



**Orkney
Community
Justice
Partnership**

Orkney Community Justice Partnership Annual Community Justice Report 2019-20

Foreword

Orkney Community Justice Partnership is pleased to present the local Community Justice Annual Report. This report is a localised version of the report submitted to Community Justice Scotland in November 2020.

I was appointed Chair of the Community Justice Partnership in August 2020 and to date, I have worked with other members of the Partnership in leading us towards the aims and objectives set out in the report.

The content of the original report on community justice outcomes and improvements in our area was agreed by the Community Justice Partnership and was then shared with our Community Planning Partnership through our local accountability arrangements.

The report was formally approved on the 6th November 2020. The submission of all National Community Justice Reports was unfortunately delayed due to the COVID pandemic.

The Community Justice (Scotland) Act, 2016 places a duty on community justice statutory partners to produce a Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan (CJOIP). Our local plan is due to expire in March 2021 and work to amend this plan is ongoing.

The plan outlines key local needs and priorities and the actions to address these.

The content of this report reflects the set national outcomes and demonstrates local activity and proposed strategies to evidence progress.



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The report is designed to capture a range of important data in a way that highlights key aspects of community justice activities, outcomes and improvements over the specified period without it being onerous or time and resource demanding.

The reporting period of this report includes the appointment of a new Public Protection Manager and Community Justice Coordinator resulting in some disruption to planned activity. A number of initiatives mentioned in the report were proposed for introduction in the current reporting year which is due to conclude at the end of March 2021.


Unfortunately, the restrictions placed on communities by the global pandemic will result in a delay to these activities. In reality the reporting period 2021-2022 is a more realistic target to deliver proposed progress.

Community Justice continues to be an important partnership within community planning to ensure measures are considered that reduce and prevent offending, with the aim of rehabilitating members of our community who enter the Justice system.

This will maintain public confidence and improve the quality of life for all our residents, continuing to make Orkney a safe and thriving place to live and work.

Gillian Morrison, Chair, Orkney Community Justice Partnership.

1. Community Justice Partnership / Group Details

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| Community Justice Partnership. |  Orkney Community Justice Partnership |
| Community Justice Partnership Chair. | Gillian Morrison, Interim Chief Officer, Orkney Health and Care. |
| Community Justice Partnership Co-ordinator. | Keith Bendall, Community Justice Planning, Performance & Information Officer, Orkney Health and Care. |
| Publication date of Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan (CJOIP). | April 2018 (expires 2021). |

2. Governance Arrangements

The Orkney Community Justice Partnership Board is formed by Orkney's statutory Community Justice Partners. This is a requirement in response to the Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 with the objective to bring together all the agencies involved in the planning, delivery and monitoring of community justice services to improve outcomes for service users and the wider community.

The agreed terms of reference provide for the Orkney Community Justice Partnership to report to the Orkney Integration Board (IJB) and the Orkney Partnership Board. The Orkney Community Justice Partnership (OCJP) usually meets at least three times a year, although in the calendar year 2020, due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Partnership has met twice.

3. Performance Reporting – National Outcomes

NATIONAL OUTCOME ONE.

Communities improve their understanding and participation in community justice.

| Indicator | | Impact |
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| Activities carried out to engage with 'communities' as well as other relevant constituencies. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The use of press releases to local newspaper to highlight unpaid work projects. Production of Unpaid Work example booklet distributed to unpaid work recipients e.g. Development Trusts and booklets promoted on display in the Sheriff Court and Orkney Islands Council customer services reception. | This allows the residents of Orkney to understand the positive impact unpaid work has had in the community, highlighting that individuals on orders learn new skills and undertake projects that improve their perception of value and connection to the community. The main aim is preventing and/or reducing re offending. This is evidenced by the positive feedback in local press and by the comments made by individuals on orders during feedback surveys. |
| Consultation with communities as part of community justice planning and service provision. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scheduled attendance of the Community Justice Co Ordinator at Community Council meetings including active participation, explaining the aims and objectives of Community Justice and highlighting the benefits that can be achieved at a local level. | Due to Orkney's strong community council network it is considered important that Community Councils understand what Community Justice is and what that means at a local level as well as having an understanding of national priorities. |
| Participation in community justice, such as co-production and joint delivery. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> OCJP has provided funding to and utilises the services of Families Outside to support residents and their families serving prison sentences. In addition, training of key individuals in the community has taken place by Families Outside Trainers to offer support at a local level. | 5 local families received support from the organisation during the reporting year. 18 professionals within the community received awareness training and are now trained to offer support to any affected families. |

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| <p>Level of community awareness of / satisfaction with work undertaken as part of a CPO.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of CPO work in local newspaper. • Orkney Islands Council Website contains information in relation to minutes and Partnership Activity. | <p>This allows the residents of Orkney to understand the positive impact unpaid work has had in the community, highlighting that Individuals on orders learn new skills and undertake projects that improve their perception of value and connection to the community, with the aim of preventing and/or reducing re-offending.</p> |
| <p>Evidence from questions to be used in local surveys / citizens' panels and so on</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There have been no further public surveys carried out since the last Community Justice report was submitted. Relevant questions will be included in Orkney Opinions, Orkney Islands Council's citizen panel. • The Community Justice Coordinator has participated in virtual Community Council meetings and will continue to promote the purpose of community justice. • The Community Justice Coordinator also administers the Community Safety Partnership and ensures there is a community justice update at this meeting. | <p>Continued promotion of community justice delivered to key groups within the community. Feedback from a cross-section of Orkney's population will facilitate improvements in the service.</p> |
| <p>Perceptions of the local crime data.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police Scotland report Local Crime figures at partnership meetings. This allows statutory partners to scrutinise any developing trends. | <p>Partnership reassurance of the current low crime figures and the confidence that any rise in any crime type will be identified and a partnership response considered. This is evidenced by recent events where community/partner agency meetings were paused due to COVID. Concerns were expressed by partners and the third sector concerning the monitoring of Domestic Violence. Partners ensured that the Domestic Violence Partnership had a virtual meeting to discuss these concerns. This was addressed longer term by including domestic violence onto the agenda of the weekly 'Care for People' meeting.</p> |
| <p>Other information relevant to National Outcome One</p> | | |
| <p>It should be noted that for a large part of the reporting year the partnership did not have a coordinator in post and this reduced activity in all national outcomes. A coordinator was appointed in late January 2020. Evidence has been included that demonstrates proposed initiatives started since then, however this was interrupted due to temporary redeployment to urgent work due to the COVID pandemic.</p> | | |

NATIONAL OUTCOME TWO.

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

| Indicator | | |
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| Services are planned for and delivered in a strategic and collaborative way. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Orkney Community Justice Partnership normally holds meetings at least three times a year. Prior to the COVID outbreak meetings had taken place with the Community Justice Coordinator, Police Scotland and the Captain of Orkney's local army reservist regiment. It was planned to implement proposals to identify individuals on the edges of the Criminal justice process or identify those with certain convictions that would not preclude appointment to the forces, and consider application to the Army Reserves in an attempt to change their behaviour offering training and development opportunities with career and financial incentives. Discussion also took place regarding the army reserve Captain carrying out bespoke training in leadership, team building etc targeted at suitable individuals on the fringes off, or within the criminal justice process, who could benefit from this form of training. | <p>Impact</p> <p>This fulfils the statutory requirement contained within the Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016.</p> <p>It is planned that this proposal will be revisited when COVID restrictions are reduced to allow progression of the initiative. The desired outcomes are for individuals to rediscover a sense of value and worth personally and within their communities, providing a pathway to training skills, career opportunities and positive experiences not currently available.</p> |
| Partners have leveraged resources for community justice. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Community Justice coordinator and the Community Learning and Development officer for Orkney Islands Council are responsible for the delivery of 'The no one left behind agenda' have plans to work jointly with clients under CPO's who are unemployed or seeking new employment. They will consider opportunities for participation at the local college to achieve qualifications, enhancing their skills learned during their unpaid work placements. It is also proposed to offer assistance, writing CV's and completing job applications. In addition, advice can be given on the benefits available to the individual or their families. Criminal Justice Social Work Services have | <p>It is expected this initiative will improve the chances of employment for individuals subject to CPO's. It is further expected that if employment is gained as a result this will have a positive impact on the individual's general wellbeing and could potentially assist to break the cycle of offending.</p> |

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| | recently taken over new premises that contain a large workshop areas and office space. This will be developed to include IT support. It is proposed that the Community Learning and development worker will operate from these premises while offering the support to CPO clients. | |
| Development of community justice workforce to work effectively across organisational/professional/geographical boundaries. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> During the reporting period there has been limited activity in this area. As demonstrated in the indicators above proposed initiatives will provide evidence for next year's report. | |
| Partners illustrate effective engagement and collaborative partnership working with the authorities responsible for the delivery of MAPPA. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The MAPPA process in Orkney requires effective multi-agency collaboration between Police Scotland, Criminal Justice Social Work, Housing and Health. This collaborative work is maintained with partners between scheduled MAPPA meetings. | <p>The Community Justice Partnership consider community justice as an integral part of the overall Public Protection response within our local community. This involvement ranges from support for funding multi-agency training in risk and public protection to potential intervention strategies that impact on individuals within the justice system.</p> <p>The Community Justice Coordinator has identified that prevention through education to younger generations is an area in need of further development and considers there is an opportunity to implement plans that could have a potential impact in reducing offending longer term.</p> <p>How best to achieve this will be discussed with the relevant partners with proposals to implement initiatives in the current reporting year.</p> |
| Other information relevant to National Outcome Two | | |
| It should be noted that for a large part of the reporting year the partnership did not have a coordinator in post and this reduced activity in all national outcomes. A coordinator was appointed in late January 2020. Evidence has been included that demonstrates proposed initiatives started since then, however this was interrupted due to temporary redeployment to urgent work due to the COVID pandemic. | | |

NATIONAL OUTCOME THREE.

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

| Indicator | | |
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| | | Impact |
| Partners have identified and are overcoming structural barriers for people accessing services. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> During the reporting period there has been limited activity in this area. As demonstrated in the indicators above proposed initiatives will provide evidence for next year's report. | <p>Proposals in the near future include, as stated previously, the development of office space to introduce IT which will afford CPO clients the opportunity to access online training and courses. In view of recent changes in service delivery as a result of COVID, opportunities will be investigated in relation to online counselling services. Alcohol misuse is recognised as a local issue and is connected to a large percentage of offending therefore links with the Alcohol Drug Partnership will be strengthened.</p> <p>The Community Justice Coordinator is also keen to explore the re-introduction of the 'Islands' Community Justice sub -group as experience in crime trends and causes, as well as barriers to address issues, have always been closely mirrored within the Western Isles, Orkney and Shetland. There is an opportunity to look at issues collectively and jointly consider resources to provide desired outcomes.</p> |
| Existence of joint-working arrangements such as processes / protocols to ensure access to services to address underlying needs. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> During the reporting period there has been limited activity in this area. As demonstrated in the indicators above proposed initiatives will provide evidence for next year's report. <p>The evidence requested in this indicator will be considered and a proposal will be made to liaise with Police Scotland, Procurator Fiscal Service, Criminal Justice Social Work and the third sector organisations that provide aftercare support. The proposal will include the mapping of the Criminal Justice System from a local perspective and will provide potential opportunities to introduce new measures for diversion, and review what support services can be introduced to enhance the outcomes for individuals in or entering the justice arena. Youth offending will be a priority with measures introduced that, where</p> | |

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| | possible, will prevent young people from entering the justice system. | |
| Speed of access to mental health services. | There are no measures in place to monitor the time taken to access these services. Mental Health services locally are under pressure as they are nationally. | It is acknowledged that Mental Health services are under pressure, the partnership will monitor closely to understand whether waiting lists are having an adverse impact on outcomes for individuals involved in the justice system. |
| % of people released from a custodial sentence: a) registered with a GP. b) have suitable accommodation. c) have had a benefits eligibility check. | The number of custodial sentences are extremely low therefore there are not the same issues that other Local Authority areas may experience who have a more constant turnover of individuals seeking services on release from prison. Local Authority Housing have a policy that supports and prioritises housing for those homeless on release from prison. Partners have not highlighted any issues during the reporting year. This is an area that will be raised at Partnership meetings to gauge if there is a requirement for a more robust multi-agency response. | There is no apparent issue in this outcome however the Partnership will continue to monitor this to ensure access to these services are maintained. |
| Targeted interventions have been tailored for and with an individual and had a successful impact on their risk of further offending. | Regular use of other activities contained in CPO's along with supervision requirements result in individuals being able to access counselling / addictions recovery and mental health support dependant on their individual need. Participation in nationally accredited group work programmes are unavailable locally due to low numbers and geography, therefore individualised interventions are common. | Direct access to information and services ensure individuals' needs are met in a flexible and bespoke way. From exit surveys it is clear clients feel a sense of worth through their participation on their CPO and the majority state they have developed new skills and a better connection to the local community. |
| Other information relevant to National Outcome Three | | |
| It should be noted that for a large part of the reporting year the partnership did not have a coordinator in post and this reduced activity in all national outcomes. A coordinator was appointed in late January 2020. Evidence has been included that demonstrates proposed initiatives started since then, however this was interrupted due to temporary redeployment to urgent work due to the COVID pandemic. | | |

| NATIONAL OUTCOME FOUR. Effective interventions are delivered to prevent and reduce the risk of further offending. | | |
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| Indicator | | Impact |
| Use of 'other activities requirements' in CPOs. | During the reporting period clients on CPO's have worked with other partners to complete their community service hours. This has included placements at cat protection charity shop, a placement at a mental health charity shop and a client on one of the remote outer islands working in the local community retail shop. | The CPO supervisors assess the suitability of clients to participate in their work activities. On occasion individuals are not suitable and partners are utilised for placements to complete community service hours. This has proved beneficial for all involved, as clients do work more suited to their skill set and charities benefit from their attendance and participation. |
| Effective risk management for public protection. | Public Protection reporting and scrutiny falls under the governance of the Chief Officers Group. Criminal Justice Social Work undertake the Level of Service Case Management Inventory (LS/CMI) national framework for risk assessment and complete Risk of Serious Harm where identified, to assist in the appropriate management of risk. Other assessments such as the Risk Matrix 2000 and the SAO7 are also used in relation to sexual offending. These assessments assist in the process of identifying and directing the most appropriate intervention. Partnership shared risk assessment groups such as MAPPA and MARAC and MATAC ensure risk is focused and tailored to address identified need, ensuring protection to victims while mitigating the potential for re-offending. | In an attempt to reduce the risk of harm to individuals and the public, interventions are individualised and directed towards those most in need. |
| Quality of CPOs and DTTOs. | DTTO's are not used in Orkney although an initiative is taking place in Wick using new technology to carry out testing. Partners received an input around this pilot and if successful it will be considered locally. The same Sheriff sits in Wick as in Orkney therefore the scheme would have Crown support. Client feedback interviews evidence that clients (on CPO's) have experienced a positive outcome whilst taking part in unpaid work placements. The common theme is they feel a sense of worth as they are doing work that benefits the community. In addition, they | As highlighted the feedback forms indicate that clients on CPO placements see it as a positive experience. The Community Justice Coordinator visits the workshop and speaks with the clients who state they feel the orders are more about learning new skills and giving something back to the community, as opposed to a 'punishment'. |

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| | acknowledge the value of learning new skills and all comment on how respectfully they were treated during placements. | |
| <p>Reduced use of custodial sentences and remand:</p> <p>a) Balance between community sentences relative to short custodial sentences under one year.</p> <p>b) Proportion of people appearing from custody who are remanded.</p> | <p>The use of custody in the Orkney Area is low for both custodial sentences and for use in remand.</p> <p>The use of remand is low in recognition of the individual's requirement to be removed from the Island and be further from support services and families. However, if the circumstances justify this action then it is not a barrier.</p> <p>The specific data and proportions are difficult to determine for the small numbers relating to percentage increases and variances which make analysis challenging.</p> | <p>Residents in general remain on Orkney surrounded by local support, and this has the potential to increase the possibility to change behaviour and assist with reintegration within the community.</p> |
| <p>The delivery of interventions targeted at problem drug and alcohol use (NHS Local Delivery Plan (LDP) Standard).</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The target set for Orkney in regard to Alcohol Brief Interventions (ABI's) for 2019-2020 was 249. • During the reporting year there were 431 ABI's carried out in Orkney, 62 of which were in primary care settings. • 100 % of NHS Orkney clients requiring drug/alcohol treatment commenced treatment within the national standard of 3 weeks. | <p>Orkney are using Alcohol Brief Interventions well above set national standards.</p> |
| <p>Number of Police Recorded Warnings, police diversion, fiscal measures, fiscal diversion, supervised bail,</p> | <p>During the reporting period police in Orkney issued 5 restorative justice warnings and 13 recorded police warnings.</p> <p>This data is collated and reported regularly throughout the reporting year.</p> <p>There were 78 community-based disposals awarded and 2 diversions from prosecution during the reporting year.</p> <p>There were no RLOs.</p> | <p>Opportunities for diversion and early intervention are maximised to increase the potential for change whilst minimising the additional harm caused by unnecessary progression through the Criminal Justice System.</p> <p>The partnership will continue to support any initiative that builds on this.</p> |

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| community sentences (including CPOs, DTTOs and RLOs). | DTTOs are not available. | |
| Number of short-term sentences under one year. | <p>During the reporting period there were 5 custodial sentences received by Orkney residents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 was for a period less than 3 months. • 4 were between 3 and 6 months. | Evidence provides that the low number of short-term sentences were a disposal for repeat offending. |
| Other information relevant to National Outcome Four | | |
| <p>It should be noted that for a large part of the reporting year the partnership did not have a coordinator in post and this reduced activity in all national outcomes. A coordinator was appointed in late January 2020. Evidence has been included that demonstrates proposed initiatives started since then, however this was interrupted due to temporary redeployment to urgent work due to the COVID pandemic.</p> | | |

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| NATIONAL OUTCOME FIVE. | | |
| Life chances are improved through needs, including health, financial inclusion, housing and safety, being addressed. | | |
| Indicator | | Impact |
| Individuals have made progress against the outcome. | <p>From information provided by partners in terms of verbal updates it is apparent progress is being made to the lives of those in the justice system. Empirical evidence and analysis is more problematic to present.</p> <p>It is recognised this is an area the partnership needs to develop and improve to allow evidence based examples.</p> | A case study following individuals through the justice process will be a method explored to review the effectiveness of measures throughout their journey from entry to disposal. In addition, development and use of data systems is underway to assist in this process. |
| Other information relevant to National Outcome Five | | |

It should be noted that for a large part of the reporting year the partnership did not have a coordinator in post and this reduced activity in all national outcomes. A coordinator was appointed in late January 2020. Evidence has been included that demonstrates proposed initiatives started since then, however this was interrupted due to temporary redeployment to urgent work due to the COVID pandemic.

NATIONAL OUTCOME SIX.

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

| Indicator | | Impact |
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| Individuals have made progress against the outcome. | As stated in outcome 5 it is difficult to measure outcomes in this area. National guidance attempts to assist with measures, however in reality within a small community this is difficult to implement given it would require contact with employers and family. Without approval from individuals this is not a practical option. | This could be built into future case studies: obtaining permissions to contact employers and families would be beneficial in charting progress and effectiveness of local and national measures. |

Other information relevant to National Outcome Six

It should be noted that for a large part of the reporting year the partnership did not have a coordinator in post and this reduced activity in all national outcomes. A coordinator was appointed in late January 2020. Evidence has been included that demonstrates proposed initiatives started since then, however this was interrupted due to temporary redeployment to urgent work due to the COVID pandemic

NATIONAL OUTCOME SEVEN.

Individuals' resilience and capacity for change and self-management are enhanced.

| Indicator | | Impact |
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| Individuals have made progress against the outcome. | As in outcome 5 and 6 this is limited, it is felt the framework for reporting on this is still not clear. The suggestions for measures against this outcome are not applicable in a local context. | Clearer guidance is required to enable future reporting. |

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| Other information relevant to National Outcome Seven |
| It should be noted that for a large part of the reporting year the partnership did not have a coordinator in post and this reduced activity in all national outcomes. A coordinator was appointed in late January 2020. Evidence has been included that demonstrates proposed initiatives started since then, however this was interrupted due to temporary redeployment to urgent work due to the COVID pandemic. |

4. Priority Areas of Focus

- Support alcohol/drug addiction and mental health services provided locally, to ensure they meet the needs of users in terms of access to and effectiveness of support provided.
- Undertake a Strategic Needs Assessment and review and amend the Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan, reflecting on any possible impacts caused by the pandemic.
- Continued monitoring of Domestic Abuse reports, enhancing liaison with third sector partners to identify any measures that could be implemented that support victims of domestic abuse and address offending behaviour.

The Partnership will focus on the above areas as alcohol and drug misuse/addiction are a major contributory factor in reported crime and reoffending.

It is essential to ensure local support services are in place and, are relevant and effective. This includes timeous access to mental health support and counselling.

The misuse/abuse of alcohol has historically been an issue within the community. Focusing on strategies that can change behaviour will have a positive outcome for the reduction of offending including domestic incidents where alcohol locally and nationally remains a feature.

Currently the LA does not deliver national group work programmes in relation to sexual or domestic offending (Moving Forward/Making Changes; Caledonian Programme). This is an area the partnership are keen to assess and explore suitable programmes/initiatives that will address this gap.



5. Case Studies

It should be noted that for a large part of the reporting year the partnership did not have a coordinator in post and this reduced activity in all national outcomes. A coordinator was appointed in late January 2020. Evidence has been included that demonstrates proposed initiatives started since then, however this was interrupted due to temporary redeployment to urgent work due to the COVID pandemic.

The importance of this area is acknowledged, and it is hoped that evidence will be provided in next year's report.

6. Challenges

- Client engagement on occasion can be challenging.
- Accessibility for unpaid work clients, Orkney has 20 habited Islands on occasion clients are from the outer islands and access to supervised unpaid work can be problematic.
- No local group work programmes aimed to address sexual offending is available (e.g. Moving Forward, Making Changes).
- No local group work programmes aimed to address domestic abuse (e.g. Caledonian Project).
- Press coverage of local crimes can have an adverse effect on accused and witnesses. In a small community the naming of people in local media can damage reputation, cause anxiety and make it more difficult to gain employment. It is also a barrier for witnesses to provide evidence.

- Continued funding for Third Sector. An example of this is the collapse of the dedicated alcohol counselling service due to lack of funds (Orkney Alcohol Counselling and Advisory Service).



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