

# Public Document Pack



## SCOTTISH BORDERS COMMUNITY PLANNING STRATEGIC BOARD

### MEETING

**Date:** 24 November 2016

**Time:** 2.00 pm

**Location:** Council Chamber, Scottish Borders Council, Council Headquarters,  
Newtown St Boswells

**Members of  
Board:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Councillor Jim Brown (Chair)	Scottish Borders Council
Councillor Stuart Bell	Scottish Borders Council
Mr Trevor Burrows	Registered Social Landlords representative (Eildon Housing)
LSO David Farries	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Mrs Marjorie Hume	Third Sector representative
Mr Tony Jakimciw	Borders College
Mr Alastair McKinnon	Scottish Enterprise
Chief Superintendent Ivor Marshall	Police Scotland
Mr John Raine	NHS Borders
Councillor Frances Renton	Scottish Borders Council
Dr Doreen Steele	NHS Borders

**Copies also  
sent  
electronically  
for information  
to:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Councillor Michelle Ballantyne	Scottish Borders Council
Councillor Catriona Bhatia	Scottish Borders Council/H&SCI Joint Board
Mr Andy Bruce	Scottish Government
Mr Niall Corbet	Scottish Natural Heritage
Mr Peter Duncan	Live Borders
Councillor Gordon Edgar	SESTRAN
Mr Grant McDougall	Skills Development Scotland
Councillor S Mountford	SBHA
Mr John Paton-Day	Community Council Network representative
Mrs Rita Stenhouse	Waverley Housing
TBC	Scottish Environment Protection Agency

## AGENDA

Items	Lead	
1	<b>Apologies</b>	
2	<b>Minute of Meeting of Community Planning Strategic Board</b> - 8 September 2016 (Copy attached.)	Chair
3	<b>Action Tracker</b> (Copy attached.)	All
4	<b>Reducing Inequalities:</b>	
a.	<b>Presentation on Developing Our Young Workforce</b>	Donna Manson
b.	<b>Equally Safe Strategy 2016 – 21</b> (Copy report and appendix attached.)	Jeanette McDiarmid
c.	<b>Scottish Borders Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan 2017 – 2020</b> (Copy report and 2 appendices attached.)	Jeanette McDiarmid
5	<b>Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015</b>	Jeanette McDiarmid
a.	<b>Scottish Government Guidance &amp; timescales</b>	Shona Smith
b.	<b>LOIP and Locality Plans</b>	Colin Banks
6	<b>Update from Economy and Low Carbon Delivery Team</b> (Copy update attached. Also attached for information are Economic Development updates provided to SBC Executive Committee in October and November 2016.)	Rob Dickson
7	<b>Schedule and format of future meetings</b> - discussion. (Copy remit of Strategic Board attached as aid memoire.)	Jenny Wilkinson
8	<b>Community Planning</b> - any current issues raised by partners for discussion/consideration.	All
9	<b>AOCB</b>	

**Note: Members are reminded that should they have a Declaration of Interest to make on an item of business, they should do so at the appropriate time.**

**SCOTTISH BORDERS**  
**COMMUNITY PLANNING STRATEGIC BOARD**

MINUTE of MEETING of the  
COMMUNITY PLANNING  
STRATEGIC BOARD held in the  
Council Chamber, Council  
Headquarters, Newtown St  
Boswells on 8 September 2016 at  
2.00pm.

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Present:- Councillors D. Parker (Chairman), S. Bell, C. Bhatia, M. Cook; Mr T. Burrows (Eildon Housing); Superintendent A. Clark (Police Scotland); Ms G. Crosier (Borders College); Councillor G. Edgar (SESTRAN); Mr S. Gourlay (Scottish Fire and Rescue Service); Mrs M. Hume (3<sup>rd</sup> Sector Interface); Mr A. McKinnon (Scottish Enterprise); Mr J. Raine, Dr D. Steele (NHS Borders).

Apologies:- Councillor J. Brown; Mr P. Duncan (Live Borders); Mr G. Farries (Scottish Fire and Rescue Service); Mr T. Jakimciw (Borders College); Chief Superintendent I. Marshall (Police Scotland); Mrs R. Stenhouse (Waverley Housing).

In Attendance:- Mrs J. McDiarmid (SBC Depute Chief Executive [People]); Mr R. Dickson (SBC Corporate Transformation and Services Director); Ms J. Davidson (NHS Borders Chief Executive)[from para.5]; Mr T. Patterson (Joint Director of Public Health – SBC/NHS); Ms S. Smith (SBC), Clerk to Council.

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1. **MINUTE**  
There had been circulated copies of the Minute of the Meeting held on 9 June 2016.

**DECISION**  
**APPROVED the Minute for signature by the Chairman.**

2. **ACTION TRACKER**  
There had been circulated copies of the Action Tracker for Strategic Board decisions. With reference to the decision at paragraph 4 of the Minute of Meeting of 9 June 2016, it had been anticipated that the Charter for a Tobacco-Free Generation would have been signed by partners at this Strategic Board meeting but this had been postponed due to illness. In terms of the decision at paragraph 5 of the Minute of 9 June 2016 regarding a report on the process for implementing the key elements of the Guidance and Regulations for Community Planning, members were advised that the finalised Guidance was still to be issued.

**DECISION**  
**NOTED.**

3. **ALCOHOL AND DRUGS PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT 2015/16**  
There had been circulated copies of a report by the Chair of the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership advising members of the information in the Borders Alcohol and Drugs Partnership Annual Report for 2015/16 along with a copy of the draft Annual Report and Delivery Plan. Tim Patterson, Joint Director of Public Health, introduced the paper and Fiona Doig, Strategic Lead – ADP and Health Improvement, gave a presentation highlighting various aspects of the Annual Report. The Borders Alcohol and Drugs Partnership was a partnership of agencies and services involved with drugs and alcohol, which provided strategic direction to reduce the impact of problematic alcohol

and drug use. Nationally, there had been a reverse in the downward trend in consumption of alcohol, which was more affordable, more available and more heavily marketed than at any time over the previous 30 years. The effects of alcohol, either within the family or through crime, impacted on 50% of people. Statistics for the prevalence of alcohol and alcohol related hospital stays and mortality were also given. In terms of drugs nationally, there had been a change in the heroin market and subsequent decline in treatment demand for heroin, along with a decline in injecting drug use. The prevalence of new psychoactive substances (so-called 'legal highs') was increasing. Drug related hospital stays were increasing along with an increase in mortality which could be linked to an ageing cohort of drug users. Details were given of service provision for treatment and recovery. Adult Services had reported improvements in alcohol/drug use; physical health; emotional health; and meaningful use of time. Children and Family Services had reported improvements in alcohol/drug use; emotional wellbeing; attending education/employment; and safety. Early intervention and prevention took a 'whole population approach' and included working with the Licensing Board on access and availability, alcohol brief interventions, and workforce development. The challenges for the Alcohol and Drug Partnership included inequalities, stigma/recovery, and attitudes. The Board discussed various aspects of the report including the consistency and clarity of the message around recommended drinking levels, funding, cancer risks associated with consumption of alcohol, and the performance measures for intervention and recovery. The Chairman thanked Ms Doig and Dr Patterson for their presentation and the work of the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership.

#### **DECISION**

**NOTED the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership Annual Report 2015/16.**

#### **4. CARE INSPECTORATE REPORT – JOINT INSPECTION OF SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE SCOTTISH BORDERS**

With reference to paragraph 8 of the Minute of 3 March 2016, there had been circulated copies of a report by the SBC Depute Chief Executive (People) which provided a summary of the key findings of the Care Inspectorate Report on the joint inspection of services for children and young people in the Scottish Borders, identifying key strengths, along with areas for improvement and how these improvements would be delivered. The joint inspection took place between December 2015 and February 2016, covering a wide range of partners and services across the Community Planning Partnership which had a role in providing services for children, young people and families. This was the first such inspection to have taken place in the Borders, covering all service areas involving children and young people, from voluntary agencies delivering play and youth facilities, through to domestic violence, education, health and children protection. The Children and Young People's Leadership Group had examined the findings and developed an improvement action plan, detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, which was being actively progressed. The Depute Chief Executive further advised that no child had been found to be at risk, there were no surprises in the report as areas for improvement had already been identified, and no follow up visit was planned. In terms of the parenting strategy, this was about bringing everything together and letting parents know what was available to help them and what was acceptable, but this needed a little more articulation. The Chairman thanked all those involved in the inspection and for their continuing good work.

#### **DECISION**

**NOTED:**

- (a) the key strengths and the improvement work that was being progressed to address the key findings of the Care Inspectorate Report on the Joint Inspection of Services for Children and Young People in the Scottish Borders; and**

- (b) that an update on the progress of the inspection improvement plan would be given to the Strategic Board meeting within 12 months.**

**5. COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP GOVERNANCE**

5.1 With reference to paragraph 6 of the Minute of 9 June 2016, there had been circulated copies of a report providing members with the outcome of the review of Community Planning Partnership governance and proposing amendments to the current structure. The review was undertaken by officers from the Statutory partners and reported back to the Joint Delivery Team. It took account of the Scottish Government's national outcomes along with the requirements of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. Nine other Community Planning Partnerships structures were also considered. Most of these had a lead strategic group which had an overview of the work of the Partnership by agreeing, monitoring and evaluating the Single Outcome Agreement Strategic Plan. While it was not a requirement of legislation that the Strategic Board should be a formal Council committee, this was a convenient mechanism for the Council as it ensured that decisions of the Strategic Board were in fact formal decisions of Council. The Community Planning Partnership had no authority – whether it operated as an unincorporated body or as a Council committee – to require organisations to comply with any decisions, although the Statutory partners (the Council, NHS Borders, Scottish Enterprise, Police Scotland, and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service) were required to work together as per the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act. Some partners raised the issue of the format, style and interaction at Strategic Board meetings, which they felt was contributing to a lack of engagement by members. This could be addressed within the current working of the Strategic Board and was not an issue in respect of the Board being a formal Council committee.

5.2 In light of the structures of other Community Planning Partnerships, officers concluded that the Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnership would be best served by having two groups – a large consultative group to set the strategic direction, and a smaller decision making group to ensure the strategic direction was being followed. The Community Planning Partnership Consultative Group would not be a formal committee of Council and would meet a minimum of once per annum for a planning workshop exploring the content and development of the Locality Improvement Plan and the individual Locality Plans, thus preparing the foundation for the work of a smaller Strategic Board. A revised, smaller Strategic Board would be retained as a decision making group for the Community Planning Partnership. Membership of this Board would be the 5 Statutory partners plus representatives from Borders College, Registered Social Landlords, and the Third Sector. While the Strategic Board would remain a formal Council committee, the style and form of meetings would change to reflect a more open discussion on community planning matters taking account of the outcomes of the Community Planning Partnership Consultative Group planning workshop(s). The main remit of the Strategic Board would be to approve, monitor and evaluate progress on the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan and the individual Locality Plans, and provide the Consultative Group with an annual assessment of community planning in the Scottish Borders. It was proposed that these new governance arrangements be reviewed after 18 months to assess their effectiveness. Members considered various aspects of the proposed governance arrangements including keeping the Strategic Board as a formal Council committee, the need to oversee the work of the Joint Delivery Team and Themed Teams, the focus proposed for the Strategic Board and the planning of agenda items, and the future pooling of resources.

**DECISION  
AGREED:**

- (a) the new governance arrangements for the Community Planning Partnership in the Scottish Borders as detailed in Section 5 of the report;**
- (b) that all partners approve the new governance arrangements within their own organisational decision making structure as appropriate; and**

**(c) the governance arrangements be reviewed in 18 months time to assess their effectiveness.**

**6. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS**

There had been detailed on the agenda the dates for the meetings of the Strategic Board for 2016/17.

**DECISION  
NOTED.**

*The meeting concluded at 3.10 p.m.*



AGENDA ITEM NO. AND TITLE	DECISION REQUIRING ACTION	ORGANISATION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	OUTCOME
	(iii) responsibilities as set out in the draft Guidance. This would include briefing notes and presentations to partner governance boards; and identification of community bodies that represent the interests of people experiencing inequalities of outcome, and the ways in which they may wish to be involved, recognising that not all groups would want to be involved and that some groups may present themselves through the participation process.			

### 8 September 2016

8. Community Planning Partnership Governance	Para 5.2 – AGREED: (b) that all partners approve the new governance arrangements within their own organisational decision making structure as appropriate; and	All		Governance arrangements agreed by Council at meeting on 29 Sept 16.
	(c) the governance arrangements be reviewed in 18 months' time to assess their effectiveness.	All	Shona Smith	

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KEY:	
No symbol	Deadline not reached
	Overdue
	<1 week to deadline
	Complete – items removed from tracker once noted as complete at meeting.

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## **SCOTTISH BORDERS EQUALLY SAFE STRATEGY 2016**

**Report by SBC Chief Social Work Officer**

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### **COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP**

**24 November 2016**

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#### **1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY**

- 1.1 **This report proposes that representatives of the Community Planning Partnership endorse the Scottish Borders Equally Safe Strategy**
- 1.2 Equally Safe – Scotland’s Strategy to eradicate and prevent Violence Against Women and Girls, launched by the Scottish Government in 2014, (revised in 2015), details the direction of travel to tackle gender based violence and wider gender inequalities in Scotland.
- 1.3 The Equally Safe vision is “a strong and flourishing Scotland where all individuals are equally safe and respected, and where women and girls live free from all forms of violence and abuse – and the attitudes that help perpetuate it. Specifically, the Scottish Borders Equally Safe strategy aims to “work together to ensure that all women and girls in the Scottish Borders are equally safe at home, at work and in the community”.
- 1.4 The Strategy has four priorities underpinned by partnership activity designed to achieve the change required, namely:
- Scottish Borders’ society embraces equality and mutual respect, and rejects all forms of violence against women and girls
  - Women and girls thrive as equal citizens – socially, culturally, economically and politically
  - Interventions are early and effective, preventing violence and maximizing the safety and wellbeing of women, children and young people
  - Men desist from all forms of violence against women and girls and perpetrators of such violence receive a robust and effective response.

#### **3 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 **I recommend that the Community Planning Partnership endorses the Scottish Borders Equally Safe Strategy 2016-21.**

#### **4 SCOTTISH BORDERS VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PARTNERSHIP**

- 4.1 Scottish Borders Violence Against Women (VAW) Partnership is a tasking group of Safer Communities and takes a partnership approach to addressing all forms of gender based violence. Members include: Scottish Borders Council, NHS Borders, Police Scotland, Crown Office, Border Women's Aid, Scottish Borders LGBT Equality, Alcohol and Drugs Partnership, Safer Communities, Children1st, Scottish Borders Rape Crisis Service, Adult Protection. The VAW Partnership is chaired by a volunteer independent chair, and reports to the Police, Fire and Rescue and Safer Communities Board.
- 4.2 Equally Safe – Scotland's Strategy to eradicate and prevent Violence Against Women and Girls, launched by the Scottish Government in 2014, (revised in 2015), details the direction of travel to tackle gender based violence and wider gender inequalities in Scotland. The Scottish Borders VAW Partnership is tasked with delivering Scottish Government's priorities on gender based violence and has developed the Scottish Borders Equally Safe Strategy to reflect these in the Scottish Borders.
- 4.3 The Strategy has been developed in partnership with key stakeholders including service users, and victims of gender based violence. There was a public consultation July- Sept 2016 and responses have been considered and reflected in the final version.

#### **5 SCOTTISH BORDERS EQUALLY SAFE STRATEGY 2016-2021**

- 5.1 The Scottish Borders Equally Safe Strategy (see attached Appendix) has four main priorities:
1. Scottish Borders' society embraces equality and mutual respect, and rejects all forms of violence against women and girls.
  2. Women and girls in the Scottish Borders thrive as equal citizens: socially, culturally, economically and politically.
  3. Interventions are early and effective, preventing violence and promoting women's safety and wellbeing in the Scottish Borders.
  4. Men in the Scottish Borders desist from all forms of violence against women and girls, and perpetrators of such violence receive a robust and effective response.

Specifically, the Scottish Borders Equally Safe strategy aims to "work together to ensure that all women and girls in the Scottish Borders are equally safe at home, at work and in the community".

- 5.2 Details are given within the Strategy of the high-level activities which are proposed to deliver on each of the priorities. While the Strategy is the responsibility of the Police, Fire & Rescue and Safer Communities Board in relation to governance, the key performance indicators being developed to track progress of Equally Safe are also required to support the outcomes associated with the Reducing Inequalities strand of the Community Planning Partnership. Operationally the Equally Safe Strategy will be managed by the Violence Against Women Partnership Executive.
- 5.3 A gender based violence strategic assessment conducted by Safer Communities in 2015 provided the baseline for the Equally Safe Delivery Plan, the tool by which action and progress of Equally Safe is managed. This Delivery Plan will detail the actions, outcomes, performance data, lead agencies and timelines for completion.

#### **6 IMPLICATIONS**

## 6.1 **Financial**

There are no costs attached to any of the recommendations contained in this report.

## 6.2 **Risk and Mitigations**

Feedback from partner agencies and victims of gender based violence suggested that a public endorsement of the strategy would increase confidence as to the success of the Strategy and demonstrate commitment to working in partnership to achieve the aims of Equally Safe. The photo-launch by Community Planning Partnership has been proposed to demonstrate the commitment of all key partner agencies to an "equally safe" Scottish Borders.

## 6.3 **Equalities**

- (a) An Equalities Impact Assessment has been carried out on this proposal and it is anticipated that there are no adverse equality implications.
- (b) It is anticipated that there are no adverse impact due to race, disability, gender, age, sexual orientation or religion/belief arising from the proposals in this report.

## 6.4 **Acting Sustainably**

There are no significant impacts on the economy, community or environment arising from the proposals contained in this report.

## 6.5 **Carbon Management**

There are no significant effects on carbon emissions arising from the proposals contained in this report.

## 6.6 **Rural Proofing**

This Strategy applies across the whole of the Scottish Borders.

## 6.7 **Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation**

There are no changes to be made to either the Scheme of Administration or the Scheme of Delegation as a result of the proposals contained in this report.

# **7 CONSULTATION**

- 7.1 SBC Corporate Management Team and the Police, Fire & Rescue and Safer Communities Board have been made aware of the Scottish Borders Equally Safe Strategy.
- 7.2 SBC Corporate Communications are sighted on the Equally Safe Strategy and will prepare a draft press release, to be included in the Scottish Borders 16 Days of Action programme of events.

**Approved by**

**Name Elaine Torrance**

**Chief Social Work Officer**

**Author(s)**

Name	Designation and Contact Number
Andrea Beavon	VAW Coordinator, Safer Communities, Ext 8242

**Background Papers:** Nil

**Previous Minute Ref:**

**Note** – You can get this document on tape, in Braille, large print and various computer formats by contacting the address below. Andrea Beavon can also give information on other language translations as well as providing additional copies.

Andrea Beavon, VAW Co-Ordinator, Safer Communities, Council HQ, Newtown St Boswells, TD6 0SA Tel: 01835824000 ext 8242 Email: [andrea.beavon@scotborders.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:andrea.beavon@scotborders.gcsx.gov.uk)

# EQUALLY SAFE

Scottish Borders Strategy for preventing and eradicating violence against women and girls

**2016 - 21**

*“We aim to work together to ensure that women and girls in the Scottish Borders are equally safe at home, at work and in the community”*

# 2

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*Gender based violence is a function of gender inequality, and abuse of male power and privilege. It takes the form of actions that result in physical, sexual and psychological harm or suffering to women and children, or affront their human dignity, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in the public or private life. It is men who predominantly or exclusively carry out such violence, and women who are predominantly the victims of such violence.*

***Accordingly, violence against women encompasses but is not limited to the following:***

- *Physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family, within the general community, or in institutions including: domestic abuse, rape, incest and child sexual abuse*
- *Sexual harassment and intimidation at work and in the public sphere; commercial sexual exploitation including prostitution, pornography and trafficking*
- *Dowry related violence, female genital mutilation, forced and child marriages, honour crimes.*

[Scottish Government 2009]

## FOREWORD

Tackling violence against women and girls remains a priority for Scottish Borders Council, and the partner agencies it works with, to ensure that women and girls in the Scottish Borders are equally safe at home, at work and in the community.

Much has been achieved in the last five years; an increase in services for victims of gender based violence, as well as increased awareness in our communities of the support that is available. But, like the rest of Scotland, we see an increase in the levels of reporting of gender based violence and women/girls being abused in their own homes and communities - there is still much work to be done.

Equally Safe gives us the way forward to tackle gender based violence, shows how we can take direct action over the short, medium

and long term, and shapes our thinking to prevent the long and enduring effects on our children and young people.

Violence against women and girls is a tangible indicator of gender inequality, and we have to take the long term view that tackling gender inequality will make our women and girls safer, stronger and more able to thrive.

The Scottish Borders Equally Safe Strategy is our first strategy on violence against women and girls that asks us to look at the drivers for violence, the evidence of “what works”, and resources required to achieve an “equally safe” society in the Scottish Borders.

Cllr Donald Moffat  
Chair, Police, Fire & Rescue and Safer  
Communities Board

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## SURVIVORS SAY?

### Quotes and feedback from survivors on Equally Safe 2016 - 21

Equally safe have a task in front of them, one I'm sure those involved will put heart, mind and soul into.”

**Survivor, March 2016**

I feel an end to violence or sexually based/gender based violence for all is a more inclusive approach. This would address 100% of the population, and feels Equally Safe for everyone.

**Survivor, February 2016**

## INTRODUCTION

### *“WORKING TOGETHER TO ENSURE THAT WOMEN AND GIRLS IN THE SCOTTISH BORDERS ARE EQUALLY SAFE AT HOME, AT WORK AND IN THE COMMUNITY”*

Violence against women and girls, in any form, has no place in our vision for the Scottish Borders. It damages health and wellbeing, limits freedom and potential, and is a violation of the most fundamental of human rights.

This Scottish Borders Equally Safe Strategy has been developed by the Scottish Borders Violence against Women (VAW) Partnership to enable the prevention and eradication of violence against women and girls, as per the Scottish Government’s Equally Safe Strategy 2014. It is designed to provide a strategic framework and shared understanding of the issues including a more nuanced view of violence against women – evidence shows that the tactics of coercive control (a behaviour that seeks to strip away the victim’s freedoms and sense of self) are rooted in gender inequality, roles and assumptions.

This strategy has been developed in consultation with VAW Partnership members, the general public and survivors of gender based violence and is underpinned by a strategic assessment conducted in 2015. It also builds on the excellent partnership work in the Scottish Borders and a significant investment in specialist services over the last five years. However, Equally Safe takes a more radical approach in that it aims to tackle the causes and consequences of gender based violence, such as gender inequality in its widest sense, holding perpetrators more

accountable and addressing the societal attitudes that perpetuate gender based violence.

The four main aims of the Scottish Borders Equally Safe Strategy will be working in partnership to ensure:

1. Scottish Borders’ society embraces equality and mutual respect, and rejects all forms of violence against women and girls.
2. Women and girls in the Scottish Borders thrive as equal citizens: socially, culturally, economically and politically.
3. Interventions are early and effective, preventing violence and promoting women’s safety and wellbeing in the Scottish Borders.
4. Men in the Scottish Borders desist from all forms of violence against women and girls, and perpetrators of such violence receive a robust and effective response.

This is a long term strategy requiring a phased approach. A Scottish Borders Equally Safe Delivery Plan will set out the short, medium and long term outcomes, directing the work and resources of partner agencies and maintaining gender based violence as a priority strategically and politically. Additionally, a gender based violence data set will be developed to ensure the local response is based on good evidence and can demonstrate step-changes in addressing violence against women and girls.

The focus for Scottish Borders Equally Safe will continue to be on all forms of violence against women, acknowledging that women and girls are at risk of such abuse precisely **because** they are female. Clearly boys and men can also experience violence and there is no diminution of the seriousness of the harms they can experience or any proposal to alter the support offered to them. However, Equally Safe acknowledges **“that being female in itself can lead to a range of discrimination and disadvantage, including experience of male violence”**

(Scottish Government Equally Safe 2014).

*Gender based violence is a function of gender inequality, and abuse of male power and privilege. It takes the form of actions that result in physical, sexual and psychological harm or suffering to women and children, or affront their human dignity, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in the public or private life. It is men who predominantly or exclusively carry out such violence, and women who are predominantly the victims of such violence.*

*Accordingly, violence against women encompasses but is not limited to the following:*

- *Physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family, within the general community, or in institutions including: domestic abuse, rape, incest and child sexual abuse.*
- *Sexual harassment and intimidation at work and in the public sphere; commercial sexual exploitation including prostitution, pornography and trafficking.*
- *Dowry related violence, female genital mutilation, forced and child marriages, honour crimes.*

(Scottish Government 2009)

## Children and young people

The definition we have adopted includes children of all genders as subject to harm through violence. Violence against women and girls can have significant consequences on children and young people’s lives, including (but not limited to) children and young people who are directly or indirectly harmed through violence and abuse perpetrated by adults in their lives.

## Violence against men

The particular approach we are taking through Equally Safe brings a strategic focus to the issue of men’s violence against women and girls, as underpinned by the definition we have adopted, which is in turn based on the principles of International Law. A gendered analysis does not exclude men, but rather recognises that women and girls are disproportionately affected by particular forms of violence that they experience because they are women and girls. Many men and boys are victims of violence and abuse. Some boys experience the forms of abuse outlined already in relation to children and young people, whilst some men are victims of domestic abuse, rape, sexual assault, sexual exploitation and forced marriage. The prevailing societal view of what constitutes masculinity makes it difficult for men to identify themselves as experiencing abuse and can prevent them from seeking help. More fundamentally, masculinity and femininity are part of the underlying social construct of gender that contributes to the continuing prevalence of violence against women and girls in society. We condemn all forms of violence and abuse, whilst recognising that particular forms of violence are disproportionately experienced by one gender and require a strong strategic

focus. Men have a critical role in challenging violence, breaking down gender norms and in helping to ensure greater gender equality in society – they are also entitled to support when they experience violence and abuse.

### **Scottish Borders Violence Against Women Partnership**

There has been a multi-agency approach to addressing gender based violence in the Scottish Borders for over ten years. The predominant feature of the work has been to tackle domestic abuse and rape/sexual assault, but the Scottish Borders VAW Partnership Strategic Priorities 2012-2015 focussed on all forms of gender based violence. This mirrored the Scottish Government's Safe Lives: Changed Lives (2009).

The Scottish Borders VAW Partnership draws its membership from the wide range of partner agencies which have a key role to play in tackling gender based violence – these include: Scottish Borders Council, NHS Borders, Police Scotland, Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service, Border Women's Aid, Children1st, Scottish Borders Rape Crisis Centre, solicitors and the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership. The

VAW Partnership has an independent, volunteer Chair and reports to the Police, Fire and Community Safety (PFCS) Board as a tasking group of Scottish Borders Safer Communities. The strategic overview of violence against women lies with the Reducing Inequalities strand of the Community Planning Partnership. The VAW Partnership Terms of Reference can be found in Appendix 1.

Gender based violence is a cross cutting theme, with the impact and consequences felt across the public, private and voluntary sectors. The Scottish Borders Equally Safe Strategy will link directly to other stakeholder strategies:

## Scottish Borders Equally Safe Strategy – Strategic Links



## Vision

A strong and flourishing Scotland where all individuals are equally safe and respected, and where women and girls live free from all forms of violence and abuse – and the attitudes that help perpetuate it.

### Aim of Equally Safe

To work collaboratively with key partners in the public, private and third sectors to prevent and eradicate all forms of violence against women and girls.

### Priorities

Scottish society embraces equality and mutual respect, and rejects all forms of violence against women and girls.	Women and girls thrive as equal citizens - socially, culturally, economically and politically.	Interventions are early and effective, preventing violence and maximising the safety and wellbeing of women, children and young people.	Men desist from all forms of violence against women and girls, and perpetrators of such violence receive a robust and effective response.
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### Objectives

Positive gender roles are promoted.	Women and girls are safe, respected and equal in our communities.
People enjoy healthy, positive relationships and children develop an understanding of safe, healthy, and positive relationships from an early age.	Individuals and communities recognise and challenge violent and abusive behaviour.
Women and men have equal access to power and resources.	Justice responses are robust, swift, consistent and coordinated.
Women, children and young people access relevant, effective and integrated services.	Men who carry out violence against women and girls are identified early and held to account by the justice system.
Service providers competently identify violence against women and girls, and respond effectively to women, children and young people affected.	Men who carry out violence against women and girls change their behaviour and are supported to do so.

Women, children and young people's voices are heard and their rights respected.

### National Outcomes

We live our lives free from crime, disorder and danger.	We have tackled the significant inequalities in Scottish society.	We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.	Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed.
We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.	Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to people's needs.	We realise our full economic potential with more and better employment opportunities for our people.	We live longer, healthier lives.

## WHERE ARE WE NOW?

Addressing gender based violence remains a priority for the Scottish Government, Scottish Local Authorities, Scottish Health Boards, Police Scotland, partner agencies and communities.

Scotland's National Performance Framework guides the resources required and the outcomes desired to ensure:

- We live our lives free from crime, disorder and danger.
- We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.
- We have tackled significant inequalities in Scottish society.
- Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to people's needs.
- We have strong resilient communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.
- Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed.
- We live longer, healthier lives.

In the Scottish Borders this is translated into the Single Outcome Agreement and is governed by the Community Planning Partnership (CPP). Gender based violence is included in the Reducing Inequalities strand of the CPP. (See Page 7)

This in turn relates to the outcomes for Safer Communities. In 2015 gender based violence was assessed as the top priority in the Safer Communities Business Plan.

Currently the range of gender based violence data that is used to demonstrate the extent to which the Single Outcome Agreement is

achieved is quantitative in nature and drawn from Police Scotland statistics, service provider data and statutory recording, eg Child Protection Registrations. However, such statistics are useful in monitoring trends/incidences, but are considered only "part of the picture" in revealing the true nature and extent of gender based violence in the Scottish Borders.

With an increase in service provision, more people accessing support, and a greater understanding of the local need, it should become possible to collate better, more accurate data to demonstrate the longer term impact of the Scottish Borders Equally Safe Strategy.

We are now at the stage of needing to tackle the root causes of violence against women and girls with a wider focus on gender inequality and addressing perpetrator behaviour whilst maintaining a strong, effective and sustained service provision for victims of gender based violence.

Violence against women and girls occurs across all sections of society, but not all women and girls are at equal risk. Certain factors can increase vulnerability to abuse and keep women trapped such as age, financial dependence, poverty, disability, homelessness, insecure immigration status and ethnicity, mental health, substance use and offending. Therefore, it is vital that a partnership approach is maintained to address violence against women and girls: there is a cost-benefit to partner agencies understanding the impact of gender based violence on their service area.

*(Equally Safe, 2014)*

Preventing violence against women and girls takes a long term approach, challenging the notion that violence is inevitable or acceptable. Equally Safe takes an ambitious approach demanding a determined effort over the long term. It requires those working in public service delivery to engage with communities and those affected by violence and abuse to re-imagine services with a renewed and increased focus on prevention.

In the Scottish Borders over the last five years there has been a significant improvement in the funding aligned to providing specialist services, an increased focus on addressing perpetrator behaviour, a commitment from partner agencies to develop a coordinated, community response to addressing domestic abuse, and an increase in resources to start prevention work in schools/colleges.

The policy and practice framework across Scotland has improved to ensure increased protection for those at risk of gender based violence through new legislation, eg Forced Marriage, Victims and Witnesses Bill, improved frontline response in universal services, eg routine enquiry, risk assessment training, and increased resources to address the gaps in service provision, eg Rape Crisis Sexual Violence Advocacy.

### Caledonian System

Introduced in 2010/11, the Caledonian System is an integrated approach to address men's domestic abuse and to improve the lives of women, children and men. It does this by working with men convicted of domestic abuse related offences on a programme to reduce their re-offending while offering support and safety planning to women and children.

A VAW Strategic Assessment conducted in 2015 provided analysis by VAW of data from national and local organisations, key stakeholders and service providers in the Scottish Borders. The aim of the strategic assessment is to provide clear direction and focus for the VAW Partnership's Equally Safe Strategy. The Strategic Assessment covered the period 2012-15 and highlighted: Prevention, Activity, Community Engagement, Policy & Practice.

### Prevention activity

- An increase in the number of young people taking part in sexual violence prevention workshops.
- An increase in the number of schools implementing Mentors in Violence Prevention.
- SHARE continues to be delivered in schools.

### Community engagement

- A decrease in the capacity to deliver community activity in relation to gender based violence.
- An increase in access to survivors of gender based violence.

### Policy and practice framework

- Routine Enquiry continues in drug and alcohol services, sexual health services.
- Disclosure Scheme on Domestic Abuse implemented 2015.
- Establishment of Survivors Unite group for adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse.
- Establishment of Reconnect Group for women at risk of offending.
- Establishment of a Scottish Borders Rape Crisis Support and Advocacy Service.

# GENDER BASED VIOLENCE: SCOTTISH BORDERS

2013-16

**Victims of gender based violence**

**95%** female  
**5%** male



**AN INCREASE IN REPORTED INCIDENTS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE AND STALKING**



**A DECREASE IN reported incidents of rape and sexual assault.**



**A SMALL DECREASE** in the number of **domestic abuse incidents** resulting in a criminal offence.



**An overall increase** in the numbers of adults and children receiving support for domestic abuse/rape and sexual assault.

**AN INCREASE** in the number of **high risk victims of domestic abuse** discussed at a **Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)**.



**AN INCREASE** in the number of **prolific repeat domestic abuse offenders** referred to the **Multi Agency Tasking and Coordinating (MATAC) meeting**



**Number of women accessing refuge**

2012/13 11 women  
2013/14 15 women  
2014/15 10 women



**AN INCREASE** in the number of people accessing safer housing options in relation to domestic abuse.



**AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF DOMESTIC ABUSE VICTIMS** who received intensive outreach advocacy support.



**AN INCREASE** in the **NUMBER OF ADULTS AND CHILDREN** needing statutory protection as a result of domestic abuse.



**AN INCREASE** in the number of **routine enquiries** returning disclosures in addictions services.



**AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF ADULTS** presenting to homelessness as a result of domestic abuse.



**0** Reports of **Female Genital Mutilation**

**5** **Honour Based Violence cases (HBV)**

**0** Number of reports of human trafficking

However, in the Scottish Borders there are still gaps in service provision for victims of gender based violence, evidence of continued un-met need, and evidence of inconsistency in relation to victim's experience of help-seeking. This has been evidenced by the Strategic Assessment (2015), an independent evaluation of the Pathway Project, victim feedback and discussions with stakeholders.

A summary of gaps identified or where data reveals the need for improvement include:

- A considerable number of stalking harassment incidents that do not receive a consistent response in relation to victim impact.
- A low conversion rate of incidents to crimes, and a resulting low conviction rate for domestic abuse and sexual violence.
- Sexual violence prevention work not available across primary, secondary schools.
- Specific groups of victims, eg those from the LGBT or ethnic minority communities are under-represented in specialist services.
- Low numbers of people using national helplines.
- Reduction in capacity and resources to support front line staff to effectively respond to gender based violence.
- No coherent service user involvement (adults and children) across the violence against women agenda in the Scottish Borders.
- Evidence of only one key partner agency having a Workplace Policy on gender based violence.
- There is no policy or protocol framework developed for FGM, Forced Marriage or Trafficking despite new legislation.
- No recorded data or evidence for commercial sexual exploitation in the Scottish Borders.
- Lack of a coherent funding strategy in the Scottish Borders for gender based violence.

## WHERE DO WE WANT TO GO?

In responding to gender based violence under the guidance of Equally Safe –Scotland’s Strategy for preventing and eradicating violence against women and girls (2014) we want to work towards:

**1. A Scottish society that embraces equality and mutual respect, and rejects all forms of violence against women and girls by ensuring that:**

- Positive gender roles are promoted.
- People enjoy healthy positive relations.
- Individuals and communities recognise and challenge violent and abusive behaviour.

**2. Women and girls who thrive as equal citizens; socially, culturally, economically and politically by ensuring that:**

- Women and girls feel safe, respected and equal in our communities.
- Women and men have equality of opportunity, particularly with regards to access to power and resources.

**3. Maintain interventions that are early and effective, preventing violence and promoting women’s safety and wellbeing by ensuring that:**

- Justice responses are robust, swift consistent and coordinated.
- Women and girls access relevant, effective and integrated services.

**4. Encouraging men to desist from all forms of violence against women and girls and ensure that perpetrators of such violence receive a robust and effective response by ensuring that:**

- Justice responses are robust, swift, consistent and coordinated.

- Men who carry out violence against women and girls are held to account by the criminal justice system.
- Men who carry out violence against women and girls are identified early and held to account by the criminal justice system.

In taking action to achieve the aims of Equally Safe, the Scottish Borders Violence against Women Partnership will create a strategic and operational framework under the four priorities listed above. Notwithstanding these, the Scottish Borders Violence against Women Partnership will commit to ensuring the following principle: ***“to promote and coordinate an effective multi-agency approach to gender based violence in line with efforts to Protect, Prevent, and Provide whilst supporting effective Participation”.***

## HOW WILL WE GET THERE?

The Scottish Borders Equally Safe Strategy (2016-2021) will only succeed in the short, medium and long term aims if partner agencies, stakeholders and communities collaborate in taking the range of actions required to address gender based violence at all levels – individual, community and societal.

This requires strong leadership at both strategic and operational level, underpinned by a shared understanding of gender based violence, sustained funding for specialist services, and a willingness to learn and improve our response according to the experience of those who need us to take action to end violence against women.

A shared vision to prevent and eradicate violence against women and girls requires concerted effort from service providers, commissioners, planners, funders and partnerships, but with an acknowledgement that this will be a long term commitment which will return considerable benefit to Scottish Borders society.

Scotland’s Equally Safe Strategy to prevent and eradicate violence against women and girls gives the Scottish Borders a clear mandate to adopt the key priorities and establish the mechanisms to deliver key outcomes/activities.



The following represents the high-level activities proposed to deliver on each Equally Safe Priority:

### Priority 1

**A Scottish society that embraces equality and mutual respect, and rejects all forms of violence against women and girls by ensuring that:**

- Positive gender roles are promoted.
- People enjoy healthy positive relations.
- Individuals and communities recognise and challenge violent and abusive behaviour.

Research shows that community attitudes to violence against women and girls are a key predictor of perpetration of such abuse and can influence how victims feel about their experiences, in turn influencing how they get help. It is therefore imperative that communities are supported to understand better the drivers for violence against women and girls and how societal and personal responses to victims can impact on help-seeking.

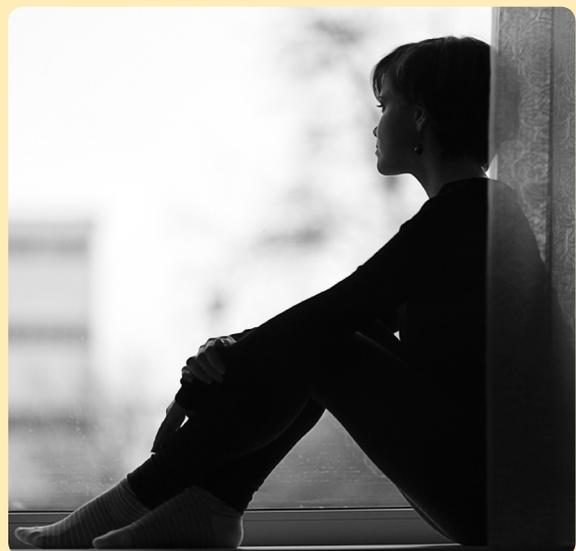
For example, in 2013 Household Survey in the Scottish Borders 76% of respondents believed alcohol and drugs “*cause men to be violent to their partners*”, the Safer Communities Strategic Assessment (2015) revealed that alcohol was a contributing factor in only 22% of all domestic incidents reported to the police, thus supporting the understanding that alcohol does not cause gender based violence.

Supporting communities to be more aware and develop a more inclusive approach to gender based violence can be achieved by services and the media working together, by gender stereotyping being challenged at the individual, community and societal levels, by more effective legal sanctions, by grassroots

activity in the heart of our communities, and by survivors themselves through support to have their voices heard.

**We will work towards achieving Priority 1 by:**

- Working with media colleagues to challenge attitudes and norms that contribute to violence against women and girls.
- Increasing awareness amongst children/young people of gender based violence and improving access to support.
- Increasing the opportunities for children and young people to actively be involved in tackling gender based violence.
- Ensuring community engagement is meaningful and inclusive, that communities have increased opportunity to be involved in addressing gender based violence.
- Providing support for survivors of gender based violence to have their voices heard and be actively involved in decision making.



## Priority 2

**Women and girls who thrive as equal citizens; socially, culturally, economically and politically by ensuring that:**

- Women and girls feel safe, respected and equal in our communities.
- Women and men have equality of opportunity, particularly with regard to access to power and resources.

We want women in the Scottish Borders to enjoy the same opportunities as men. This includes being more economically independent with equal opportunity to achieve their full potential in all sectors and at all levels. This requires action to tackle the barriers that women face in relation to employment, elimination of the gender pay gap, and the representation of women both in low paid jobs and in senior positions. The impact of welfare reform in Scotland is borne disproportionately by women and poverty is a key factor in preventing women and children finding safety and recovering from their experience of domestic abuse.

Living in fear, being abused, and recovery from the long term consequences of gender based violence, all impact on a woman's opportunity to achieve her full potential.

Employers across the public and private sector in the Scottish Borders employ a significant number of women, eg NHS Borders employs over 3000 staff, 82% of whom are women. However, the use of Employee or Workplace Policies to address gender based violence is inconsistent in the public and private sector.

Adopting a joint approach to workplace policies would enable a wider range of women to seek support and maintain gainful employment as well as their economic independence. Gender based violence produces a significant cost in relation to absence management for employers.

**We will work towards achieving Priority 2 by:**

- Working with partners in Corporate Equality groups to ensure that Equality Impact Assessments are conducted on all activities that could disproportionately affect women generally but more specifically victims of gender based violence.
- Supporting efforts to tackling poverty in relation to gender based violence in collaboration with partners.
- Addressing the need for an effective response to women who have "no recourse to public funds."
- Working in collaboration with partners to increase the mobility of women, decrease rural isolation, and improve access to public transport by ensuring their needs are considered in planning and public transport strategies.
- Working with partners in the public and private sectors to develop gender based violence workplace policies.

### Priority 3

**Maintain interventions that are early and effective, preventing violence and promoting women's safety and wellbeing by ensuring that:**

- Justice responses are robust, swift , consistent and coordinated.
- Women and girls access relevant, effective and integrated services.
- Service providers competently identify violence against women and girls and respond effectively.

The provision of effective and accessible services is vital to the support needed for victims and survivors of gender based violence – both adults and children.

Service provision ranges from direct protection of adults and children at risk of gender based violence through to support for families to recover from their experiences. Partnership working is essential as the capacity to provide such support is compromised - funding is predominantly short term, staff retention is challenged, rural delivery of services is expensive, and a reduced capacity to enable universal services to adequately respond to gender based violence.

In the Scottish Borders there has been a significant increase in funding for specialist services over the last five years, resulting in a corresponding increase in the numbers of adults and children receiving support. This increase in funding has meant:

- increased capacity to respond to domestic abuse/rape and sexual assault.

- improved outcomes for victims and their children in relation to risk, safety and recovery from their experiences.
- increased capacity to enable victims and their children to have a better range of safe housing options.
- increased capacity to respond to victims living in rural isolation, or who experience specific barriers to services.
- increased numbers of high tariff, prolific offenders targeted in relation to domestic abuse/sexual violence.

However, there still remains a need to ensure that all victims/survivors have equitable access to services that meet their specific needs. For example, those experiencing stalking and harassment are reluctant to report and services have an inconsistent response to stalking with no agreed risk assessment tool or victim impact toolkit established in the Scottish Borders. Those who find accessing mainstream services challenging and have increased risk of abuse, eg LGBT community, and ethnic minority communities, require barrier-free services to improve the equity of access to support.

The role of universal services in enabling a greater “reach” and increased access to support is key as these services eg health, social care, and community services are much more likely to be used by victims of gender based violence than specialist services. Additionally, close partnership working between specialist services and mental health, criminal justice, substance misuse services, homelessness, child and adult protection will enhance the response to those with a range of support needs, –

in many cases driven by their experience of gender based violence.

Early identification is essential in eliminating violence and the risk of further harm - we know that only a small minority of those affected by violence report it to the police or seek help from specialist services, and this remains an issue across Scotland. A move to a more integrated, coordinated approach affords us the best chance of meeting the needs of those experiencing gender based violence in the Scottish Borders. A small step-change, for example, would be an agreed Information Sharing Protocol adopted by all specialist agencies to reduce the requirement for victims to re-tell their story, decrease the length of time to access services and reduce the potential for service generated risks.

**We will work towards achieving Priority 3 by:**

- Working collaboratively to improve the sustainability of specialist violence against women services.
- Collaborating with funders and planners to embed a coordinated community response to gender based violence in the Scottish Borders.
- Providing support to universal services to enable frontline staff to be more confident/competent to respond safely and effectively to all forms of gender based violence.
- Developing a common, shared understanding of risk assessment and safety planning in relation to domestic abuse.
- Promoting a multi-agency approach to tackling high risk cases of domestic abuse, thus improving the effectiveness of scarce resources.

- Developing a policy/protocol framework for Female Genital Mutilation, Forced Marriage, and Trafficking.
- Developing and implementing a “first line response” to stalking.
- Undertaking a scoping exercise in relation to prostitution to inform a better understanding and response.
- Supporting the development of new initiatives such as the Reconnect Group, Survive and Thrive, Survivors Unite.
- Providing a mechanism for service user experience to shape the coordinated community response.



## Priority 4

**Encouraging men to desist from all forms of violence against women and girls and ensuring that perpetrators of such violence receive a robust and effective response by ensuring that:**

- Justice responses are robust, swift, consistent and coordinated.
- Men who carry out violence against women and girls are held to account by the criminal justice system.
- Men who carry out violence against women and girls are identified early and held to account by the criminal justice system.

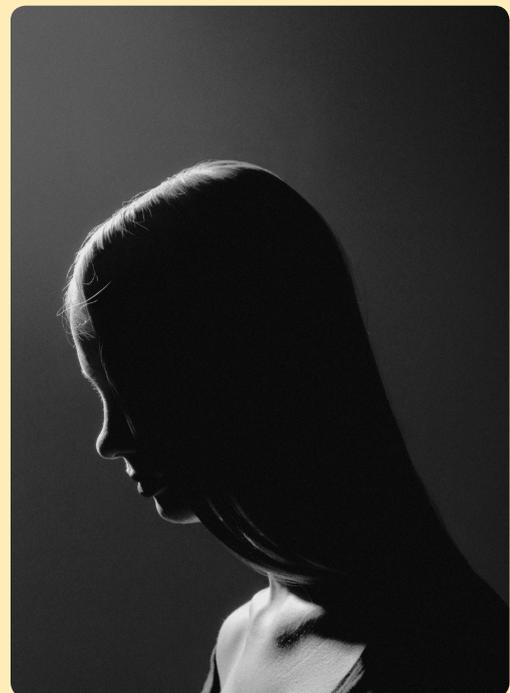
Globally there is a growing consensus that prosecution alone is not enough to eradicate the problem of violence against women and girls. Early identification of perpetrators and the opportunity for them to change their behaviour is key to more effective outcomes.

Prosecution is important to victims in relation to the crime they have experienced and the psychological recovery by acknowledging their status as victims. Unfortunately, there are still barriers to prosecution that are well evidenced, and attrition rates are higher than we would hope them to be. Support for victims to engage with and navigate through the court process is vital.

**We will work towards achieving Priority 4 by:**

- Engaging with partners to improve the court outcomes for victims of gender based violence.

- Engaging with partners in the court system to enable children's views to be considered in contact cases.
- Enabling partners in the legal profession the opportunity to be better equipped to represent gender based violence victims in court.
- Working with partner agencies who have responsibility for early identification of men who carry out violence in order that current/future victims are protected.
- Working in partnership to ensure better information is shared with Courts in relation to risk of further harm and/or the victim impact.



## HOW WILL WE MONITOR PROGRESS?

### Governance and Reporting

The Scottish Borders Equally Safe Strategy (2016-21) will be the responsibility of the Police, Fire & Rescue and Safer Communities Board in relation to governance. A set of key performance indicators that will track progress of Equally Safe will be agreed by the PFCS Board. These are also required to support the outcomes associated with the Reducing Inequalities strand of the Community Planning Partnership.

Operationally, the Equally Safe Strategy (2016-2021) will be managed by the Violence against Women Partnership Executive. The VAW Partnership Executive will produce an Equally Safe Annual Report to demonstrate progress, as well as reporting to the Police, Fire & Rescue and Safer Communities Board twice yearly detailing progress against the agreed key performance indicators.

The delivery of outcomes associated with the Strategy will be the responsibility of a Violence Against Women Partnership Delivery Group. There will be some Short Life Working Groups established to take forward specific areas eg Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Protocol. This work will be driven by an Equally Safe Strategy Delivery Plan (2016-19). The Delivery Plan will detail the actions, outcomes, performance data, lead agencies and timelines for completion. The VAW Partnership Delivery Group will report to the VAW Partnership Executive Group twice yearly on progress of the Delivery Plan.

The Violence Against Women Executive will be chaired by an independent Chair and the Violence Against Women Delivery Group will be chaired by a volunteer from the membership, and will rotate over a timeframe

agreed by the Delivery Group. The Chair of the VAW Delivery Group will be a member of the VAW Executive. The VAW Coordinator will report to the VAW Executive and be a member of the VAW Delivery Group.

Membership of both the VAW Executive and the VAW Delivery Group will be drawn from the key partner agencies. Members will be required to represent their agency at the appropriate level, but it is expected that the VAW Executive will consist of senior members of the key public and voluntary agencies responsible for tackling violence against women and girls in the Scottish Borders.

The Equally Safe Strategy Delivery Plan (2016-19) will detail reporting timelines and key performance indicators evidencing the progress of the Equally Safe Strategy.

Further information on specialist services can be found on [www.scotborders.gov.uk/domesticabuse](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/domesticabuse)



# SCOTTISH BORDERS VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN (VAW) PARTNERSHIP TERMS OF REFERENCE

## Aims:

The Scottish Borders Violence against Women (VAW) Partnership will raise awareness and increase the understanding of the impact of violence against women (including trans women), young people and children across the Scottish Borders.

We aim to work with our partners and stakeholders in an integrated way to prevent violence against women and improve on the range of services and provision available to women, young people and children. This approach will take into account the challenges of addressing violence against women in a rural setting and acknowledging the work needed to address the perpetrators of violence against women and girls.

## What the partnership will do:

- Provide leadership and set the strategic direction for the Scottish Borders Equally Safe strategy (2016-2021).
- Provide expertise, knowledge, research and resources on violence against women and girls.
- Monitor local activity, interpret the data available and address the gaps identified.
- Provide data for annual reports as required by governance structures.
- Work together on prevention strategies and foster/influence a more positive media reporting at a local level.
- Work together to ensure that the provision in the Scottish Borders remains of high quality and is accessible to those in need.
- Maintain an overview of budget constraints and work with partners to build resilience and sustainability of services and provision.

- Raise the profile of violence against women in the Scottish Borders, maintaining visibility and presence within the structures of community planning.

## The role of the partnership member:

- To participate in every meeting of the VAW Partnership and delegate where possible.
- To ensure that the experiences of survivors are fed into service and policy development for the Scottish Borders.
- To influence their peers and partners to address the impact of violence against women and girls in the Scottish Borders at all levels.
- To contribute to the partnership meetings and engage with the discussion and cascade back into their respective organisations.
- To contribute to consultations both local and national.
- To contribute to the short life working groups as agreed by the VAW Partnership.
- To support the Chair and the Violence Against Women Coordinator to achieve the aims of the VAW Partnership.
- To ensure the Scottish Borders Equally Safe Strategy (2016-2021) is effective in addressing violence against women and girls in the Scottish Borders.

You can get this document on audio CD, in large print, and various other formats by contacting us at the address below. In addition, contact the address below for information on language translations, additional copies, or to arrange for an officer to meet with you to explain any areas of the publication that you would like clarified.

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**Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016  
Scottish Borders Community Justice Outcomes Improvement  
Plan 2017 - 2020**

**Report by SBC Chief Social Work Officer**

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**SCOTTISH BORDERS COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP**

**24 November 2016**

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**1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY**

- 1.1 **This report requests comment on the Scottish Borders Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan required by the Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016.**
- 1.2 The Community Justice (Scotland) Act is intended to prevent and reduce re offending by addressing those factors that influence criminal behaviour and requires a plan to be produced and submitted to the Scottish Government by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017. The Scottish Borders plan (attached as Appendix 1) has reached a stage in its development that formal consultation is required to provide communities, a wider range of partners and stakeholders with an opportunity to contribute. Community Justice Scotland the national body established to support local arrangements must also be afforded an opportunity to view the plan in advance of its publication. As part of the consultation process members of the Community Planning Partnership are being given an opportunity to provide comment.
- 1.3 The plan has already been to the Reducing Inequalities Delivery Team and the Joint Delivery Team. Both endorsed the plan to go forward to the Community Planning Strategic Board.

**2 RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Strategic Board comment on the plan (attached as Appendix 1) and recommend that it proceed to a formal consultation process.**

### **3 BACKGROUND AND PROGRESS UPDATE**

- 3.1 The Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 sets out the requirement to produce a Community Justice outcomes improvement plan. The legislation specifies several statutory partners who will work together to deliver community justice. These partners are required to produce a Plan by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 outlining how they intend to support achievement of seven common national outcomes agreed by the Scottish Government. Additional local outcome/s can also be included in the plan. The seven national outcomes are:
- Communities improve their understanding and participation in community justice
  - Partners plan and deliver services in a more strategic and collaborative way
  - People have better access to the services they require, including welfare, health and wellbeing, housing and employability
  - Effective interventions should be delivered to prevent and reduce the risk of further offending
  - Life chances are improved through needs, including health, financial inclusion, housing and safety being addressed
  - People develop positive relationships and more opportunities to participate and contribute through education, employment and leisure activities
  - Individual's resilience and capacity for change and self-management are enhanced.
- 3.2 To support delivery, the Scottish Government has published a national strategy for community justice, an outcomes, performance and improvement framework and guidance for local partners. The Care Commission have developed a self-evaluation guide. Community Justice Scotland has been established and will supersede the dismantled Community Justice Authorities from 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.
- 3.3 Partners have supported development of the Scottish Borders plan through a Community Justice Board chaired by the Chief Social Work Officer. Further information has been gathered through a literature review, two stakeholder events and an eight week engagement exercise. Presentations have and continue to be delivered to specific groups who have an influence upon reducing reoffending. Further work is underway in relation to service users.
- 3.4 This plan has a direct relationship to the Community Planning Partnership through the Reducing Inequalities theme and work of the Safer Communities Team.
- 3.5 The plan has reached a stage in its development that formal consultation is required to provide communities, a wide range of partners and stakeholders with an opportunity to contribute and participate in its development. A copy of the proposed text for the consultation document is attached as Appendix 2.

### **4 IMPLICATIONS**

#### **4.1 Financial**

There are no identified costs attached to any of the recommendations

contained in this report. Partners are expected to collaborate and share resources in their delivery against the common outcomes.

#### 4.2 **Risk and Mitigations**

The legislation sets out the requirements on community justice partners to produce their plan by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

#### 4.3 **Equalities**

An Equalities Impact Assessment has been carried out on this proposal and it is anticipated that there are no adverse equality implications.

#### 4.4 **Acting Sustainably**

No effect.

#### 4.5 **Carbon Management**

No effect.

#### 4.6 **Rural Proofing**

No additional effect.

#### 4.7 **Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation**

No change at the present time.

### **5 CONSULTATION**

5.1 It is intended that the plan undergoes a three month formal consultation period, leaving time for feedback to be considered and amendments made before the submission date of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

5.2 Others who have been consulted are:

- The report has been discussed at the Reducing Inequalities Delivery Team and Joint Delivery Team.
- Corporate Equalities and Diversity Officer in relation to the Equality Impact Assessment.
- Corporate Communications in relation to media launch and graphics.
- The Information Manager regarding information sharing.

**Approved by**

**Elaine Torrance**  
**Chief Social Work Officer**

**Signature .....**

**Author(s)**

Name	Designation and Contact Number
Graham Jones	Safer Communities & Community Justice Manager Ex 8094

**Background Papers:** Nil

**Previous Minute Reference:** Nil

**Note** – You can get this document on tape, in Braille, large print and various computer formats by contacting the address below. can also give information on other language translations as well as providing additional copies.

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PROTECT

**SCOTTISH BORDERS**  
**COMMUNITY JUSTICE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2016**  
**COMMUNITY JUSTICE OUTCOMES IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2017 -2020**  
**CONSULTATIVE DRAFT**

*Working in Partnership to Tackle Inequality, Prevent and Reduce Reoffending in the Scottish Borders*



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## PROTECT

### FOREWORD

All Scottish local authorities are required to produce a Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan under the Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016. This legislation is designed to prevent and reduce reoffending through partnership working.

Individuals, families and communities are harmed by criminal behaviour and this plan sets out how community justice partners intend to work together to fulfil their responsibilities in achieving the seven common Community Justice Outcomes.

While crime in the Scottish Borders is relatively low in comparison to other parts of Scotland we have an opportunity to work within and across organisational boundaries to positively influence the behaviour of individuals' within our communities who have an offending history. Importantly reducing instances of offending behaviour will also result in fewer victims of crime.

The connection between inequality and offending is complicated, not every person who has a history of offending behaviour has experienced disadvantage and most disadvantaged people do not offend. Achieving a reduction in criminal behaviour is difficult and challenging though the likelihood of success increases when stability exists across a range of needs common to most of us: suitable accommodation, healthcare, financial security, family relationships and community inclusion. Community based sentences as an alternative to short term prison sentences are recognised to be more effective in addressing offending behaviour. These sentences have the advantage of maintaining access to services so that preventative factors are not unnecessarily disrupted. Communities can also derive benefit through unpaid work projects undertaken as part of this sentencing option.

We have a strong tradition of partnership working across all sectors. This Draft Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan sets out what we are already doing and arrangements that we want to introduce and develop to reduce reoffending.

This plan will be continually reviewed, to help develop future plans we would like your comments on the content, areas we can develop and opportunities that can be explored.

David Parker

Chair of the Community Planning Partnership

**THE SCOTTISH BORDERS: *a summary of justice demand***

2916 crimes (Groups 1 – 5) recorded by Police Scotland 1.18% of recorded crime in Scotland 246,243 (2015/16)

255.7 crimes per 10,000 of the population compared to 460.5 nationally (2015/16)

55.7% of crimes detected compared to 51.6% nationally (2015/16)

0.68% of the prison population from the Scottish Borders (September 2016)

208 individuals sentenced to a Community Payback Order 1.27% of the total in Scotland 16,302 (2014/15)

30 young people referred to The Scottish Children's Reporters Administration for an offence 1.0% of the total in Scotland 2761 (2015/16)

A reoffending rate of 28.4% compared to 28.3% nationally (2013/14)

## PROTECT

### THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENTS NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR COMMUNITY JUSTICE

The following Scottish Government publications have been used in the development of this Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan:

- National Strategy for Community Justice,
- Community Justice Outcomes, Performance and Improvement Framework, and
- Guidance for local partners in the new model for Community Justice.

Regard has also been taken of the Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnership 2016 Strategic Assessment.

The Scottish Government vision, mission, priorities and principals for community justice underpin this plan and are listed below.

#### Vision

Scotland is a safer, fairer and more inclusive nation where we:-

- prevent and reduce further offending by addressing its underlying causes; and
- safely and effectively manage and support those who have committed offences to help them reintegrate into the community and realise their potential for the benefit of all citizens

#### Mission Statement

We will achieve this vision by effectively implementing the Scottish Government's plans for penal policy to:

- Deliver a decisive shift in the balance between community and custodial sentences by:
  - a) increasing the use of community-based interventions; and
  - b) reducing the use of short term custodial sentences;
- Improve the reintegration from custody to community.

The new model for community justice, with its focus on strong partnerships working to ensure effective intervention from the point of arrest onwards, provides the delivery framework for achieving both this mission and the wider vision.

## PROTECT

### Priorities

Extensive consultation with stakeholders has made clear that the Scottish Government's vision and mission will be delivered by prioritising action in the following areas:-

- Improve Community Understanding and Participation
- Strategic Planning and Partnership Working
- Effective use of Evidence-Based Interventions
- Equal access to Services

### Principles

Our vision for community justice is underpinned by the following principles:-

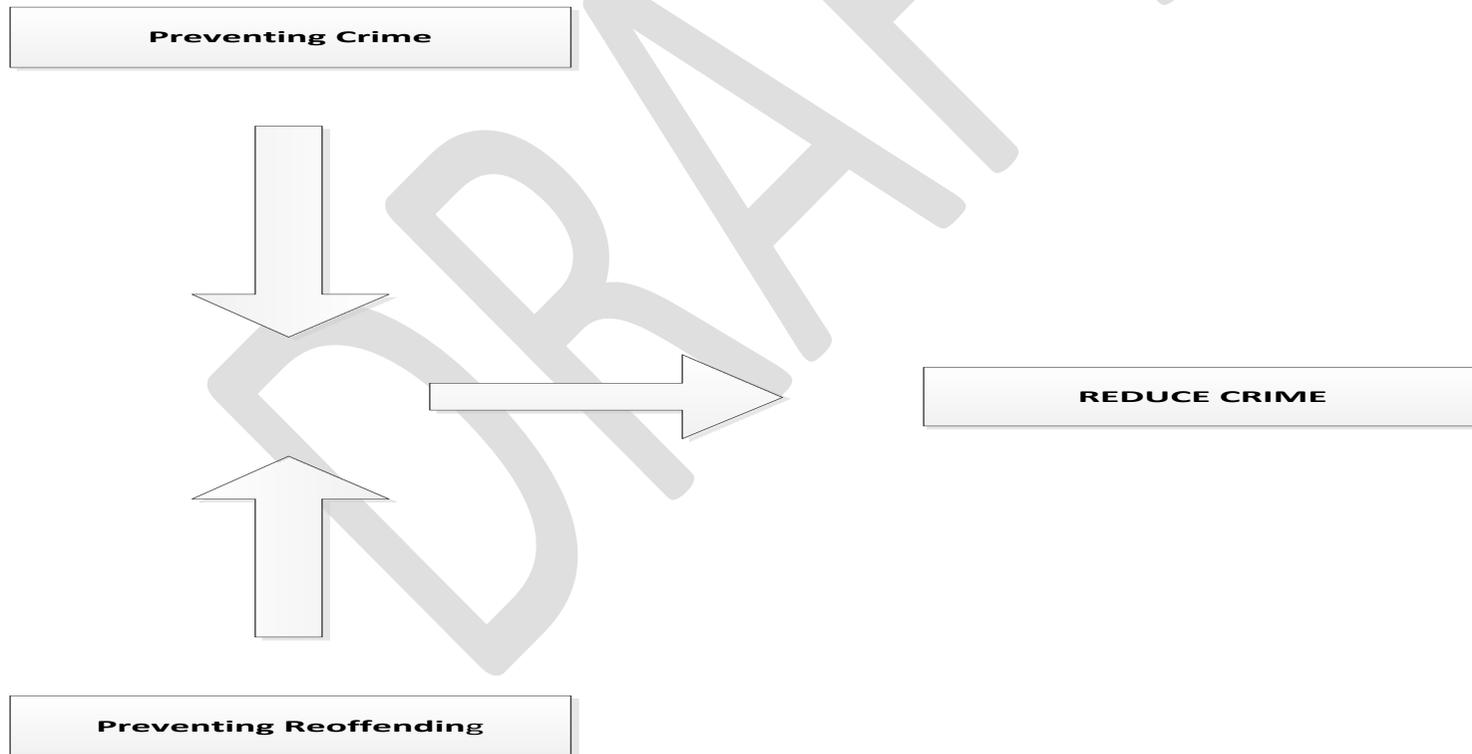
- People must be held to account for their offences, in a way that recognises the impact on victims of crime and is mindful of risks to the public, while being proportionate and effective in preventing and reducing further offending
- Re-integrating those who have committed offences into the community and helping them to realise their potential will create a safer and fairer society for all
- Every intervention should maximise opportunities for prevention and reducing offending as early as possible, before problems escalate
- Community justice outcomes cannot be improved by one stakeholder alone. We must work in partnership to address these complex issues
- Informed communities who participate in community justice will lead to more effective services and policies with greater legitimacy
- High quality, person-centred and collaborative services should be available to address the needs of those who have committed offences, their families, and victims of crime

## PROTECT

### COMMUNITY JUSTICE AS DEFINED IN THE NATIONAL STRATEGY

By **community justice** we mean: "the collection of individuals, agencies and services that work together to support, manage and supervise people who have committed offences, from the point of arrest, through prosecution, community disposal or custody and alternatives to these, until they are reintegrated into the community. Local communities and the third sector are a vital part of this process which aims to prevent and reduce further offending and the harm that it causes, to promote desistance, social inclusion and citizenship."

Figure 1: Our focus on prevention



## PROTECT

### COMMUNITY JUSTICE OUTCOMES IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2017 – 2020

#### INTRODUCTION

The Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 places a legal duty on a range of statutory partners to plan and decide on how services are delivered within the Scottish Borders to support prevention and a reduction in the number of people re offending following a previous conviction. This approach aims to address the underlying causes of offending behaviour. Partners will work with a range of individuals and organisations who have a role to play in community justice. Statutory partners for community justice as outlined in the Act are:

Police Scotland	Health Boards	Integrated Joint Boards for Health & Social Care
Local Authorities	Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service	Scottish Fire & Rescue Service
Skills Development Scotland	Crown Office & Procurator Fiscal Service	Scottish Prison Service

A national organisation has been established called Community Justice Scotland who will monitor performance across each local authority area in the achievement of seven common Community Justice Outcomes. A national strategy, performance indicators and a reporting framework set the strategic direction for partners and support delivery within the Scottish Borders and more broadly across Scotland. Common outcomes are split between those that are either structural or person-centric and progress will be reported upon annually. All seven common outcomes form part of this plan:

#### Structural Outcomes – *What we deliver as partners*

- Communities improve their understanding and participation in community justice
- Partners plan and deliver services in a more strategic and collaborative way
- People have better access to the services they require, including welfare, health and wellbeing, housing and employability
- Effective interventions should be delivered to prevent and reduce the risk of further offending.

#### Person-centric Outcomes – *Changes to users*

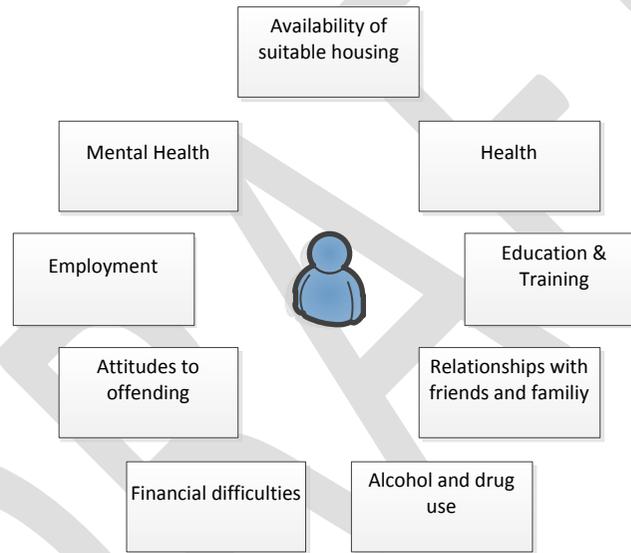
- Life chances are improved through needs, including health, financial inclusion, housing and safety being addressed
- People develop positive relationships and more opportunities to participate and contribute through education, employment and leisure activities
- Individual's resilience and capacity for change and self-management are enhanced.

## PROTECT

A number of the activities undertaken by the partnership address more than one outcome but will not be mentioned multiple times.

There is a strong evidence base that identifies the underlying causes of offending behaviour and those factors that can have a positive effect upon attitudes and prevalence of future offending known as criminogenic needs. Complex needs that services support have been identified as:

Figure2: Factors affecting criminal behaviour



This Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan sets out the improvement actions identified as being necessary to support achievement of the common outcomes. An equality impact assessment accompanies this plan.

**PROTECT**

**ALIGNMENT OF COMMUNITY JUSTICE TO SCOTTISH NATIONAL OUTCOMES AND COMMUNITY PLANNING WITHIN THE SCOTTISH BORDERS**

The positioning of community justice within the Scottish Borders has been strengthened through the synergy created between the Scottish National Outcomes and the three Scottish Borders community planning strategic priorities in particular **reducing inequalities**. The three strategic priorities are:

- Grow our economy and maximise the impact from the low carbon agenda
- **Reducing inequalities**
- Reform future services

Table 1: Relevance of Community Justice to Reduce Inequality Themes, National Strategic Objectives and Outcomes

	<b>Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnership Reducing Inequalities Themes</b>	<b>National Strategic Objectives</b>	<b>National Outcomes</b>
<b>Community Justice</b>	Housing and Neighbourhood	Greener	10. We live in well designed, sustainable places where we are able to access the amenities and services we need
	Employment and Income	Wealthier and Fairer	2. We realise our economic potential with more and better employment opportunities for our people 15. Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to people’s needs
	Health & Wellbeing	Healthier	6. We live longer, healthier lives 7. We have tackled the significant inequalities in Scottish society 8. We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk
	Keeping People Safe	Safer and Stronger	9. We live our lives free from crime, disorder and danger 11. We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others
	Attainment, Achievement and Inclusion	Smarter	4. Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens 5. Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed

## PROTECT

### GOVERNANCE

A Community Justice Board chaired by the Chief Social Work Officer has been established to coordinate and oversee community justice transition in the Scottish Borders. The Board has responsibility for the implementation of the improvement actions contained within this plan and content of the national strategy. Members will report annually on the indicators contained within the national Outcomes, Performance and Improvement Framework.

The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 creates the legislative framework for community planning in Scotland. It places a duty on specific statutory partners to contribute towards improving outcomes through community planning. In identifying areas for improvement in the Scottish Borders a local outcomes improvement plan is being developed. Relevant information sources have been included within this plan creating the necessary relationship with community planning.

One of the strategic priorities within community planning is reducing inequalities; this includes all of the services that support the reduction of reoffending.

A Reducing Inequalities Delivery Team has been established to monitor and evaluate progress. The relationship with community justice is demonstrated at Figure 3.

In addition to developing this plan Community Justice Partners have agreed the associated equality impact assessment. The plan was endorsed by the Community Planning Strategic Board before undergoing its final public consultation.

The intended lifetime of the plan will be three years with progress reported annually to Community Justice Scotland.

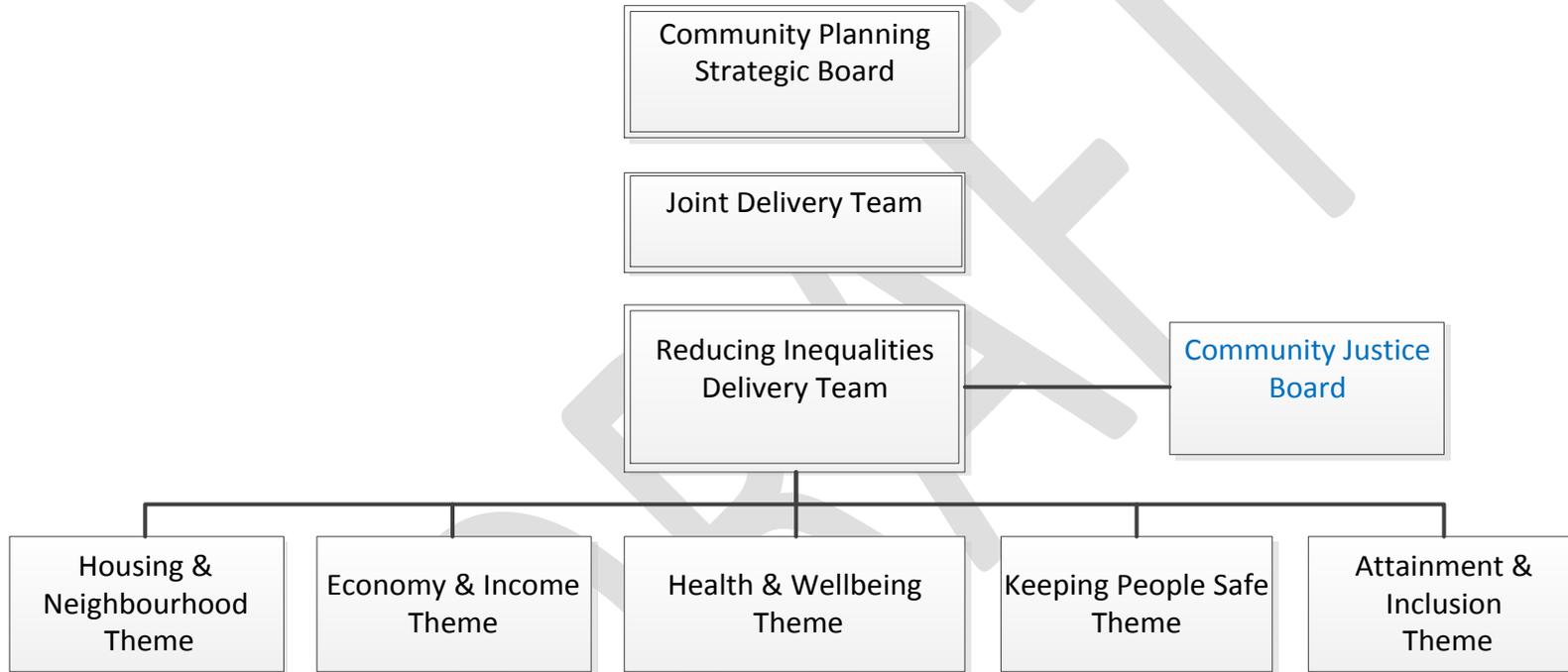
The statutory partners are required to review this plan throughout the three year period, and in the following circumstances, to determine when a new plan is required:

- When a revised National Performance Framework for Community Justice is published
- When a revised National Strategy for Community Justice is published
- When a revised (Community Planning Partnership) Local Outcomes Improvement Plan for the local authority area is published.

A copy of this plan is available at: [www.scotborders.gov.uk/communityjustice](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/communityjustice).

**PROTECT**

Figure 3: Relationship with the community planning partnership and key delivery themes



## INTRODUCTION TO THE SCOTTISH BORDERS

### Profile

The Scottish Borders area covers 473,614 hectares (1,827 square miles) and is located in the South East of Scotland.

This is a rural authority with 30% of the population resident in areas with less than 500 inhabitants. Hawick has the largest population size of 14,003 followed by Galashiels with 12,670. Three other towns have a population exceeding 5,000. The Scottish Borders is the fourth most sparsely populated local authority in Scotland.

The estimated population of the Scottish Borders is 114,030 of which 13.5% are aged between 16 to 29 years (below the Scottish average of 18.3%) and 30.2% aged 60 and over (higher than the Scottish average of 24.0%).

By 2037 the population in the Scottish Borders is projected to show an increase in the number of retired residents and a fall in the number of children and working age people.

Across 29 intermediate data zone ranges in the Scottish Borders life expectancy reduces in those areas classified as most deprived.<sup>1</sup>

The Scottish Government's, Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation is the official tool for identifying areas of deprivation in Scotland. Of the 130 data zones in the Scottish Borders, five are found in 15% of the most deprived datazones in Scotland. These deprived data zones are located in Hawick and Galashiels accounting for 3.5% of the Scottish Borders population. Datazones are assessed against a series of measures i.e. employment, income, health and education, geographic access to services, crime and housing all of which are relevant to community justice and factors that influence the prevalence of offending behaviour.<sup>2</sup>

The Scottish Borders population has a lower proportion of people who are considered income deprived compared to Scotland (10.1% -v- 13.2%) though there are areas that experience a high level of income or employment deprivation.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Life Expectancy in Scottish Council areas split by deprivation 2009 – 2013, National Records of Scotland

<sup>2</sup> The Public Health Observatory, Public Health Information for Scotland

<sup>3</sup> Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2016

## PROTECT

There are five localities in the Scottish Borders based upon existing Area Forum footprints – Berwickshire, Cheviot, Eildon, Teviot & Liddesdale, and Tweeddale. These localities form the geographic footprint within which services are being prioritised through community planning.



PROTECT

OUR UNDERSTANDING OF KEY ISSUES IN THE SCOTTISH BORDERS

Crime

Key Facts Number of Crimes Occurring and Detected

Crime group	Number recorded		Rate per 10,000 population	
	2014/15	2015/16	2014/15	2015/16
<b>Groups 1 – 5</b>				
<b>Total Crimes SCOTTISH BORDERS</b>	<b>3169</b>	<b>2916</b>	<b>277.9</b>	<b>255.7</b>
<b>Group 1: crimes of violence</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>8.9</b>
<b>Group 2; sexual crimes</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>11.8</b>
<b>Group 3: crimes of dishonesty</b>	<b>1506</b>	<b>1205</b>	<b>132.1</b>	<b>105.7</b>
<b>Group 4: fire-raising, malicious mischief, etc.</b>	<b>777</b>	<b>798</b>	<b>68.1</b>	<b>70.0</b>
<b>Group 5: other crimes</b>	<b>697</b>	<b>677</b>	<b>61.1</b>	<b>59.4</b>
<b>Total Crime Rates SCOTLAND</b>			<b>475.5</b>	<b>460.5</b>

Crime group	Number of detections		Detection rate (%)	
	2014/15	2015/16	2014/15	2015/16
<b>Groups 1 – 5</b>				
<b>Total Detections SCOTTISH BORDERS</b>	<b>1619</b>	<b>1625</b>	<b>51.1</b>	<b>55.7</b>
<b>Group 1: crimes of violence</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>85.9</b>	<b>81.4</b>
<b>Group 2; sexual crimes</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>88.8</b>	<b>73.9</b>
<b>Group 3: crimes of dishonesty</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>38.6</b>	<b>42.8</b>
<b>Group 4: fire-raising, malicious mischief, etc.</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>33.1</b>
<b>Group 5: other crimes</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>663</b>	<b>98.7</b>	<b>97.9</b>
<b>Total Detection Rates SCOTLAND</b>			<b>50.6</b>	<b>51.6</b>

Source: Police Scotland Management Information Council Area Report: Quarter 4 2015/16

## Sentencing

### Key Facts

- The number of crimes occurring and detected in the Scottish Borders compare favourably with national figures. Of those crimes detected a range of options are available to the police and Procurator Fiscal prior to a formal prosecution in court e.g. fixed penalties, a formal police warning, Fiscal Work Order or Diversion (from prosecution). The justice journey can be found on page 43.
- There is a presumption against short term prison sentences of three months and under. Recent consultation sought to extend this period in favour of community based sentences which is likely to result in increased demand for Criminal Justice Social Work Services. Imprisonment, community payback orders and fines are the main disposals available when a case is successfully prosecuted in court.
- The prison population includes between 50 and 60 people from the Scottish Borders at any given time. In September 2016 43% are serving a sentence of four years or over. There are very few young people or women in custody.
- Community payback orders provide a community sentencing option. In 2014/15 there were 247 orders started relating to 208 individuals, the majority of orders included unpaid work and almost half had a supervision requirement.
- Within the Scottish Borders there were 31.4 orders and 26.5 individuals subject to a community payback order per 10,000 of the population compared to 49.7 and 42.6 across Scotland. This is comparable with crime rates.
- A victim's right to receive information concerning the release of an offender is contained within Section 16 of the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2003.
- In 2015, the Scottish Government introduced the Victims Code for Scotland focussing on help, information and support to improve experience of the Scottish justice system. Named partners<sup>4</sup> are required to publish standards of service for victims and witnesses and report annually. The requirement to publish and report on standards is underpinned by legislation.

## Housing & Neighbourhood

### Key Facts

- The Scottish Borders has one of the highest private rented sectors in Scotland (17% compared to 13%).
- In the most deprived areas, almost two-thirds of households rent from a social landlord (sometimes also known as a housing association).
- In 2015/16, 618 homeless applications were made to Scottish Borders Council for a variety of reasons, a reduction on the previous year.
- Relationship breakdown is the major cause of homelessness, but homelessness can occur for reasons including: eviction due to mortgage or rent arrears; fleeing domestic violence or abuse; discharge from the armed forces or from hospital; mental health issues; or addiction problems.
- The partnership approach taken in the Scottish Borders, to support victims of domestic abuse, has seen a 17% drop in the number of people reporting as homeless due to a violent/abusive dispute at home.

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<sup>4</sup> Police Scotland, Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service, Scottish Courts and Tribunal Service, Scottish Prison Service, Parole Board for Scotland

## PROTECT

- The true figure of homelessness as a consequence of prison release may be masked by an alternative reason being given at the point of registering as homeless, for example family breakdown. In 2014/15 32 homeless applications were made with prison release being given as the reason.
- In 2013, the Risk Management Authority reported that 28% of cases subject to a full Criminal Justice Social Work Level of Service / Case Management Inventory across Scotland cite a problem with housing among those with an offending history. The level highlighted in the Scottish Borders is slightly higher.
- In 2013, Shelter Scotland commented on a study that “the reoffending rate within the first year after release of those with problems with housing and employment was 74% compared to 43% of those with no similar problems.”
- Rurality may create difficulties with availability of housing in particular areas leading to isolation and a loss of family support. A history of failed tenancies or rent arrears may compound this situation.
- 47% of households in the social rented sector have someone in the household with a long-standing illness, health problem or disability.

### Health including Mental Health

#### Key Facts

- A Scottish Borders health needs assessment of people with an offending history identified a higher prevalence of chronic medical conditions among this group, a similar situation to those people resident in areas experiencing deprivation.
- The HM Chief Inspector of Prisons for Scotland report, Out of sight: Severe and Enduring Mental Health Problems in Scotland’s Prisons, 2008 identified that problems with mental health are more prevalent in prison than among the general population. Whilst women’s mental health is affected by issues affecting both male and female prisoners the significance and prominence among women is almost always greater.
- Within the Scottish Borders people subject to a full Criminal Justice Social Work Level of Service / Case Management Inventory showed the following levels of health problems:

	Males	Females
Physical Health Problems	16%	22%
Suicide Attempts	16%	24%
Self-Harm	13%	30%

- A higher prevalence of co-morbidity with alcohol, drugs and mental health was reported among those with a history of offending.
- There are higher rates of emergency hospital admissions for people within more deprived areas of the Scottish Borders.
- The health and wellbeing of people with an offending history is one of the priority areas identified in the health inequalities action planning that underpins the Community Planning Partnership Reducing Inequalities Strategy.
- In 2011, prison healthcare moved from the Scottish Prison Service to the NHS.

## Education and Training

### Key Facts

- In 2015/16 The Scottish Children's Reporters Administration reported that 30 young people in the Scottish Borders accounted for 78 referrals for an offence.
- 6% of those aged 16 - 64 years in the Scottish Borders have no qualifications; in Scotland the figure is 9%.
- Within the Scottish Borders there are eight areas where 60% or more of the population aged 16 and over have no or low qualifications.
- Young people living within areas of deprivation have the lowest level of attainment across primary and secondary education.
- The Scottish Borders has 92.1% of school leavers in a positive destination after six months compared to 90.0% nationally.
- In 2014/15 there were 410 modern apprentice starts in the Scottish Borders supported by Skills Development Scotland an increase on the previous year.
- The Employability Fund supported 215 starts in the Scottish Borders during 2014/15.
- 70% of those convicted and subject to a full Criminal Justice Social Work Level of Service / Case Management Inventory in 2013 left school at the minimum age.
- Prisoners who completed the Scottish Prison Service Prisoner Survey in 2015 reported they had difficulty with writing (14%), reading (12%) and / or numbers (11%).
- The Scottish Borders: Developing the Young Workforce Programme has been established to broaden educational opportunity and extend experience within the workplace.
- An individualised Activity Agreement exists for young people aged 16 – 24 who are experiencing barriers to entering formal training or employment.

## Relationships with Friends and Families

### Key Facts

- 25% of prisoners who completed the Scottish Prison Service Prisoner Survey in 2015 indicated they had been in care during their upbringing and a fifth had been in care aged 16.
- Nationally the charity Families Outside received 1789 calls to their helpline during 2015/16 of which 59% came from a relative, parent or partner. The highest proportion of calls were for emotional support, concern for the prisoner, children or travel and transport.
- The Scottish Prison Service has an agreed set of Standards for Encouraging Family Contact.
- 9% of prisoners who completed the Scottish Prison Service Prisoner Survey in 2015 indicated they had no contact with friends or family. Of those that did the most common contact was by telephone (83%), followed by letter (68%) and visits (62%).
- Prisoners who completed the Scottish Prison Service Prisoner Survey in 2015 indicated that the most common difficulties for visitors visiting the prison was cost of travel and distance from their home.

## PROTECT

- 40% of those subject to a full Criminal Justice Social Work assessment (across Scotland) using the Level of Service / Case Management Inventory in 2013 identified an unsatisfactory parental or marital relationship, the figure was higher in the Scottish Borders.

### Substance Misuse

#### Key Facts

- Nationally two thirds of prisoners who completed the Scottish Prison Service Prisoner Survey in 2015 reported being under the influence of alcohol/drugs at the time of their offence.
- Nationally a high proportion of persons convicted and subject to a full Criminal Justice Social Work Level of Service / Case Management Inventory report problematic alcohol use at some point. The proportion fell in relation to drug misuse and is consistent with the Scottish Borders.
- Within the Scottish Borders drug offences accounted for 67 drug supply and production, and 277 possession cases during 2015/16.
- 22% of domestic abuse incidents recorded alcohol as a contributing factor.
- 18% of antisocial behaviour incidents recorded by the police were alcohol related.
- The Scottish Borders Local Licensing Forum Alcohol Profile 2014/15 identified Langlee and Galashiels North and West as the areas most affected by alcohol related harm.
- In 2013/14 Galashiels West, Galashiels North, Hawick, Langlee, Eyemouth and Peebles North all had a higher rate of alcohol related hospital stays.
- During 2014/15 there were 365 patients being prescribed medication for problem alcohol use.
- Alcohol brief interventions in priority settings (to encourage a reduction in hazardous or harmful drinking) are well established, 97.9% of referrals to NHS Borders are seen within the NHS HEAT target of three weeks.
- There were 16 alcohol related deaths during 2015 compared to 25 the previous year.
- In July 2015 there were 261 persons receiving Opioid Replacement Therapy as a treatment for drug misuse.
- Within the Scottish Borders 72% of males reported a problem with alcohol and 51% drugs. For females this fell to 61% and 44% respectively both among those subject to a Level of Service / Case Management Inventory by Criminal Justice Social Work.
- Drug deaths in the Scottish Borders rose from 11 in 2014 to 13 in 2015.

### Financial Difficulties

#### Key Facts

- The main benefit claimed is employment support allowance and incapacity benefit.
- The highest percentage of key benefit claimants are in Hawick (22%), Eyemouth (21%) and Galashiels (19%).
- Universal credit is being rolled out nationally and will require applicants to claim on line and thereafter use a telephone helpline for assistance.
- Devolved powers to the Scottish Government have led to A New Future for Social Security in Scotland consultation, which may bring about future change in the way benefits are administered and assessed.
- The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation identifies five data zones within the Scottish Borders as being among the most deprived in Scotland.

## PROTECT

- 1.6% of the population (16 – 64 years) in the Scottish Borders is receiving out-of-work benefit (Jobseekers Allowance / Universal Credit) compared to 2.3% in Scotland. Of this proportion approximately two-thirds are male.
- 6.4% of the working age client group in the Scottish Borders are claiming Employment and Support Allowance / Incapacity Benefits compared to 7.9% in Scotland.
- 2754 people received advice and advocacy on benefit and tax credit matters from Scottish Borders Council Welfare Benefits Service in 2015/16 compared to 2364 the previous year.
- A further reduction in the benefit cap is likely to impact on around 80 families in the Scottish Borders.
- Changes through welfare reform are most likely to impact upon working age families with two or more children.

### Attitudes to Offending

#### Key Facts

- The reconviction rate in the Scottish Borders (2013/14) is 28.4% compared with 28.3% in Scotland although this is affected by a range of factors.
- The most common age for young offenders to commit offences in the Scottish Borders is 15 years of age.
- Although the Scottish Borders has a relatively low level of crime an offender profile identified a disproportionate number of crimes committed by a relatively small number of individuals. A number of these individuals began to offend at an early age and have persisted into adulthood.

### Employment

#### Key Facts

- 76% of the working age population in the Scottish Borders are employed, several percentage points above the national figure.
- The top four business sectors in the Scottish Borders are agriculture, forestry and fishing, construction and retail. The top employing sector is health.
- Over half of people convicted and subject to a full Criminal Justice Social Work Level of Service / Case Management Inventory in the Scottish Borders are unemployed or experience periods of unemployment.
- The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 specifies rehabilitation periods under the law in Scotland, a period of time after which a conviction is classed as spent. Certain occupations require a full disclose of convictions whether spent or not for example working with vulnerable people.
- Unemployed claimants are supported to find work by a Department of Work and Pensions Work Coach. Disclosure of previous convictions is discretionary though failure to disclose can be a barrier at the point of applying for work when disclosure of a past conviction becomes mandatory.
- Self-deselection may occur where disclosure is required prior to making an employment application.
- Average workplace earnings (2015) for full time workers were £455.10 per week in the Scottish Borders compared to £527.00 nationally.

## PROTECT

### ACHIEVEMENT AGAINST THE COMMON OUTCOMES

#### Structural Outcomes – *What we are delivering as partners*

##### Communities improve their understanding and participation in community justice

- Community Justice stakeholder events have been held in 2014 and 2015 to raise awareness and develop ideas.
- A communications plan has been developed to improve knowledge and understanding around community justice.
- A Scottish Borders wide engagement exercise supported by a range of media activity was undertaken in 2016.
- The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Police Scotland have consulted over local priorities and participate in the Community Planning Partnership agenda.

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

- Multi-agency public protection arrangements (MAPPA) are well established in the Scottish Borders.
- The Scottish Borders has an integrated Safer Communities Team incorporating representatives from Police Scotland, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Domestic Abuse Service, Anti-Social Behaviour officers and other council employees who deliver a crime prevention and safety function.
- Social workers provide throughcare and aftercare for young people during the transition into independent living through support with employment, housing, and, health and wellbeing.
- Borders Alcohol and Drugs Partnership sponsored a place on the Addiction Worker Trainee Programme. This was successfully completed and a further trainee has been appointed.
- The Lothian and Borders Community Justice Authority commissioned an assessment of the current health reintegration needs of prisoners and those with a non-custodial sentence in the Scottish Borders. Recommendations focus on the association with substance misuse and offending behaviour, meeting the needs of those in custody and community based support. Addressing these needs prevents mal-adjustment and social isolation, leading to re-offending, and stigma as a barrier to accessing services.
- The Community Planning Partnership Reducing Inequalities Strategy looks to assist those who are disadvantaged through socio economic circumstances and is driving forward actions to improve outcomes for a range of groups, including people with convictions in relation to housing, employment, education and health.
- A Mental Health Needs Assessment was commissioned by Scottish Borders Council and NHS Borders to inform the development of a local strategy and service design. Community justice is an important component given the link to inequality and wellbeing, co-occurring mental health and substance misuse.
- An independent review is underway to identify improvements in the way welfare benefits and associated services for vulnerable people are provided by Scottish Borders Council.
- Police Scotland is introducing a dedicated community planning officer to support collaboration across the partnership.

## PROTECT

- Welfare Benefits staff regularly attend the Early Years Centres in Hawick, Eyemouth, Galashiels and Selkirk supporting the parents of young children.
- The Criminal Justice Social Work structure has been reviewed and changes made to build on the service currently provided.
- ReConnect is a multi-agency approach established in the Scottish Borders which addresses the needs of women at risk of offending.
- Drug Treatment Testing Orders are delivered in partnership with the Borders Addiction Service.
- The Community Intervention for Sexual Offenders service is based in Edinburgh but is available to Scottish Borders clients.
- Employability services are enhanced by five independent training providers through the employability fund. An offending history is not a barrier to access. A Provider Forum has been established to coordinate activity within the Scottish Borders.
- There is a Scottish Borders Supported Employment Network, established by the Council's Employment Support Service, which brings together a range of disciplines involved in employability. The service is available to those with an offending history.
- Criminal Justice Social Work, Youth Justice and Alcohol and Drug services staff now attend Safer Communities Anti-social Behaviour Core Group meetings to offer advice and support to mitigate against the difficulties experienced by young people adjusting to independent living.

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

- The Learning and Skills Partnership consisting of Skills Development Scotland, Borders College, Department of Work and Pensions and Scottish Borders Council oversees how the recommendations within the Developing our Young Workforce, Scotland's Youth Employment Strategy, are delivered. This makes clear their commitment to improving youth employment in the Scottish Borders. Within the recommendations there is an increased emphasis on vocational qualifications, improved approach to work placements and a focus upon achieving positive destinations for young people.
- Skills Development Scotland provides support for young men and women released from prison.
- A Scottish Borders Youth Employment Activity Plan shows local delivery arrangements that support young people into employment in a way that reflects individual need including those with an offending history.
- An employability worker within addiction services takes referrals from a range of sources to help people gain employability skills and secure employment.
- Reducing inequalities is a service priority for Community Learning and Development. Co-ordinators are located across the Scottish Borders offering free learning opportunities to any adult learner who is interested in personal development.
- A criminal justice worker from within Criminal Justice Social Work provides a link between local services, the Scottish Prison Service Throughcare Support Officer and the individual to make sure that their needs are met prior to and following release from prison. Appointments are made with the Homelessness Service upon release for an assessment and housing support with a view to creating a smooth transition back into the community.

## PROTECT

- Skills Development Scotland Work Coaches engage with those young people most at risk of not progressing to a positive destination whilst they are still at school. They support them in the transition to post school opportunities in employment, education or training. Work coaches assist the most vulnerable young people including those who have offended and help them to develop their employability and career management skills.
- An integrated customer service model is being considered by Scottish Borders Council. This will include accessibility by those with an offending history.
- A mental health welfare benefits officer is based within the Welfare Benefits Service. They have strong links to mental health professionals.
- There are locality based integrated health and social care community mental health teams.

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

- Getting it Right for Every Child principles addressing the needs of young people are well embedded within the Scottish Borders.
- The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service have committed to delivering safety and employability skills training within HM Young Offenders Institution Polmont. Candidates from the Scottish Borders and other parts of Scotland will participate.
- Strategic and operational groups have been established around the corporate parenting agenda to deliver positive outcomes for looked after children thus promoting the Scottish Care Leavers Covenant.
- A Vulnerable Young Persons Protocol creates a network of support and mitigates risk among young people who are vulnerable and not subject to any other intervention. Vulnerability can be caused by the young person or the actions or inaction of another.
- Police Scotland and Scottish Borders Council contribute towards the provision of Youth Community Officers who support delivery of the Integrated Children and Young People's Plan.
- A Developing Our Young Workforce Industry Group has been established to offer employment opportunities to disadvantaged groups including young people with convictions.
- Criminal Justice Social Work uses a variety of settings to carry out alcohol screening and alcohol brief interventions. Anti-social Behaviour Unit staff also carry out this intervention.
- A Violence Against Women Partnership has been established to deliver Scotland's Equally Safe Strategy. There is participation in police led meetings to support risk reduction for victims and de-escalation of perpetrator behaviour. A range of partners including the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service participate in delivering this strategy which has a strong prevention theme.
- Police Scotland and the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service work to a joint protocol when investigating domestic abuse. This creates consistency, speeds up justice and, in particular supports victims and vulnerable witnesses.
- The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service are active referral partners in relation to home safety and take part in joint agency visits.

## PROTECT

### Person-centric Outcomes – *Changes to users*

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

- A multi-agency Strategic Corporate Parenting Group and a Corporate Parenting Operations Group work to ensure the needs of looked after children are met.
- Pre-sentencing court reports completed by Criminal Justice Social Work provide information to support sentencing options that maximise opportunities to address underlying need /risk.
- Criminal Justice Social Work services work through a questionnaire with clients at the end of their order or licence requirements. Questions relate to how specific needs have been met and whether circumstances have improved.
- Alcohol and drug treatment services use an outcomes tool to assess progress at the start of treatment and at three monthly intervals thereafter. There are 10 domains which link directly to needs identified within community justice.
- Criminal Justice Social Work use the recognised risk and need assessment tool statutory support and case management known as the Level of Service / Case Management Inventory which provides evidence of improvement among those individuals subject to a full assessment.

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

- Developing Our Young Workforce provides a range of opportunities to develop a person centred approach to education and learning.
- The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service have developed and piloted an approach to engage with young people through fire safety and personal development. Delivered in partnership with the Scottish Ambulance Service the programme provides positive role models, training and life skills.
- Further education provision in the Borders recognises the barrier that a conviction can create. Arrangements have been introduced to support individuals who may have a conviction balanced against the needs of the wider learning community.
- Skills Development Scotland Career Coaches support young people to develop their employability and career management skills thereby increasing their potential to secure a positive destination. Work Coaches continue to support and mentor young people post school to further develop employability skills and help to sustain their work / training placement or college place.
- Individuals seeking employment are supported by a Department of Work and Pensions Work Coach to help them into employment.

#### Individual's resilience and capacity for change and self-management should be enhanced

- A Whole Systems Approach has been adopted to deliver early and effective intervention in tackling the offending behaviour of young people.
- The Borders Alcohol and Drugs Partnership funded two clients in recovery on the Scottish Drug's forum self-assessment coaching course enabling individuals to manage their own recovery while supporting others.
- Borders Alcohol and Drugs Partnership, Borders Addiction Service and Addaction provide a range of group recovery activities across the Scottish Borders. Most are weekly and family members are welcome. In addition a weekly group has been set up independently.

## PROTECT

- The Caledonian System is a court mandated programme for male perpetrators convicted of domestic abuse. It is only as a result of the perpetrator being subject to the programme that women and children can access the service.
- Mental health awareness and literacy is promoted through community based activities and capacity building through Healthy Living Networks and Community Learning and Development.

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**PROTECT**

**COMMUNITY JUSTICE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2016 OUTCOME IMPROVEMENT**

**Community Justice Outcome**

Communities improve their understanding and participation in community justice

**Community Justice Indicator**

- Activities carried out to engage with ‘communities’ as well as other relevant constituencies
- Consultation with communities as part of community justice planning and service provision
- Participation in community justice, such as co-production and joint delivery
- Level of community awareness of/satisfaction with work undertaken as part of a CPO
- Evidence from questions to be used in local surveys/citizens panels, etc.
- Perception of the local crime rate

**Outcome Improvement Action**

Number	Improvement Action	Lead	Completion
1.1	Develop a communications plan to raise the profile of community justice which will maximise use of all available communication channels, including Scottish Borders Council and partners websites, and social media channels.	Community Justice Lead	2020
1.2	Develop an Unpaid Work Strategy, to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review the unpaid work request for service form and its accessibility to improve opportunities to contribute ideas.</li> <li>• Reconcile the proportion of unpaid work with the volume of crime in particular areas.</li> <li>• Develop a co-production approach to the delivery of unpaid work and consider the role partners such as the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service can play in developing life skills.</li> <li>• Develop an employability assessment which recognises the local employment market, unpaid work to be undertake and availability of other activity to increase work readiness.</li> </ul>	Criminal Justice Social Work/Skills Development Scotland	2018/19

**PROTECT**

1.3	Develop a series of partnership questions on community justice for inclusion in appropriate Community Planning consultation exercises.	Community Justice Lead	2017/18
1.4	Reduce barriers to employment for people with convictions.  Hold a programme of specific events relating to recruiting people with a conviction/s.  Skills Development Scotland work with the business community to reduce perception and stigma associated with an offending history.  Create linkages between Skills Development Scotland and the business community in relation to national training programmes and employer engagement services.	Community Justice Lead/Skills Development Scotland	2019/20

## PROTECT

### Community Justice Outcome

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

### Community Justice Indicator

- Services are planned for and delivered in a strategic and collaborative way
- Partners have leveraged resource for community justice
- Development of community justice workforce to work effectively across organisational /professional /geographic boundaries
- Partners illustrate effective engagement and collaborative partnership working with the authorities responsible for the delivery of MAPPA

### Outcome Improvement Action

Number	Improvement Action	Lead	Completion
2.1	Explore the option to introduce a Domestic Abuse Court within the Scottish Borders.	Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service/Violence Against Women Partnership	2018/19
2.2	Review information sharing arrangements based upon preventing crime to facilitate a case conference process.	Community Justice Lead & Partners	2017/18
2.3	Extend the existing multi-agency tasking and coordination arrangements, to include:  Developing the analytical picture in relation to crime and identify additional data sets that enhance understanding.  Introduce a single partnership tactical assessment to support the partnership in targeted crime prevention activity.	Police Scotland/Safer Communities Team	2018/19
2.4	The Borders Alcohol and Drugs Partnership will develop 'future model' options for alcohol and drugs services to match budget settlements post 2016/17.	Borders Alcohol and Drugs Partnership	2018/19
2.5	Develop actions for inclusion within the Local Housing Strategy 2017-22 in particular appropriateness of accommodation and homelessness prevention.	Group Manager Housing	2019/20 (review)
2.6	Work with partners to strengthen arrangements in relation to pre-release housing assessments and tenancy sustainment to prevent rent arrears or abandoned tenancies.	Homelessness Service	2018/19

**PROTECT**

2.7	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service build upon and develop arrangements in collaboration with youth justice services that support young people at risk of offending behaviour or who have committed an offence and consider ways to extend the approach to adults who might also benefit.	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service/Youth Justice	2018/19
2.8	Development of ReConnet focussing on prevention and (early as possible) multi-agency trauma-informed interventions for women at risk of offending and with multiple and complex needs, incorporating:  Provision of clinical supervision for the ReConnect Survive and Thrive women's programme.	Criminal Justice Social Work / NHS Borders	2018/19

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## PROTECT

### Community Justice Outcome

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

### Community Justice Indicator

- Partners have identified and are overcoming structural barriers for people accessing services
- Existence of joint-working such as processes/protocols to ensure access to services to address underlying needs
- Initiatives to facilitate access to services
- Speed of access to mental health services
- Speed of access to drug and alcohol services
- % of people released from custodial sentences, registered with a GP, have suitable accommodation, have benefits eligibility check

### Outcome Improvement Action

Number	Improvement Action	Lead	Completion
3.1	Use technological solutions to build capacity, reduce cost and improve outcomes, for example video conferencing & link between Criminal Justice Social Work, the Prison estate or between campuses.	Criminal Justice Social Work / Scottish Prison Service	2018/19
3.2	Review referral mechanisms and the significant points when information is available from service users about criminogenic needs to ensure the breadth and manner in which questions are asked identifies barriers and improves access to services.	Community Justice Partners	2018/19
3.3	Less than a third of Scottish Borders prisoners are subject to statutory throughcare upon release from prison, for the remainder it is voluntary. Work to improve the number of prisoners accepting voluntary throughcare.	Scottish Prison Service/ Criminal Justice Social Work	2019/2020
3.4	Explore options with Registered Social Landlords that remove the need for a homeless assessment for people leaving custody enabling direct access to housing.	Homelessness Service	2018/19
3.5	Engage in dialogue with the private rented housing sector and letting agents to consider and breakdown any barriers to access that may exist.	Homelessness Service	2018/19

**PROTECT**

3.6	Develop a proportionate approach to target vulnerable groups at risk of poor health as part of wider health inequalities work. This includes building capacity of frontline services to engage effectively and promote health in routine contacts with clients / service users.	NHS Public Health	2019/20
3.7	Promote mental health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities in mental health by building capacity for improved mental health and wellbeing within communities. This will include a new wellbeing training programme that can be tailored for and targeted to specific groups.	NHS Public Health	2019/20
3.8	Reduce risk of preventable disease in vulnerable groups by improving engagement and access to health screening and care services (including screening / assessment of alcohol and drug problems and mental health issues; risk-taking behaviours around Blood Borne Viruses and broader health concerns e.g. dental, health issues and health literacy).	NHS Public Health	2019/20
3.9	Develop the Right Track Employability Support Project (2 year European Structural Fund).	Economic Development/ Criminal Justice Social Work	2017/19
3.10	Promote employment support services, information and funding sources to community justice partners, the business community, service and perspective service users.  Develop referral mechanisms, building on existing access points and help service users to secure person centred support.	Skills Development Scotland	2018/19

## PROTECT

### Community Justice Outcome

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

### Community Justice Indicator

- Targeted interventions have been tailored for and with an individual and had a successful impact on their risk of future offending
- Use of “other activities” in Community Payback Orders
- Effective risk management for public protection
- Quality of Community Payback Orders and Drug Treatment Testing Orders
- Reduce use of custodial sentences and remand, balance between community sentences relative to short custodial sentences under 1 year, proportion of people appearing from custody who are remanded
- The delivery of interventions targeted at problem drug and alcohol use
- Number of police recorded warnings, police diversion, fiscal measures, fiscal diversion, supervised bail, community sentences (CPO, DTTO and RLOs)
- Number of short-term sentences under one year

### Outcome Improvement Action

Number	Improvement Action	Lead	Completion
4.1	Explore opportunities to develop injury surveillance to create a more informed picture of where and when violence occurs.	NHS Borders /Police Scotland	2018/19
4.2	Extend Mentors in Violence to all secondary schools to support early intervention.	Police Scotland/Safer Communities Team	2017/18
4.3	Individuals considered to be persistent or prolific in their offending behaviour may have limited contact with statutory or other services. Develop a case conference process to assess and signpost to services based upon identified need.	Community Justice Lead/Safer Communities Team	2017/18
4.4	Consider options to develop the antecedent information on those individuals who are committing a disproportionate level of crime in the Scottish Borders to support case disposal and sentencing decisions.	Crown Office and Procurator Fiscals Service/ Police Scotland	2018/19

**PROTECT**

4.5	Ensure service delivery of the Wise Group, New Routes Public Social Partnership mentoring service (a nationally commissioned service) is linked to agreed common outcomes and performance monitoring. In particular, persistent/prolific offenders are being supported to re-integrate into their communities.	Criminal Justice Social Work/ Community Justice Lead	2018/19
4.6	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service will explore opportunities to extend the HM Young Offenders Institution Polmont programme to include options post release.	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service/Scottish Prison Service	2018/19
4.7	Re invigorate Restorative Justice as an intervention.	Police Scotland	2017/18
4.8	Develop Whole Systems Approach with a focus on early and effective intervention, diversion from prosecution, alternatives to secure care and custody. Ensure that support is given to those young people appearing before the court and leaving secure care and custody.	Youth Justice	2018/19

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## PROTECT

### Community Justice Outcome

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

### Community Justice Indicator

- Individual have made progress against the outcome

### Outcome Improvement Action

Number	Improvement Action	Lead	Completion
5.1	Scope the potential for developing a range of alternatives to remand/custody in order to support women within community settings and which address the risk/needs.	Community Justice Lead/Criminal Justice Social Work	2019/2020
5.2	Ensure a benefits check upon release from prison for the client and their family if appropriate.	SBC Welfare Benefits	2018/19
5.3	Improve access to information and clarify pathways to sources of help across a range of support options for mental health.	Integrated Joint Board/NHS Mental Health	2017/18
5.4	Deliver a care programme approach to ensure people with complex needs including mental health, addictions and criminal justice have their needs met.	Integrated Joint Board/NHS Mental Health	2018/19
5.5	Explore options to extend community mental health triage distress brief interventions.	Police Scotland/ Integrated Joint Board/NHS Mental Health	2019/20

## PROTECT

### Community Justice Outcome

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

### Community Justice Indicator

- Individuals have made progress against the outcome

### Outcome Improvement Action

Number	Improvement Action	Lead	Completion
6.1	Develop opportunities to further utilise Level of Service / Case Management Inventory used to assess risk and need factors to influence the provision of services and evaluate impact.	Criminal Justice Social Work	2017/18
6.2	Make better use of the information contained within the Criminal Justice Social Work Order and Licence Completion Questionnaire to assess whether needs have been met and meaningful progress made.	Community Justice Lead/ Criminal Justice Social Work	2017/18
6.3	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service explore opportunities to work with Live Borders to share facilities and resource to promote safety and wellbeing.	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service/Live Borders	2018/19
6.4	Develop a role that individuals on unpaid work can play within communities to support the contingency arrangements for severe weather.	SBC Emergency Planning/Criminal Justice Social Work	2018/19
6.5	Promote the completed projects undertaken by the unpaid work teams within communities.	SBC Unpaid Work Supervisor	2018/19

## PROTECT

### Community Justice Outcome

Individual's resilience and capacity for change and self-management are enhanced

### Community Justice Indicator

- Individuals have made progress against the outcome

### Outcome Improvement Action

Number	Improvement Action	Lead	Completion
7.1	<p>Develop a 'through the gate' approach for people being released from custody to improve access to key services before and following release to minimise vulnerability and support re integration back into the community, to include:</p> <p>Work with the Scottish Prison Service to ensure all Scottish Borders prisoners have a bank account or ability to receive direct payments to establish and maintain financial inclusion.</p> <p>Review pathways to accessing health and health care support services to ensure equity and continuity of care.</p>	Criminal Justice Social Work/Scottish Prison Service/Group Manager Housing/NHS Public Health	2018/19
7.2	Work with the Scottish Prison Service and other local agencies to raise awareness of budgeting and digital inclusion in relation to Universal Credit upon release.	SBC Welfare Benefits	2018/19
7.3	Review Drug Treatment Testing Order provision in the Scottish Borders.	Community Justice Lead	2017/18
7.4	Increase the number of referrals to the SHINE mentoring service for women.	Criminal Justice Social Work	2018/19
7.5	Improve access to information and clarify pathways to sources of help for mental health issues which promotes a wide range of support options.	SBC/NHS Mental Health	2018/19

**PROTECT**

**OUTCOMES, PERFORMANCE AND IMPROVEMENT FRAMEWORK BASELINE QUALITATIVE INDICATORS**

Indicators within community justice traverse both quantitative and qualitative measurement and will be reported on annually to Community Justice Scotland. Outcome improvement actions will demonstrate activity that produces results. Qualitative indicators represent an opportunity for community justice partners to report on improvement, progress and impact.

Baseline indicators below relate to quantitative indicators and baseline.

Common Outcome	Quantitative Indicator	Baseline	Source
<p>Communities improve their understanding and participation in community justice</p>	<p>Social Media Activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Followers</li> <li>• Tweets</li> <li>• Number of Likes</li> <li>• Number of Retweets</li> </ul> <p>% of respondents who stated they had previously been aware of community justice</p> <p>Number of responses to consultation exercise</p> <p>Number of Community Payback Order opportunities for unpaid work identified by the community</p>	<p>0</p> <p>0</p> <p>0</p> <p>0</p> <p>52%</p>	<p>Scottish Borders Council Corporate Communications</p> <p>Engagement exercise July - Aug 2016</p> <p>Consultation exercise Dec 2016 - Feb 2017</p> <p>Criminal Justice Social Work 2015/16</p>
<p>Partners plan and deliver services in a more strategic and collaborative way</p>		<p>Qualitative measure</p>	

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<p>People have better access to the services they require, including welfare, health and wellbeing, housing and employability</p>	<p>Take-up of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mentoring</li> <li>• SPS Throughcare Support</li> <li>• Voluntary Throughcare</li> <li>• Statutory Throughcare</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employability Skills, literacy and numeracy</li> <li>• Employability fund programme 2, 3, 4</li> </ul> <p>90% of patients (whole community) to commence psychological therapy treatment within 18 weeks</p> <p>90% of clients will wait no longer than three weeks from referral to receiving appropriate drug or alcohol treatment</p> <p>% of people released from a custodial sentence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• registered with a GP</li> <li>• have suitable accommodation</li> <li>• have a benefits eligibility check</li> </ul> <p>Arrest referral scheme (only available for legacy Lothian and Borders Police area)</p>	<p>79.9% current</p> <p>97.9% current</p>	<p>Scottish Prison Service</p> <p>Criminal Justice Social Work 2015/16</p> <p>NHS HEAT Target (end March 2016)</p> <p>NHS Heat Target (Quarter ending December 2015)</p> <p>SPS (only available for statutory throughcare)</p> <p>Police Scotland 2015/16</p>
<p>Effective interventions are delivered to prevent and reduce the risk of further offending</p>	<p>Balance between community sentences relative to short custodial sentences under one year.</p>	<p>247 CPO Orders</p> <p>208 Individuals on</p>	<p>Scottish Government Social work</p>

**PROTECT**

	<p>Community Payback Order supervision requirement accompanied by:</p> <p>Use of CPO <i>other activity</i> requirement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drug Treatment Testing Orders</li> <li>• Restriction of Liberty Order</li> </ul> <p>Proportion of people appearing from custody who are remanded</p> <p>Alcohol Brief interventions delivered in criminal justice healthcare settings</p> <p>Number of referrals from criminal justice sources to drug and alcohol specialist treatment</p> <p>Police measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Police adult warning</li> <li>• Police fixed penalty</li> <li>• Police diversion Early and Effective</li> </ul>	<p>Community Payback Order</p> <p>81 Liberations from Custody for sentences less than 1 year</p> <p>112 supervision requirements</p> <p>16</p> <p>10</p> <p>1806</p> <p>7</p>	<p>Statistics 2014/15</p> <p>Scottish Government prison statistics 2013/14</p> <p>Social work Statistics 2014/15</p> <p>Social work Statistics 2014/15</p> <p>Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service</p> <p>Borders Alcohol and Drugs Partnership 2014/15</p> <p>Alcohol and Drugs Partnership 2014/15</p> <p>Police Scotland 2015/16</p>
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**PROTECT**

	<p>Intervention</p> <p>Fiscal measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fiscal fines</li> <li>• Fiscal work orders</li> <li>• Fiscal compensation order</li> <li>• Fiscal fixed penalty notice</li> <li>• Fiscal diversion to social work</li> </ul>		Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service
Life chances are improved through needs, including health, financial inclusion, housing and safety being addressed	<p>Improvement in self-reported offending status via alcohol and drugs outcome tool</p> <p>Level of Service Case Management Inventory evidence of impact and distance travelled</p> <p>Evidence from service user questionnaires used at the conclusion of Criminal Justice Social Work supervision or an order to measure improvement</p>	New Indicator	<p>Alcohol and Drugs Partnership 2014/15</p> <p>Criminal Justice Social Work 2014/15</p>
People develop positive relationships and more opportunities to participate and contribute through education, employment and leisure activities		Qualitative measure	
Individual's resilience and capacity for change and self-management enhanced	<p>Number of women participating in ReConnect</p> <p>Number of referrals to PSP Shine mentoring service</p>	8	<p>Criminal Justice Social Work 2014/15</p> <p>Apex Scotland 2014/15</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prison</li> <li>• Community</li> </ul> <p>Number of women participating in Public Social Partnership Shine mentoring service (This will include women referred in different years)</p> <p>Number of young people participating in the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Youth Engagement project</p> <p>Number of young people from the Borders participating in the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Polmont Project</p> <p>Caledonian System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Male participation</li> <li>• Women participation</li> <li>• Child participation</li> </ul> <p>Participation on Moving Forward Making Changes</p> <p>Re-integration Protocol for young people aged 18 to under 21 years leaving Young Offenders Institution Polmont</p> <p>Participation on New Routes Partnership Youth Justice Whole Systems Approach</p>	<p>3</p> <p>5</p>	<p>Criminal Justice Social Work</p> <p>Criminal Justice Social Work 2014/15</p> <p>Scottish Fire and Rescue Service</p> <p>Criminal Justice Social Work 2014/15</p> <p>Criminal Justice Social Work 2014/15</p> <p>Criminal Justice Social Work 2014/15</p> <p>Youth Justice 2014/15</p>
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## PROTECT

### **PARTICIPATION STATEMENT: *Engagement and Consultation***

During the preparation of this plan all statutory community justice partners were consulted and participated in its development.

Community justice partners recognise that success in reducing reoffending will require a broad contribution by a range of individuals and organisations that are not specified in legislation. While different community justice partners will have different engagement and consultation processes some specific activity was undertaken that has contributed to the development of this plan.

Two stakeholder community justice mapping events were held to consider a holistic approach to reducing reoffending. The first, a community mapping event examined the coordination of services, prevention and early intervention opportunities and pathways to access services. A request for information preceded the second stakeholder event to capture activity that was already being undertaken which linked to the seven common Community Justice Outcomes. This was followed by an event consisting of presentations and a workshop to provide information to attendees and capture a range of viewpoints and ideas.

An article was included in Scottish Borders Council's spring 2016 internal publication to raise awareness and solicit feedback.

A literature review has been undertaken to inform the Scottish Borders context.

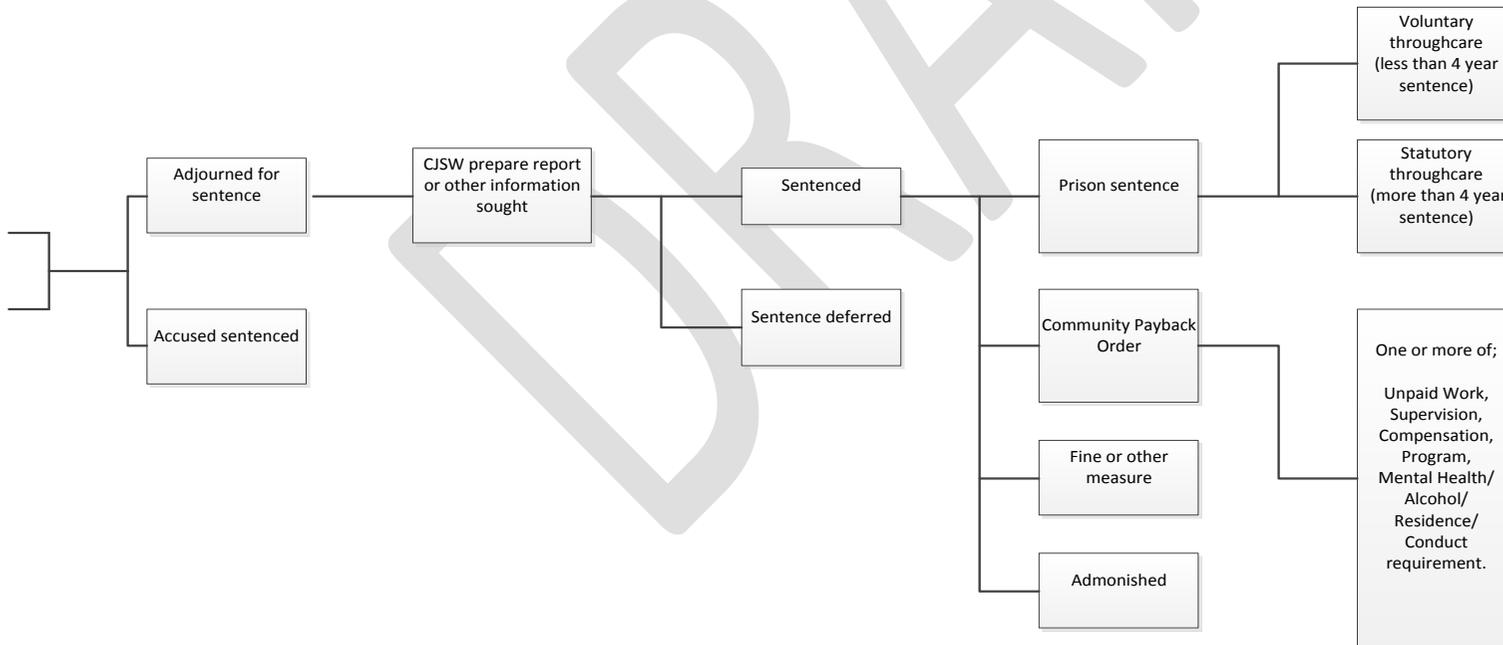
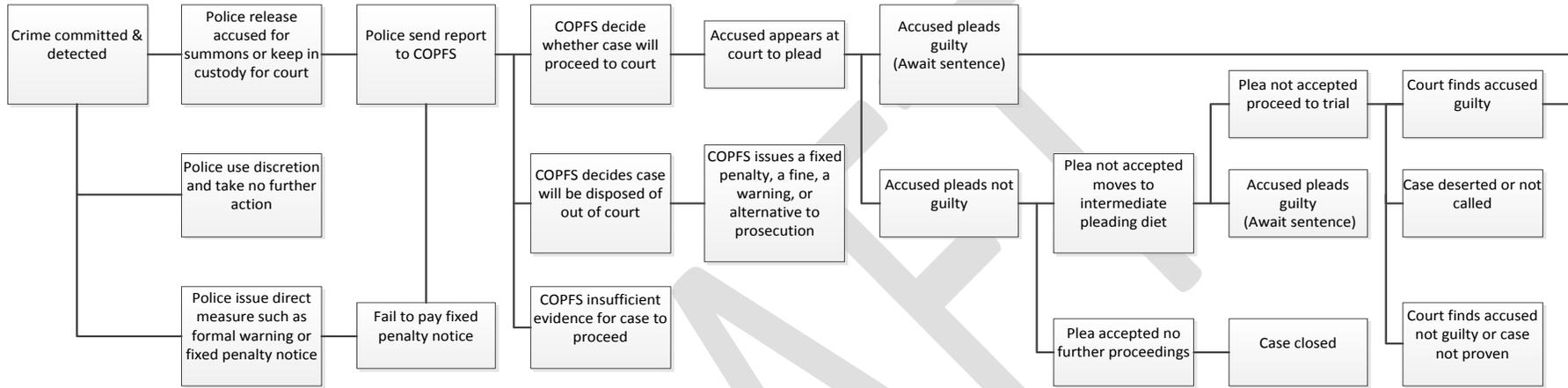
In order to capture a broader range of opinion a Borders-wide engagement exercise was undertaken over an eight week period. A questionnaire was prepared and published on the Scottish Borders Council web-site, printed copies were available upon request. A media release was prepared for local newspapers, radio and television. A link to the questionnaire was sent directly to specific community justice stakeholders, including all community council's, to encourage participation. It was publicised on the Scottish Borders Council website and social media channels. During the last 4 weeks of the engagement exercise a weekly message was sent out to encourage completion of the survey. Information about community justice, and what it is trying to achieve, accompanied the questionnaire. Responses have been considered and incorporated within the plan.

This plan has been considered by the Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnership.

Staff awareness across partner and stakeholder agencies has been increased through presentations and meetings. Opportunities for more direct consultation with service users and families is being developed supported by partner agencies.

# PROTECT

## THE JUSTICE JOURNEY



## PROTECT

### INFORMING THE SCOTTISH BORDERS CONTEXT

This plan has been informed by a number of **strategies, plans** and **profiles**. All community justice partners have taken an active role in contributing towards the content of the plan and arrangements for implementation.

#### Strategies

Scottish Borders Council Local Housing Strategy 2012 - 2017

Scottish Borders Community Benefit Delivery Strategy 2015

Scottish Government, Preventing Offending, Getting it right for children and young people 2015

Scottish Borders Council Tackling Poverty & Achieving Social Justice 2013 - 2018

Integrated Children and Young People's Plan in the Scottish Borders 2015 - 2018

Reducing Inequalities in the Scottish Borders 2015 - 2020 Strategic Plan

Borders Alcohol and Drugs Partnership Strategy 2015 - 2020

Scottish Borders Mental Health Strategy

Scottish Borders Health & Social Care Partnership Strategic Plan 2016 - 2019

The Scottish Government Equally Safe Scotland's strategy for preventing and eradicating violence against women and girls 2016

Scottish Borders Equally Safe Strategy 2016 - 2021

Scottish Borders Local Housing Strategy 2017 - 22 (Consultative Draft)

Justice Digital Strategy

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### Plans/Policy

Scottish Borders Council Homeless Delivery Plan 2013 - 2016

Joint protocol between Police Scotland and Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service: In partnership challenging domestic abuse 2013

Scottish Borders Integrated Children and Young People's Plan 2015 - 2018

Scottish Borders Work Opportunities Scheme - Policy 2016

Scottish Borders Health and Social Care Strategic Plan 2016 - 2019

Borders Alcohol and Drugs Partnership (ADP) Delivery Plan 2015 - 2018

Scottish Borders Council / NHS Borders Joint Health Improvement Business Plan 2016/17 - 2018/19

### Profiles

Scottish Borders Council Household Survey 2010

Scottish Borders Health Needs Assessment for Offenders 2011, Lothian and Borders Community Justice Authority

Scottish Association for Mental Health, Research Briefing Mental Health and Criminal Justice in Scotland

Audit Scotland, Reducing Reoffending in Scotland, Service Users' Views 2012

Tackling Poverty and Achieving Social Justice in the Scottish Borders

The delivery of Justice Services in the Scottish Borders - Report on the joint feasibility study 2014

Scottish Borders Mental Health Needs Assessment 2014, report prepared for Scottish Borders Council and NHS Borders

Scottish Borders Labour Market Profile 2014 - Office for National Statistics

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Scottish Public Health Observatory - Health and Wellbeing Profile (Scottish Borders) 2016

Scottish Borders Local Licensing Forum Alcohol Profile 2014/15

Scottish Borders Health & Social Care Partnership Engagement Report 2015

Scottish Borders Community Safety Strategic Assessment 2015

Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnership Strategic Assessment 2016

Scottish Borders Health & Social Care Partnership Housing Contribution Statement 2016

NHS Health Scotland, Reducing Offending, Reducing Inequalities, *Achieving 'Better Health Lives' through community Justice* 2016 (draft pending publication)

### Legislation

The Management of Offenders, etc. (Scotland) Act 2005

Victim and Witness (Scotland) Act 2014

Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act (Health and Social Care Integration) 2014

Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015

Vulnerable Witnesses (Scotland) Act 2015

Victims' Rights (Scotland) Regulations 2015

Prisoner (Control and Release) (Scotland) Act 2015

Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016

### References

Victim Notification Scheme, Scottish Prison Service 2004

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Scottish Government, Justice Analytical Services, Crime and Justice Statistics

Audit Scotland, Reducing Reoffending in Scotland, Service Users' Views 2012

Scottish Prison Service, Standards for Encouraging Family Contact 2013

Ministry of Justice, The factors associated with proven re-offending following release from prison 2013

Risk Management Authority Level of Service / Case Management Inventory in Practice National Report, Criminal Justice Social Work Services 2014

Scottish Government Scottish Welfare Fund Statistics: 2014/15

Accommodation Protocol - Preventing Homelessness on release from Custody Protocol, Lothian and Borders Community Justice Authority 2015

Commission on Housing & Wellbeing - A blueprint for Scotland's future 2015

The Scottish Government Designing and Evaluating Interventions to Reduce Crime and Reoffending 2015

Scottish Prison Service Prisoner Survey 2015 15<sup>th</sup> Series

Framework for the support of families affected by the Criminal Justice System, Lothian and Borders Community Justice Authority 2015

Families Outside, Support and Information Helpline Team Report 2015/16

The Scottish Children's Reporters Administration statistical information 2015/16

Health Needs Assessment of the Scottish Borders Offender Population, report prepared for the Lothian & Borders Community Justice Authority

Welfare Aware Borders - Financial help in the early years 2016

Child Poverty Action Group in Scotland - Financial help for families affected by imprisonment 2016

Scottish Prison Service Standards for Encouraging Family Contact 2016

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National Standards for Community Engagement

Scottish Borders Council Community Engagement Toolkit 2015 – 2018

An Introduction to Co-Production, Scottish Borders Council 2016

Police Scotland Management Information Council Area Report Quarter 4 2015/16

Labour Market Profile, nomis Official Labour Market Statistics, Office for National Statistics

Skills Development Scotland, Labour Market Information, Local Authority Profiles: Scottish Borders June 2016

Skills Development Scotland, Borders Skills Assessment January 2016

Violence Against Women Partnership Guidance, Scottish Government 2016

An Inspection of Through the Gate Resettlement Services for Short-Term Prisoners, A joint inspection by HM Inspectorate of Probation and HM Inspectorate of Prisons 2016

HM Chief Inspector of Prisons for Scotland Annual Report 2015 - 2016

DRAFT

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Community Justice / Scottish Borders Council / Headquarters / Newtown St Boswells / MELROSE / TD6 0SA

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**Scottish Borders Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan 2017 – 2020****Consultation summary**

Earlier this year we asked for your views to help inform the content of our Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan. Having considered a range of contributions and information sources we have developed a draft Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan. The draft Plan is available at [www.scotborders.gov.uk/communityjustice](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/communityjustice). If you would like us to send you a copy please get in touch using the contact details on the last page.

Pages 4, 13 to 20 of the draft Plan provide the information and context which has shaped our thinking. This has been developed further on pages 21 to 24 highlighting current activity. We have identified areas we can improve upon that support achievement of the common outcomes. A flow chart of the justice process is shown on page 43

While we welcome your comments on the whole plan there are specific parts in particular that we would like to hear your views on. This consultation summary details those areas and asks some questions that we would like you to consider.

## **Our aim**

We want to reduce reoffending rates and the number of victims of crime in the Scottish Borders.

## **What is Community Justice?**

The National Strategy for Community Justice defines community justice as:

“the collection of individuals, agencies and services that work together to support, manage and supervise people who have committed offences, from the point of arrest, through prosecution, community disposal or custody and alternatives to these, until they are reintegrated into the community. Local communities and the third sector are a vital part of this process which aims to prevent and reduce further offending and the harm that it causes, to promote desistance, social inclusion and citizenship.”

## **What is a Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan?**

The Scottish Government has introduced the Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016. This legislation is underpinned by seven common outcomes, a national strategy and an Outcomes, Performance and Improvement Framework. Local authorities are required to produce a Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan which incorporates this information.

The Plan is structured around the activities of the eight statutory partners who are:

- Crown Office & Procurator Fiscal Service
- NHS Borders including the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership(Scottish Borders)
- Police Scotland
- Scottish Borders Council
- Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- Scottish Prison Service
- Skills Development Scotland

Partners are working together to improve how they deliver services in line with seven common outcomes that have been set by the Scottish Government. The seven common outcomes are:

Structural Outcomes – *What we deliver as partners*

- *Communities improve their understanding and participation in community justice*
- *Partners plan and deliver services in a more strategic and collaborative way*
- *People have better access to the services they require, including welfare, health and wellbeing, housing and employability*
- *Effective interventions should be delivered to prevent and reduce the risk of further offending.*

Person-centric Outcomes – *Changes to users*

- *Life chances are improved through needs, including health, financial inclusion, housing and safety being addressed*
- *People develop positive relationships and more opportunities to participate and contribute through education, employment and leisure activities*
- *Individual’s resilience and capacity for change and self-management are enhanced.*

Although we can’t change these seven common outcomes we can add local outcomes that are specific to the Scottish Borders.

Question 1

Do you think we need to add anything to the Structural Outcomes?

Question 2

Do you think we need to add anything to the Person-based Outcomes?

**How will we achieve these outcomes?**

We have identified Outcome Improvement Actions that we think we need to take to achieve these outcomes. We have also identified a number of things that we will measure to help us decide whether our actions are working; we have called these Community Justice Indicators. Our Community Justice Indicators are a mix of things that are quantitative (can be counted) and qualitative (measuring the quality of something).

Community Justice Outcome 1

Communities improve their understanding and participation in community justice

Community Justice Indicators

- Activities carried out to engage with 'communities' as well as other relevant constituencies
- Consultation with communities as part of community justice planning and service provision
- Participation in community justice, such as co-production and joint delivery
- Level of community awareness of/satisfaction with work undertaken as part of a Community Payback Order
- Evidence from questions to be used in local surveys/citizens panels, etc.
- Perception of the local crime rate

Question 3

Do you think there is anything else we could measure?

### Outcome Improvement Actions

Number	Improvement Action	Lead	Completion
1.1	Develop a communications plan to raise the profile of community justice which will maximise use of all available communication channels, including Scottish Borders Council and partners websites, and social media channels.	Community Justice Lead	2020
1.2	<p>Develop an Unpaid Work Strategy, to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review the unpaid work request for service form and its accessibility to improve opportunities to contribute ideas.</li> <li>• Reconcile the proportion of unpaid work with the volume of crime in particular areas.</li> <li>• Develop a co-production approach to the delivery of unpaid work and consider the role partners such as the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service can play in developing life skills.</li> <li>• Develop an employability assessment which recognises the local employment market, unpaid work to be undertake and availability of other activity to increase work readiness.</li> </ul>	Criminal Justice Social Work/Skills Development Scotland	2018/19
1.3	Develop a series of partnership questions on community justice for inclusion in Community Planning consultation exercises.	Community Justice Lead	2017/18
1.4	<p>Reduce barriers to employment for people with convictions.</p> <p>Hold a programme of specific events relating to recruiting people with a conviction/s.</p> <p>Skills Development Scotland work with the business community to reduce perception and stigma associated with an offending history.</p> <p>Create linkages between Skills Development Scotland and the business community in relation to national training programmes and employer engagement services.</p>	Community Justice Lead/Skills Development Scotland	2019/20

#### Question 4

Do you think there are any other actions we could be taking?

## Community Justice Outcome 2

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

### Community Justice Indicators

- Services are planned for and delivered in a strategic and collaborative way
- Partners have leveraged resource for community justice
- Development of community justice workforce to work effectively across organisational /professional /geographic boundaries
- Partners illustrate effective engagement and collaborative partnership working with the authorities responsible for the delivery of Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA)

Question 5

Do you think there is anything else we could measure?

### Outcome Improvement Actions

Number	Improvement Action	Lead	Completion
2.1	Explore the option to introduce a Domestic Abuse Court within the Scottish Borders.	Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service/Violence Against Women Partnership	2018/19
2.2	Review information sharing arrangements based upon preventing crime to facilitate a case conference process.	Community Justice Lead & Partners	2017/18
2.3	Extend the existing multi-agency tasking and coordination arrangements, to include:  Developing the analytical picture in relation to crime and identify additional data sets that enhance understanding.  Introduce a single partnership tactical assessment to support the partnership in targeted crime prevention activity.	Police Scotland/Safer Communities Team	2018/19
2.4	The Borders Alcohol and Drugs Partnership will develop 'future model' options for alcohol and drugs services to match budget settlements post 2016/17.	Borders Alcohol and Drugs Partnership	2018/19
2.5	Develop actions for inclusion within the Local Housing Strategy 2017-22 in particular appropriateness of accommodation and homelessness prevention.	Group Manager Housing	2019/20 (review)
2.6	Strengthen arrangements in relation to pre-release housing assessments and tenancy sustainment to prevent rent arrears or abandoned tenancies.	Homelessness Service	2018/19

2.7	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service build upon and develop arrangements in collaboration with youth justice services that support young people at risk of offending behaviour or who have committed an offence and consider ways to extend the approach to adults who might also benefit.	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service/Youth Justice	2018/19
2.8	Development of ReConnet focussing on prevention and (early as possible) multi-agency trauma-informed interventions for women at risk of offending and with multiple and complex needs, incorporating:  Provision of clinical supervision for the ReConnect Survive and Thrive women's programme.	Criminal Justice Social Work / NHS Borders	2018/19

Question 6

Do you think there are any other actions we could be taking?

Community Justice Outcome

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

Community Justice Indicator

- Partners have identified and are overcoming structural barriers for people accessing services
- Existence of joint-working such as processes/protocols to ensure access to services to address underlying needs
- Initiatives to facilitate access to services
- Speed of access to mental health services
- Speed of access to drug and alcohol services
- % of people released from custodial sentences, registered with a GP, have suitable accommodation, have benefits eligibility check

Question 7

Do you think there is anything else we could measure?

## Outcome Improvement Actions

Number	Improvement Action	Lead	Completion
3.1	Use technological solutions to build capacity, reduce cost and improve outcomes, for example video conferencing & link between Criminal Justice Social Work, the Prison estate or between campuses.	Criminal Justice Social Work / Scottish Prison Service	2018/19
3.2	Review referral mechanisms and the significant points when information is available from service users about criminogenic needs to ensure the breadth and manner in which questions are asked identifies barriers and improves access to services.	Community Justice Partners	2018/19
3.3	Less than a third of Scottish Borders prisoners are subject to statutory throughcare upon release from prison, for the remainder it is voluntary. Work to improve the number of prisoners accepting voluntary throughcare.	Scottish Prison Service/ Criminal Justice Social Work	2019/2020
3.4	Explore options with Registered Social Landlords that remove the need for a homeless assessment for people leaving custody enabling direct access to housing.	Homelessness Service	2018/19
3.5	Engage in dialogue with the private rented housing sector and letting agents to consider and breakdown any barriers to access that may exist.	Homelessness Service	2018/19
3.6	Develop a proportionate approach to target vulnerable groups at risk of poor health as part of wider health inequalities work. This includes building capacity of frontline services to engage effectively and promote health in routine contacts with clients / service users.	NHS Public Health	2019/20
3.7	Promote mental health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities in mental health by building capacity for improved mental health and wellbeing within communities. This will include a new wellbeing training programme that can be tailored for and targeted to specific groups.	NHS Public Health	2019/20
3.8	Reduce risk of preventable disease in vulnerable groups by improving engagement and access to health screening and care services (including screening / assessment of alcohol and drug problems and mental health issues; risk-taking behaviours around Blood Borne Viruses and broader health concerns e.g. dental, health issues and health literacy.	NHS Public Health	2019/20
3.9	Develop the Right Track Employability Support Project (2 year European Structural Fund).	Economic Development/ Criminal Justice Social Work	2017/19
3.10	Promote employment support services, information and funding sources to community justice partners, service and perspective service users.	Skills Development Scotland	2018/19

	Develop referral mechanisms, building on existing access points to help service users to secure person centred support.		
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Question 8  
Do you think there are any other actions we could be taking?

Community Justice Outcome 4

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

Community Justice Indicators

- Targeted interventions have been tailored for and with an individual and had a successful impact on their risk of future offending
- Use of “other activities” in Community Payback Orders
- Effective risk management for public protection
- Quality of Community Payback Orders and Drug Treatment Testing Orders
- Reduce use of custodial sentences and remand, balance between community sentences relative to short custodial sentences under 1 year, proportion of people appearing from custody who are remanded
- The delivery of interventions targeted at problem drug and alcohol use
- Number of police recorded warnings, police diversion, fiscal measures, fiscal diversion, supervised bail, community sentences (CPO, DTTO and RLOs)
- Number of short-term sentences under one year

Question 9  
Do you think there is anything else we could measure?

Outcome Improvement Actions

Number	Improvement Action	Lead	Completion
4.1	Explore opportunities to develop injury surveillance to create a more informed picture of where and when violence occurs.	NHS Borders /Police Scotland	2018/19
4.2	Extend Mentors in Violence to all secondary schools to support early intervention.	Police Scotland/Safer Communities Team	2017/18
4.3	Individuals considered to be persistent or prolific in their offending behaviour may have limited contact with statutory or other services. Develop a case conference process to assess and signpost to services based upon identified need.	Community Justice Lead/Safer Communities	2017/18

		Team	
4.4	Consider options to develop the antecedent information on those individuals who are committing a disproportionate level of crime in the Scottish Borders to support case disposal and sentencing decisions.	Crown Office and Procurator Fiscals Service/ Police Scotland	2018/19
4.5	Ensure service delivery of the Wise Group, New Routes Public Social Partnership mentoring service (a nationally commissioned service) is linked to agreed common outcomes and performance monitoring. In particular, persistent/prolific offenders are being supported to re-integrate into their communities.	Criminal Justice Social Work/ Community Justice Lead	2018/19
4.6	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service will explore opportunities to extend the HM Young Offenders Institution Polmont programme to include options post release.	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service/Scottish Prison Service	2018/19
4.7	Re invigorate Restorative Justice as an intervention.	Police Scotland	2017/18
4.8	Develop Whole Systems Approach with a focus on early and effective intervention, diversion from prosecution, alternatives to secure care and custody. Ensure that support is given to those young people appearing before the court and leaving secure care and custody.	Youth Justice	2018/19

Question 10

Do you think there are any other actions we could be taking?

Community Justice Outcome 5

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

Community Justice Indicator

- Individuals have made progress against the outcome

Question 11

Do you think there is anything else we could measure?

### Outcome Improvement Actions

Number	Improvement Action	Lead	Completion
5.1	Scope the potential for developing a range of alternatives to remand/custody in order to support women within community settings and which address the risk/needs.	Community Justice Lead/Criminal Justice Social Work	2019/2020
5.2	Ensure a benefits check upon release from prison for the client and their family if appropriate.	SBC Welfare Benefits	2018/19
5.3	Improve access to information and clarify pathways to sources of help across a range of support options for mental health.	Integrated Joint Board/NHS Mental Health	2017/18
5.4	Deliver a care programme approach to ensure people with complex needs including mental health, addictions and criminal justice have their needs met.	Integrated Joint Board/NHS Mental Health	2018/19
5.5	Explore options to extend community mental health triage distress brief interventions.	Police Scotland/ Integrated Joint Board/NHS Mental Health	2019/20

#### Question 12

Do you think there are any other actions we could be taking?

### Community Justice Outcome 6

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

#### Community Justice Indicator

- Individuals have made progress against the outcome

### Outcome Improvement Actions

Number	Improvement Action	Lead	Completion
6.1	Develop opportunities to further utilise Level of Service / Case Management Inventory used to assess risk and need factors to influence the provision of services and evaluate impact.	Criminal Justice Social Work	2017/18
6.2	Make better use of the information contained within the Criminal Justice Social Work Order and Licence Completion Questionnaire to assess whether needs have been met and meaningful progress made.	Community Justice Lead/ Criminal Justice Social Work	2017/18
6.3	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service explore opportunities to work with Live Borders to share facilities and resource to promote safety and wellbeing.	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service/Live	2018/19

		Borders	
6.4	Develop a role that individuals on unpaid work can play within communities to support the contingency arrangements for severe weather.	SBC Emergency Planning/Criminal Justice Social Work	2018/19
6.5	Promote the completed projects undertaken by the unpaid work teams within communities.	SBC Unpaid Work Supervisor	2018/19

### Community Justice Outcome 7

Individual's resilience and capacity for change and self-management are enhanced

### Community Justice Indicator

- Individuals have made progress against the outcome

Question 11

Do you think there is anything else we could measure?

### Outcome Improvement Actions

Number	Improvement Action	Lead	Completion
7.1	Develop a 'through the gate' approach for people being released from custody to improve access to key services before and following release to minimise vulnerability and support re integration back into the community, to include:  Work with the Scottish Prison Service to ensure all Scottish Borders prisoners have a bank account or ability to receive direct payments to establish and maintain financial inclusion.  Review pathways to accessing health and health care support services to ensure equity and continuity of care.	Criminal Justice Social Work/Scottish Prison Service/Group Manager Housing/NHS Public Health	2018/19
7.2	Work with the Scottish Prison Service and other local agencies to raise awareness of budgeting and digital inclusion in relation to Universal Credit upon release.	SBC Welfare Benefits	2018/19
7.3	Review Drug Treatment Testing Order provision in the Scottish Borders.	Community Justice Lead	2017/18
7.4	Increase the number of referrals to the SHINE mentoring service for women.	Criminal Justice Social Work	2018/19
7.5	Improve access to information and clarify pathways to sources of help for mental health issues which promotes a wide range of support options.	SBC/NHS Mental Health	2018/19

Question 14

Do you think there are any other actions we could be taking?

Please use this space for any other comments you would like to make about our draft Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan.

# Scottish Borders Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan 2017 – 2020

## Consultation Summary

### Respondent Information Form

I am responding as (please tick all that apply):

- An individual
- Community Organisation
- Third Sector Organisation
- Commissioned service
- Statutory Service
- Victim of Crime
- Victim of crime family member
- Community Justice Service User
- Community Justice Service User Family Member

Name of organisation (if applicable)

I am happy for you to publish my response but not my name

If you would like to be kept up to date with our work please include your contact details (these will only be used to contact you about our Community Justice work and will not be shared with any other organisations)

Title:

Surname:

Forename:

Postal address;

Postcode:

Telephone:

Email:

**Completed responses should be sent to the Community Justice Team by 5pm on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2017**

**FREEPOST**

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# Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnership

Meeting	CPP STRATEGIC BOARD	DATE
Delivery Team/Project	Economy & Low Carbon Delivery Team	November 2016 6-monthly update

## Progress in Current Reporting Period:

- **Economic Strategy Action Plan** – The Economy & Low Carbon Delivery Team has discussed progress against the detailed Action Plan, including the need to add new actions where appropriate to reflect all partners' priorities.
- **Brexit** – Following the EU referendum vote in June 2016, the Council and Scottish Enterprise have been investigating the potential impacts for the Scottish Borders of the UK leaving the European Union. It is clear that there will be significant impacts on: the agriculture sector; the movement of people (and potential employees); access to markets (in the EU and worldwide); and for the current regional policy framework. However, it remains unclear what the scale of the impact may be and whether some impacts may prove to have an upside as well as negative implications. The Council's Leader, Councillor David Parker, wrote to the Prime Minister in September raising these issues and concerns and seeking a meeting with the UK Government.
- **Enterprise Network Review** – The Scottish Government published its Phase 1 report on its Enterprise and Skills Network Review. This has implications for the future of key local partners - Scottish Enterprise, Skills Development Scotland – as well as Scottish Funding Council Highlands and Islands Enterprise. Very positively, the report highlighted the need for a new enterprise and skills vehicle to be developed for the South of Scotland area.
- **Borders Railway Blueprint** – Strong progress continues to be made in relation to the Railway Blueprint programme. Recently we have seen the approval of a Customer Hub and Toilet at Tweedbank Station; development of the Borders Railway Masterplanning programme (including Galashiels Town Centre and Tweedbank); successful submission of a funding bid to the Scottish Enterprise Tourism Destination Fund; completion of Tourism Business Development Programme, assisting 48 tourism businesses; and Transport Scotland will undertake a Borders Transport Corridors Pre-Appraisal Study which will include examining the case for extending the Borders Railway, along with improvements to the A1, A7 and A68 corridors.
- **Broadband coverage** – The Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband roll-out continues across the Scottish Borders, with new cabinets now live in places such as Jedburgh, Lilliesleaf, Stow and Broughton. The Ettrick and Beyond community-led initiative is working closely with Community Broadband Scotland to develop a new project that will deliver better broadband for the Ettrick, Yarrow and Tweedsmuir areas (and beyond). The Council is inputting to the new R100 Programme that has recently been set up by Scottish Government to address those premises that will not be covered by the current rollout.

- **Mobile Phone Coverage** – working through the South of Scotland Alliance to influence mobile network operators and feed into the work that UK and Scottish Governments are supporting around the Emergency Services Network contract.
- **Tourism** – VisitScotland reported another fall in footfall and bookings at their iCentres (their rebadged Visitor Information Centres). All centres saw a reduction in footfall apart from Hawick which saw a positive increase in users being recorded. Senior officials from VisitScotland will provide a briefing for all Councillors in December to update them on the latest thinking on tourism strategy and visitor information. The successful joint bid from Scottish Borders and Midlothian Area Tourism Partnerships to the SE Tourism Destination Fund (noted above) will provide new resources to help tourism businesses develop opportunities around the Borders Railway. Its final sign off is pending legal agreement with SE.
- **Hawick Action Plan** – Working with Scottish Enterprise, Skills Development Scotland, Borders College and local businesses and organisations, the Council is taking forward implementation of a range of actions in the Hawick Action Plan. The Scottish Government announced a capital funding allocation of £3.6M in September 2016 and officers are currently developing options that will deliver the best impact with that funding.
- **Town Centre Regeneration** – As part of its work to support town centres across the Scottish Borders, the Council has developed a Town Centre Resilience Index to assist with its prioritisation of its town centre investments and activity. The Galashiels Town Centre Coordinator project has been successfully completed.
- **SG Future of Forestry consultation** – Based on input from the 'A Working Countryside' CPP stakeholder group, the Council has submitted a response to this important consultation, recognising the important role that forest areas play in economic and community development, as well as timber production.
- **Economic Development Updates** – Copies of the recent Economic Development Updates that have been provided to the Council's Economic Development Executive Committee are attached for your information

### Resource Status

All of these projects and initiatives are being taken forward using existing staffing and budgets.

The opportunity to access £3.6M of capital funding from Scottish Government to support regeneration activity in Hawick is a major boost for the town.

### Programme Status

All of these initiatives are successfully under way.

There are continuing frustrations around the Superfast Broadband roll-out in terms of understanding which premises have received a superfast connection because of the 'post-code' level of the current contract. The new R100 programme is intending to focus down to the individual premises level.

## Issues and Risks

- Ongoing uncertainty in relation to 'Brexit' means that businesses and CPP partners are unable to confidently plan and develop a response to the situation. Senior Councillors and officials will meet Mr Mike Russell, the Scottish Government Minister responsible for 'Brexit' in December to talk about scenarios and potential responses. Local business leaders are also being invited to that discussion

## Planned Activity in Next Reporting Period

- **Brexit** – Meeting with Scottish Government Minister in December 2016.
- **Enterprise Network Review** – Feed into the Phase 2 discussions to influence the remit, roles and structure of the new South of Scotland enterprise and skills vehicle.
- **Borders Railway Blueprint** – Complete Masterplanning programme; develop a Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) programme for the railway corridor; Transport Scotland progress the Borders Transport Corridors Pre-Appraisal Study.
- **Broadband coverage** – The Council will work with South of Scotland Alliance to influence the R100 programme to ensure it delivers maximum coverage for the Scottish Borders.
- **Hawick Action Plan** – Detailed plans for the £3.6M capital funding to be agreed locally and with Scottish Government. Continued delivery of the projects identified in the Action Plan.
- **Town Centre Regeneration** –The Council intends to prepare a rolling 3-year Town Centre Action Plan that will set out the priority projects for its investment and support. This will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis to reflect the changing priorities in the Town Centre Resilience Index.

Prepared by

Bryan McGrath, Scottish Borders Council

Date

16 November 2016

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## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – 4 OCTOBER 2016

### Economic Development Update

#### 1. Business:

- For the period from 1 April 2016 to 31 August 2016 the Business Gateway team assisted **83 business start-ups**, of which 5 have the potential to be high growth. The advisers have delivered 31 start-up workshops and 21 Growth workshops with 299 attendees.
- During the period **five Start-up workshops** were held in Galashiels and Eyemouth with a total 26 attendees.
- Business Gateway has worked across the region meeting with a number of intermediaries and spreading the promotion. In total 58 Intermediary visits have been held during the period.
- For the period from 1 April 2016 to 31 August 2016, the **Scottish Borders Business Fund** received 26 applications and approved 23 grants valued at £76,815.71 supporting projects with a value of £176,765.01. These projects are forecast **to create 35.5 jobs** with an estimated forecast **economic impact of £781,335.50 GVA**.
- The **Scottish Borders Business Loan Fund** offers loans of between £1,000 and £20,000 over terms of up to three years. For the period from 1 April 2016 to 31 August 2016, the Loan Fund received 2 applications and approved 1 loan valued at £11,250.00. This loan is forecast **to create 1 job** with an estimated forecast **economic impact of £30,525.00 GVA**.
- **Business Loans Scotland** – work is nearly complete on this and a launch is imminent for the new £100k loan scheme. SBC have a fund of £540k available.
- **Property** – Space within the Rosetta Road offices in Peebles has been identified for use as incubator units. These are currently being developed to enable businesses to take up this space early 2017. Other sites are being identified across the region to replicate this
- **Hawick Action Plan** – Officers continue to work with partners on the actions contained in the plan. This includes identifying buildings for future development, a workshop with Tourism Businesses planned on 26 September, survey work and focus group to discuss the future of the High Street. ***This work has resulted in an announcement from the Scottish Government of significant capital investment.***

#### 2. Regeneration:

- **Galashiels Town Centre**
  - The **Borders Railway Ambassadors Pilot** has operated over the summer and has so far delivered support to 11,657 enquiries. 58% of these have been at Galashiels whilst 42% were at Tweedbank. 40% are tourism or local information requirements, 34% relate to railway and 26% to bus.
  - **Pedestrian signage** improvements have been made to the town centre with 6 fingerposts erected and one awaiting installation on Green Street..
  - **A Property “Gap Analysis”** into the retail, leisure and commercial property is concluded and will inform future marketing and inward investment activity.

- **Steam Trains** – The Flying Scotsman visit in May generated a 5 fold increase in footfall and raised the profile of the town significantly. A survey to assess the impact of steam trains is to be undertaken with local businesses.
  - **Marketing** – support is being given to Energise Galashiels to refine the marketing offer of the town, particularly online. The shoppers map is close to completion following a slight delay. The Council has provided a grant to the Chamber of Trade to support this project.
  - **Town Centre Vacancies** – monitoring at the quarter end shows a stable level of vacancies at 34 in June from 34 in March 2016. Looking solely at Channel Street and Douglas Bridge, the figure has increased 13 to 14 vacant units.
  - **Shop Front Improvements** now stand at 25 properties improved with a further 7 in progress. £53,722 of grant offered has levered in a further £34,341 of investment from the private sector.
- **Selkirk Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) Project.** The five year programme of town centre regeneration activity is progressing well with the following activity/ achievements.
    - 40 grant offers have been issued for repairs to traditional buildings (General Repairs) totalling £242,500, supporting 25 properties.
    - 8 priority buildings will be supported with grant offers for repairs in Year 4 totalling £195,000. Phase 1 repairs to the Sir Walter Scott's Courthouse, which will be supported as one of the priority buildings, est. summer 2017.
    - Over 80 educational & training events have been organised by Selkirk CARS with over 2,800 people attending. The technical seminars aimed at design, construction and industry related professionals have been well attended.
    - A range of educational activities has been implemented including the Cabinet of Curiosity (joint project with Selkirk High School, Abbotsford and LiveBorders / museums); community artwork project for Selkirk Library stairwell; 2 events to complement the Bookworm Childrens Bookshop; Reflections – Glass: Water: Art: Science project at the Haining in March/ May; Doors Open Day in Sept; Geophysics survey of the Auld Kirk Graveyard.
    - A contribution will be provided to the Selkirk Town Centre Streetscape project
    - An additional £70,000 of funding has been secured from Historic Environment Scotland to support traditional building repairs projects.
  - **Selkirk Town Centre Streetscape Project** – SBC Engineers' have been working with the Selkirk Stakeholder Group (organisations across the town), on the early design stages for a programme of town centre streetscape works. The town centre works aim to provide safer and improved areas for bus passengers, improve pedestrian crossings, develop flexible events space and provide better seating, as well as enhance Selkirk's historic conservation area.
  - The £450,000 proposed works will contribute to the regeneration of the town centre and is part-funded by the Selkirk Conservation Regeneration Scheme (CARS). Public consultation is currently underway and further consultation will be undertaken with Historic Environment Scotland, Selkirk CARS, Transport Scotland and Amey. It is intended that the construction begins on site next year.
  - **Selkirk Business Improvement District (BIDS)** – The previous project manager appointed in early 2016 has been unable to continue working on the project due to personal reasons. The Steering Group appointed a new project manager, Mags Fenner in August. Revised timescales for the BIDs process have been agreed by the Steering Group and the project manager is now progressing the development of the two BID business plans and undertaking appropriate consultation. The ballots are proposed for June/ July 2017. If the ballot is positive, the BIDs would commence on 1 April 2018 in line with the Council's standard billing period.
  - **Jedburgh Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS)** – a funding bid has been submitted to Historic Environment Scotland's for their CARS Scheme. Following the model used

for other successful heritage based town centre initiatives in Kelso and Selkirk, a heritage focused regeneration proposal has been developed for Jedburgh.

- The Jedburgh CARS Proposal seeks specifically to conserve and enhance the heritage assets within the Jedburgh Conservation area, particularly focusing on the historic conservation area as well as acting as a catalyst for wider regeneration in the town centre. There are five key elements specific to the proposal (based on the eligibility criteria of the CARS funding):
  1. Addressing key buildings in the town centre through grant support.
  2. Redevelopment of the Category A Listed Port House building as a community hub and resource centre.
  3. A programme of heritage related education and training initiatives.
  4. Upskilling and employment opportunities in traditional construction skills with the provision of school based learning and work based training.
  5. Maximising opportunities in relation to the recently reopened Borders Railway and the proposed Mossburn Distillery.
  
- The CARS Programme has a limited budget of £10million with a competitive bidding process for their Round 7 of funding. The proposal for Jedburgh includes a five year programme of works from 2017/18 – 2021/22 with a total project budget of eligible costs of £1,327,000 and a grant request of £866,500. Scottish Borders Council will contribute £150,000 of revenue budget and £50,000 of capital budget. The outcome of the bid will be made in January 2017 and if successful, the project will commence on 1 April 2017.
  
- **Scottish Government Regeneration Capital Grant Fund** –The Fund is aimed at providing new and/ or improved infrastructure for capital expenditure supporting community projects in 2017/18 – 2019/20. The focus for Round 4 is for projects that are capable of starting in the financial year 2017/18 and to fully utilise the grant allocated for that financial year. The Council has submitted three applications for the first stage:
  - Great Tapestry of Scotland (GToS) Museum and Town Centre Regeneration Project, Galashiels (Scottish Borders Council)
  - Newcastleton Hub & Community Fuel Pumps (Newcastleton & District Community Trust)
  - Jim Clark Museum, Duns (Scottish Borders Council)
- The Fund is assessed in two stages. The deadline for completed stage 1 applications was 20 June. If successful at Stage 1, projects will be invited to submit Stage 2 applications by 24 October 2016. Notification will be given to all applicants of funding recommendations by December 2016.

### 3. Tourism & Events

- **Tourism support –**
  - There have been two marketing campaigns running over the summer months, encouraging visitors to use the Railway.
  - The “runaway seat” campaign ran from the 2nd - 8th August. The #RunawaySeat was placed at secret locations around Edinburgh, Midlothian and the Borders. Using Social media and through the website, people were asked to help us find the #RunawaySeat. If they found it, they were asked to upload a picture on Twitter using the #RunawaySeat which entered them into a prize draw.
    - The campaign landing page had over 1,250 views, and the campaign generated 50 new followers for the

- Borders Railway Twitter Account. Travel blogger @scotadventures, with a following of over 5,000, also tweeted about the competition which generated great awareness for the campaign!
    - The web campaign successfully reached 689,233 people with 2,758,604 Impressions.
    - See Annex 1 for details of “Runaway Seat”
  - The Visit Scotland Hop on hop off bus campaigns were delivered jointly with Midlothian Council. Evaluation on the bus campaign is not yet complete.
  - A partnership of Midlothian and Scottish Borders tourism groups has successfully secured funding to deliver a two year business to business project between both areas. The project will start on 1<sup>st</sup> November, will have a dedicated PM and Tourism business advisor and will deliver:
    - A travel trade development programme,
    - Joint packaging and ticketing for the Railway
    - World Host Training for businesses in both areas
    - Digital Tourism training
    - Digital apps
    - Fam trips, market research and benchmarking.
  - The new walking site [www.walkscottishborders.com](http://www.walkscottishborders.com) is now live. This is the sister site to [www.cyclescottishborders.com](http://www.cyclescottishborders.com) which has been running since 2012. Tourism and Access officers are currently planning a soft launch to promote the site to consumers and tourism businesses in November.
- **Event support –**
    - The Scottish Borders Tourism Cycling Strategy consultation is currently underway. A workshop was held in August at Ettrick Riverside bringing together key stakeholders within the cycling and tourism sector for their comments. The closing date for the wider consultation is 19<sup>th</sup> September.
    - Hillside Outside have confirmed the date as 3 September for the 2017 Tour of the Borders closed road cycle event. This is later than previous years and will now avoid the school holidays. It also puts the event into the shoulder months, which helps support tourism businesses. The date change was agreed with officers prior to the announcement. A long process of community engagement has begun already with the organisers taking a stand at the Yarrow Show which was also attended by SBC officers.

#### **4. Funding:**

- European funding continues to be available to projects through the LEADER and European Maritime Fisheries Fund 2014 – 2020 programmes. The Council is also applying to the Scottish Government for an allocation of funding from the **European Social Fund** to support additional Employability services in 2017 and 2018.
- The **LEADER Local Action Group** met in July 2016 and approved grant funding of £74,739 to three projects, with total project values of £145,859. Two approvals were for community groups, the third was grant funding for a rural business. A fourth community group application was

rejected by the panel. Applications for Round 2 closed on 31 August and five project applications for funding will be considered by the Local Action Group at its meeting in October.

- The first round of applications to the **Forth Fisheries Local Action Group** for grant finance from the European Maritime Fisheries Fund will be considered at the Group's meeting in October 2016.
- The Scottish Government has confirmed funding for the **Scotland's Employer Recruitment Incentive** (SERI) Scheme in 2016/17. The Scheme was relaunched on 1 April, targeting young people with multiple barriers to employment. Barnardo's Works has been contracted to deliver this scheme, eight places were allocated and five places have been filled to date.

**Bryan McGrath**, Chief Officer Economic Development, tel 01835 826525.

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Borders Railway Runaway Seat  
August 2016

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Campaign Overview

- Journey Plan
- Consumer Engagement
- Partner Engagement
- Daily Winners
- Future Recommendations



# Campaign Overview

- The purpose of this campaign was to help promote the Borders Railway route by getting families and people involved in a fun, interactive Treasure Hunt that takes place all along the new line.
- Over a seven day period - between Tuesday 2nd and Monday 8th August - we shared clues on social channels to where the seat was located and tasked people with the challenge of finding it, taking a picture and sharing on their social channels using the campaign hashtag #RunawaySeat.
- Up to 4 prizes were given away each day to the best photos or captions that involve people in the seat / interacting with the seat through a daily free prize draw.
- Prizes included tickets to attractions, places to visit, experiences, overnight stays, restaurant vouchers located all along the route.
- Winners have been asked to share their winning experience on their social channels.

# Journey Plan

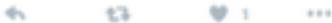
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Date	Area	Venue	Location	Working Hours	On Site Contact
Tues 2 Aug	Edinburgh	National Museum Scotland	Grand Gallery (Level 1) - Glass ceiling	08:30am to 5:00pm	Kirsten Cowie
Wed 3 Aug	Borders	Glentress Mountain Bike Centre	Peel Café - Outside	10:00am to 6:00pm	Hugh McCay
Thurs 4 Aug	Midlothian	Butterfly Farm	Grass Area adjacent to front door & beside Butterfly sign	10:00am to 6:00pm	Andrew McDonald
Fri 5 Aug	Edinburgh	Royal Botanic Gardens	Main Reception - West Gate	10:00am to 6:00pm	Paula Bushell
Sat 6 Aug	Midlothian	National Mining Museum	Main door to museum	10:00am to 6:00pm	Gillian Rankin
Sun 7 Aug	Borders	Abbotsford House	Morris Garden	10:00am to 6:00pm	Jayne Billam
Mon 8 Aug	Edinburgh	Edinburgh Zoo	Penguin Pool	10:00am to 6:00pm	Olly Davies

# Consumer Engagement



**KH** @jaynahatkat · Aug 6  
Found the #RunawaySeat at my work today! Couldn't resist a quick moment's relaxation and reclining!



**Max Power** @asobimasu · Aug 3  
#RunawaySeat @BordersRailway having the best day ever



# Consumer Engagement

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Ewan @cdneh84 · Aug 2

We just managed to catch #runawayseat at the museum! Phew! 🙌



👤 1 ❤️ 5 ⋮



Evillynne @Evillynne2 · Aug 2

#runawayseat@bordersrailway.co.uk



👤 2 ❤️ 2 ⋮

# Consumer Engagement



Rachel Capper @\_racheYC - Aug 2

@BordersRailway "We can runaway to see even more animals than at the museum!" - Evie excited about the #RunawaySeat

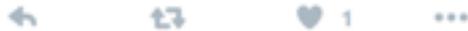


# Consumer Engagement

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**Mark Annand** @markannand · Aug 7  
#RunawaySeat @BordersRailway Blatant fake but you just know that @BetjSoc would turn, see, smile, sit. @StPancrasInt



Rebecca Davis and 18 others follow  
**Susanne** @ScotAdventures · Aug 7  
Exciting, we found the #RunawaySeat 🥳 @BordersRailway



# Partner Engagement



**Abbotsford** @AbbotsfordScott · Aug 7

Discovered within seconds of arriving! Our first #RunawaySeat competition fans at Abbotsford.



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**This is Edinburgh** @edinburgh · Aug 2

.@BordersRailway's #RunawaySeat has been spotted! Find it for a chance to win great prizes: [bordersrailway.co.uk/runaway-seat](https://www.bordersrailway.co.uk/runaway-seat)



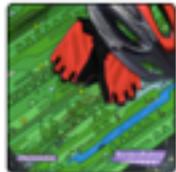
# Partner Engagement

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 **SBC**  @scotborders · Aug 2  
Where is the **#RunawaySeat** tomorrow? Check **@BordersRailway** for clues to find it, with great prizes available! [ow.ly/Byeh302Qsjy](https://ow.ly/Byeh302Qsjy)

  2  1 

 **Midlothian Council**  @midgov · Aug 2  
Get on the trail of the **@BordersRailway #RunawaySeat**; use your detective skills to track down where it has popped up



**Borders Railway** @BordersRailway  
Our **#RunawaySeat** is off towards Glentress, going to have to get on our bike to catch it! [ow.ly/vbby302NQWP](https://ow.ly/vbby302NQWP)

  1  1 

 **NHI Museums Scotland** @NHIMuseumsScot · Aug 2  
We spotted some happy faces in the **@BordersRailway #RunawaySeat** that has stopped off for a visit to the museum!



# Runaway Seat Winners: Day 1



# Runaway Seat Day 1: Feedback

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Date	2nd August 2016
Site	National Museum
Working Hours	8am to 5pm
Average No. Interactions	200 - 300 which includes an substantial conversation and interaction with the chair, with or without any tweets
Average Footfall	4,000
Highest Footfall Period	2pm to 3pm
Anecdotal Customer Feedback	<i>“Wow, this is so cool! I didn’t know there were so many great places to visit along this route”   “The prizes are brilliant, I hope I win!”   “I saw a post on Facebook about this so i’m glad we found you today! We don’t have Twitter but our friend does so she can post for us”   I’ve been on the Borders train and it’s brilliant and this seems like a great advert to get people who aren’t local to use it and visit all the wonderful sights along the way”   “What a fun idea, this is so great! It has been so lovely speaking to you both today and get some great ideas for places to visit over the holidays”</i>
General Promo Team Feedback	Great first day at the museum. Lots of interest and excitement over the runaway seat especially from younger children. We had around 20 people mentioning they had heard or seen the runaway event advertised. We were busy throughout the day and are looking forward to the rest of the week! There was a high amount of those spoken to did not have Twitter however everyone enjoyed hearing about all the great landmarks along the borders railway with many noting they would be taking a trip soon.

# Runaway Seat Winners: Day 2

 Max Power (@asobriano - 21h)  
#RunawaySeat @BordersRailway having the best day ever



# Runaway Seat Day 2: Feedback

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Date	3rd August 2016
Site	Glentress Mountain Bike Centre
Working Hours	10am to 6pm
Average No. Interactions	100
Average Footfall	120
Highest Footfall Period	10am - 12pm
Anecdotal Customer Feedback	<i>“What a surreal thing to see here, very unusual &amp; brilliant! I love the idea the seats are here, bringing a little bit of borders train to us!”   “Amazing prizes, I hope I win an overnight stay in the borders, its beautiful down this neck of the woods!”   “This is so cool, I hope we win tea at the palace! I’ve been on the borders train its fantastic &amp; this seems a great advert to get people who are not local to use it &amp; visit all the wonderful sights along the way! The kids have loved taking part in your event, its been great.”</i>
General Promo Team Feedback	We had a busy first hour with people arriving to get their bikes and then a slow trickle of footfall for the rest of the day. It rained off and on throughout the day so I think this affected the general footfall. Customers really enjoyed the novelty of the train seats and thought the prizes were brilliant.

# Runaway Seat Winners: Day 3



# Runaway Seat Day 3: Feedback

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Date	4th August 2016
Site	Butterfly Farm
Working Hours	10am to 6pm
Average No. Interactions	120
Average Footfall	150
Highest Footfall Period	1pm to 2pm
Anecdotal Customer Feedback	<i>“Oh I recognise the print from the seat! The prizes are great!”   “Amazing prizes, I hope I win an overnight stay in the borders, its beautiful down this neck of the woods!”   “I have been meaning to find out what else I can do with the kids these holidays so I’m really glad I saw you today!”   “What a fun promotion, the seats are brilliant! We heard you were going to be here today! The kids love trains so we will be going on this weekend!”   “My kids love the Butterfly farm so I hope we win the family ticket!”</i>
General Promo Team Feedback	We had a great day at the Butterfly farm. The kids loved the train seats and enjoyed climbing all over them! Although there was great customer intetaction, intetest in the competition was fairly low.

# Runaway Seat Winners: Day 4



# Runaway Seat Day 4: Feedback

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Date	5th August 2016
Site	Royal Botanic Gardens
Working Hours	10am to 6pm
Average No. Interactions	300
Average Footfall	3,000
Highest Footfall Period	1pm to 2pm
Anecdotal Customer Feedback	<i>"It's so great to see this train line promoted, I wouldn't be able to work in Edinburgh at a job I love if it wasn't there!"   "What a great idea, I really love the borders &amp; I haven't been to most of the places you have mentioned!"   "The seats are so unique, I won't forget this in a hurry!"   "We have come especially to see you! I hope I win the prize, amazing incentive to tweet!"   "I heard it was a fantastic route. I will try it out tomorrow now that its fresh in mind."</i>
General Promo Team Feedback	We had a very busy day at the Botanics with heavy footfall passing through all day. People of all ages were interested in our train seats and we had lots of in depth chats with consumers.

# Runaway Seat Winners: Day 5



# Runaway Seat Day 5: Feedback

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Date	6th August 2016
Site	National Mining Museum
Working Hours	09:30am to 4pm
Average No. Interactions	50
Average Footfall	60
Highest Footfall Period	12pm to 1pm
Anecdotal Customer Feedback	<i>“What a brilliant idea, we need to support our local companies &amp; generate business!”   “I think the concept is fab, we have seen you twice this week already!”   “I don’t use trains as I drive but I have to say I would now visit the borders &amp; landmarks there.”   “I haven’t been because I don’t like driving.”   “The trains are a great way of getting around to visit attractions. There is something at every stop nearly! “</i>
General Promo Team Feedback	The museum was very quiet all day with only a few visiting & the rest were just there for lunch. The Dalkeith BBQ was on (their gala day) so everyone was there or outside as it was a beautiful day. We also had to leave a bit sharper as the venue was being used for a wedding.

# Runaway Seat Winners: Day 6



# Runaway Seat Day 6: Feedback

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Date	7th August 2016
Site	Abbotsford House
Working Hours	10am to 6pm
Average No. Interactions	100
Average Footfall	150
Highest Footfall Period	12pm to 1pm
Anecdotal Customer Feedback	<i>“We heard you would be here and are so glad we found you, the kids are so excited!”   “I love the vinyl on the seats”   “Such fun what a great idea.”   “I love trains &amp; i’ve got a great excuse to go now as there’s so much to see &amp; do!”</i>
General Promo Team Feedback	We had a steady day at the house. We had a brilliant location & the seats looked brilliant! Consumers loved the event & most visitors ha a seat!

# Runaway Seat Winners: Day 7



# Runaway Seat Day 7: Feedback

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Date	8th August 2016
Site	Edinburgh Zoo
Working Hours	10am to 5pm
Average No. Interactions	300
Average Footfall	1,000
Highest Footfall Period	12pm to 1pm
Anecdotal Customer Feedback	<i>“Amazing, so glad we found you, the kids have been talking about the runaway seat!”   “Ha ha, we certainly never expected to see this today! Loads of fun!”   “We cant wait to try the railway there seems like there is lots to see along the route!”   “What an excellent promotional idea, so brilliant to see train seats at the penguin pool!”   “I love the new route, I can visit my family now easily! It has changed my life!”</i>
General Promo Team Feedback	Our last day at the zoo was excellent. We had a brilliant location & all visitors to the zoo saw the seats. Customers loved taking a rest on the chairs and chatting to us about the railway line, trains & prizes.

# Future Recommendations

- Consider Facebook tie in as majority of participants do not have a Twitter account
- Team experienced WiFi issues in remote venues
- Consider ways to increase partner participation online
- Consider including on the spot prizes to increase motivation to participate and social sharing

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## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – 1 NOVEMBER 2016

### Economic Development Update

#### 1. Business:

- In September the Business Gateway team assisted **17 business start-ups**, of which 6 have the potential to be high growth. The advisers have delivered 6 start-up workshops and 5 Growth workshops with 53 attendees.
- Business Gateway has worked across the Borders meeting with a number of intermediaries and spreading the promotion. In total 14 Intermediary visits have been held during the period.
- For the period from 1 September 2016 to 31 October 2016, the **Scottish Borders Business Fund** received 4 applications and approved 2 grants valued at £4,198.23 supporting projects with a value of £8,396.47. These projects are forecast **to create 2 jobs** with an estimated forecast **economic impact of £70,078 GVA**.

The **Scottish Borders Business Loan Fund** offers loans of between £1,000 and £20,000 over terms of up to three years. For the period from 1 September 2016 to 31 October 2016, the Loan Fund received 1 application and approved 1 loan valued at £20,000. This loan is forecast **to create 2.5 jobs** with an estimated forecast **economic impact of £146,245 GVA**.

- **Business Loans Scotland** – work is nearly complete on this and a launch is imminent for the new £100k loan scheme.

#### 2. Regeneration:

- **Galashiels Town Centre**
  - The **Borders Railway Ambassadors Pilot** will conclude at the end of October. An end of season project report will be collated to review the service over the year. Funding is in place to deliver the Ambassadors service for 2017 with funding from the Council and £16.5K from the Borders Railway Blueprint Fund.
- **Scottish Government Regeneration Capital Grant Fund** –The Fund is aimed at providing new and/ or improved infrastructure for capital expenditure supporting community projects in 2017/18 – 2019/20. The focus for Round 4 is for projects that are capable of starting in the financial year 2017/18 and to fully utilise the grant allocated for that financial year. The Fund is assessed in two stages. The Council submitted three applications for the first stage:
  1. Great Tapestry of Scotland (GToS) Museum and Town Centre Regeneration Project, Galashiels (Scottish Borders Council)
  2. Newcastleton Hub & Community Fuel Pumps (Newcastleton & District Community Trust)
  3. Jim Clark Museum, Duns (Scottish Borders Council)

- Only the Newcastleton Hub & Community Fuel Pumps project was invited to submit a Stage 2 application by Scottish Government. This must be submitted by 28 November 2016. Notification will be given to all applicants of funding recommendations by the end of February 2017.

### **3. Tourism & Events**

- **Tourism support** – Destination Scottish Borders are currently planning a Christmas shopping campaign in Galashiels, Selkirk, Hawick, Jedburgh, Melrose, Lauder and Kelso over two weekends in December. The aim is to attract visitors from Edinburgh to visit the Borders over these weekends. VisitScotland will support the marketing & PR of the project, and the Council is supporting event logistics. The Community Rail Partnership has been approached for financial support. This will be used to gather evidence for a bigger Christmas project in 2017, where there would be direct links to the Edinburgh Christmas experience.

### **4. Funding:**

- European funding continues to be available to projects through the Scottish Borders LEADER and European Maritime Fisheries Fund 2014 – 2020 programmes. Project managers are expecting further guidance from Scottish Government on delivery of these programmes during Brexit negotiations.
- The **LEADER Local Action Group** met in October 2016 and approved grant funding to two business projects, total £68,650 against projects valued at £286,257. Three applications from community groups were considered and further information, including confirmation of match funding arrangements, was requested. The next application deadline for LEADER funding is 30 November 2016.

**Bryan McGrath**, Chief Officer Economic Development, tel 01835 826525.

**REMIT OF CPP STRATEGIC BOARD – AGREED ON 8 SEPTEMBER 2016**

Membership of the Strategic Board\* comprises the 5 Statutory Partners in the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act, plus representatives from 3 other sectors:

- Scottish Borders Council (3 – Councillors Jim Brown[Chairman], Stuart Bell and Frances Renton; substitutes – Councillors Catriona Bhatia and Michelle Ballantyne)
- NHS Borders (2 – Mr John Raine and Dr Doreen Steele)
- Scottish Enterprise (1 – Mr Alastair McKinnon)
- Police Scotland (1 – Chief Superintendent Ivor Marshall)
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (1 – LSO David Farries)
- Borders College (1 – Mr Tony Jakimciw)
- Registered Social Landlords representative (1 – Mr Trevor Burrows, Eildon Housing)
- Third Sector (1 – Mrs Marjorie Hume)

\* named substitutes may attend in place of nominated representatives

The remit of the Strategic Board is to –

- Approve, monitor and evaluate progress on the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan and the individual Locality Plans
- Find consensus in reaching decisions on those issues that involve competing interests or are controversial or contentious
- Identify the ideal level of resources necessary to achieve the outcomes of the Plans and advise partners of these
- Work together to resolve any problems arising from significant issues
- Consider and make recommendations to the Community Planning Partnership Consultative Group and/or partner organisations on any aspects of community planning in terms of issues or improvements
- Provide the Community Planning Partnership Consultative Group with an annual assessment of community planning in the Scottish Borders
- Sign off the Annual Report on Community Planning, after consultation with the wider Community Planning Partnership Consultative Group

Meetings of the Strategic Board –

- 2 March 2017 – 2pm
- 8 June 2017 – 2pm

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