identified alternatives, and this will impact on provision of employability throughout Highland. This includes the funding to Apex.

This could impact on community justice in two ways, employability services are likely to be diminished, and young people are unlikely to get access to services, and therefore could end up in the justice system.

Discussion ongoing with the Highland Employability Partnership.

13. Date of next CJP Meeting:

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
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
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
20/21	Raise the Rapid Response approach at the Suicide Prevention Steering Group	Lindsay		Jun '22, Ongoing – Daniel to follow up
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
2/22	Ross/Margaret to revise previous Action around Update Template	Ross & Margaret		Jun '22 Ongoing - Complete
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 - Complete
4/22	Arrange meeting with CJSW re reduction of hours on CPOs	Margaret		Complete
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		Complete
7/22	Set up group to organise the Conference for 2023	Margaret		Complete
8/22	Contact Angus MacInnes re Vice Chair	Ross		Complete
9/22	Discuss underspend in September CJP	All		Complete

10/22	Contact Apex re. work that potentially those on CPOs could carry out	Ross		Ongoing
11/22	Update required for Actions 20/21 & 28/21	Margaret		
12/22	Circulate details of Harper House	Margaret		
13/22	Contact CJP re Annual Report	Margaret		
14/22	Share information re. Integration	Andrew		
15/22	Agreement for outline of CJ Plan by 30 Sep	All		
16/22	Report from Moray to be circulated	Caroline		
17/22	Chase CPP re. implementation of Harm Reduction Hub in Caithness	Ross		
18/22	Arrange photograph of CJP	Margaret		