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

Report by Chief Social Work Officer

**SCOTTISH BORDERS COMMUNITY PLANNING STRATEGIC
BOARD**

22 June 2017

1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report seeks endorsement of the Scottish Borders Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan 2017 – 2020 by members of the Community Planning Partnership Strategic Board.**
- 1.2 Each local authority area is required to publish a plan under the Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016. This Act is intended to prevent and reduce re offending by addressing those factors that influence criminal behaviour. There are a number of statutory partners who have collaborated in the production of this plan (specified on page 8 of the plan).
- 1.3 Governance of Community Justice sits under the Community Planning Partnership. The plan has already been considered and supported by the Community Planning Partnership Reducing Inequalities Delivery Team and the Joint Delivery Team.
- 1.4 The plan will be reported upon annually to the Scottish Government via Community Justice Scotland. It is expected that the report will have been agreed by members of the Community Planning Partnership.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Strategic Board endorse the plan in order that it can move to implementation.**

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 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 if deemed relevant. 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 have 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 with effect from 31st March 2017. Community Justice Authorities have been dismantled.

3.3 This plan has a direct relationship to the Community Planning Partnership through the Reducing Inequalities theme and work of the Safer Communities Team.

3.4 The plan has reached a stage it is ready for implementation.

4 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Financial

The Scottish Government have provided three years of annual funding of £50,000 up to 2017/18. Specific costs associated with activity contained within the plan will initially be met by transition monies. 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 31st 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**
N/A
- 4.5 **Carbon Management**
N/A
- 4.6 **Rural Proofing**
N/A
- 4.7 **Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation**
N/A

5 CONSULTATION

- 5.1 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, an eight week engagement exercise, and 12 week consultation period. Presentations have and continue to be delivered to specific groups who have an influence upon reducing reoffending. Service users participated in a focus group supported by the Scottish Prison Service.
- 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

Name Elaine Torrance

Title Chief Social Work Officer

Signature

Author(s)

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Background Papers: Copy of Scottish Borders Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan 2017 - 2020
Previous Minute Reference:

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

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