

RECORD OF MEETING (VIRTUAL)

Meeting Name:	Moray Community Justice Partnership meeting
Acting Chair:	Tracy Stephen – Head of Children & Families, Moray Council
Date Of Meeting:	27 May 2021
Location:	Virtual via ‘MS Teams’
Attending:	<p>Caroline Cooper – Regional Family Support Coordinator, Families Outside Pam Cremin – Integrated Service Manager, Mental Health Andrew Dick - Group Commander, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Cllr John Divers – Councillor, MC Kathleen Donaldson – Service Manager, SACRO Paul Johnson – Manager, Moray Alcohol & Drug Partnership Ian McKinnon – Inspector, Police Scotland Tish Richford – Service Manager, Criminal Justice Social Work, MC John Todd - Senior Social Worker, Moray Youth Justice & Child Protection. MC Mike Whelan – Community Justice Coordinator, MC</p>
Apologies:	<p>Carol Chambers – Operations Manager, Housing Needs, MC Cllr Lorna Creswell – Councillor, MC Nina Crocombe – Skills Development Scotland Mark Holloway – Deputy Governor, HMP Inverness Jackie Maclaren – Operations Manager, tsiMoray Gordon Methven – Elgin Street Pastors Cary Tamm - Head of Northern Strategy, SACRO</p>

AGENDA ITEM/ TOPIC	ACTION POINT	TO BE ACTIONED BY
1. Minute of previous meeting	The minute of the meeting of 18 February 2021 was accepted and will be formally approved at the next physical meeting of the Partnership.	
2. Matters arising	There were no matters arising.	
3. Chair/ Vice-chair vacancies	MW reported that there had been no expressions of interest in taking the Partnership Chair. TS had agreed to chair this meeting and offered to take up the role on a permanent basis. She explained that she would leave the meeting at the conclusion of	

4. Community Justice Scotland update

business to leave members to consider this and the vice-chair vacancy.

MW provided an update on developments with Community Justice Scotland. There had been a Chairs' event on 28 April 2021, three topics:

National Outcomes Performance Improvement Framework – Document created at the outset in 2016, describing how Partnerships should monitor and report on the 4 strategic and 3 person-centric outcomes, is due for five-year review. Scottish Government and CJS are jointly undertaking this.

- Jan – Jun 2021: Research and initial revision proposal
- Jul 2021 - Feb 2022: Further development, consult and test
- Mar 2022 - Implementation.

Our new plan is due in April 2022 and CJS is advising partnerships that new plans must be compliant with new framework. Partnerships may wish to delay new plan, to be considered at future meeting.

Recover, Renew, Transform agenda – Working group led by CJS looking at justice backlog.

- Fewer court cases so fewer imprisonments and community sentences
- Growing Court backlog
- Additional Courts from September 2021
- At least three years to clear growing backlog.

Group is looking at increasing use of non-custodial sentencing but still many unknowns. Our own plan will need to take account of the local situation and recovering from the pandemic is likely to be a major feature of our next plan.

Communications – research piece commissioned by CJS identified:

- Low public awareness of Community Justice
- Little understanding of what Community Justice is
- There is an appetite for better understanding/ information amongst 'community minded' people and those with an interest in crime and justice.

Also –

Annual report – report for 2020-21 is due in September 2021, MW will be asking for data in the coming weeks. The report template has been changed this year:

<p>5. Strategic Needs Strengths Assessment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New format in relation to reporting on the seven national outcomes • Response required in relation to recommendations in CJS’s annual report for 2019-20 • Space to report on local impact of the pandemic on Community Justice. <p>MW requesting that partners consider examples that reflect good practice here in Moray.</p> <p>MW circulated first draft of SNSA last week, following a meeting between MW, TR and CJS on 15 April.</p> <p>MW thanked partners for additional information used in the report, particularly Police Scotland for crime data in 2019-20. Suzanne Wilson, RIO who deals with Community Safety has kindly agreed to undertake analysis of crime data.</p> <p>MW asked partners to review document. Keen to add information, particularly on the CJ cohort. MW will arrange meetings and calls with partners over the coming weeks (focussing on partners’ priorities and plans over the coming period). Plan is then to have further meeting with CJS to clarify next steps.</p> <p>TS noted that it would be useful to track prevalence of care-experienced young people in the justice system, recognising the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE’s).</p> <p>PJ asked that references to ‘substance misuse’ in the document be replaced with the less pejorative ‘alcohol and drug use’. Also noted that appendix referencing alcohol and drug use had not been circulated with the draft SNSA.</p> <p>IMcK questioned the inference about the timing of crimes and linking this to alcohol use, also queried the numbers cited for Police Direct Measures. MW to review.</p>	<p>MW</p> <p>MW</p> <p>MW</p> <p>MW</p>
<p>6. Peer research project</p>	<p>CC provided an update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact made with main prisons for Moray population: Inverness, Grampian, Glenochil • Survey responses received from Grampian and meeting arranged with HMP Inverness next week • Responses were mostly from repeat offenders and many had expressed interest in taking part in focus groups • CC has spoken to people who had been released from prison, a good source of case studies 	

7. Partner updates

- Survey prepared for completion by people in the community and circulated to partners on 14 May. Completion by professionals, people with an interest in Community Justice and the wider public is encouraged
- 'Time to talk' presentation planned
- Wider public engagement envisaged for summer
- Media output (e.g. video) at end of project is under consideration.

Elgin Street Pastors

School pastors are back at Elgin High and Forres Academy but only doing outside patrols. Street pastors are doing hourly patrols at lunchtimes on Wednesdays and evening patrols for an hour on Fridays, depending upon availability. It is unlikely we will fully return to patrols until the night time economy fully re-opens.

Families Outside

Meetings with clients about to restart but opting for public spaces rather than in people's homes where possible.

Referrals are slow, this is attributed to the Court backlog.

High level of remand continues to be a challenge, particularly as remand prisoners do not have access to prisoner courses.

Mental Health

Services are now fully mobilised although continuing without face to face where possible ('NearMe' technology is default).

Hoping to restart online group work soon.

Youth Justice

Figures remained stable until last quarter but are expected to be much higher for the current quarter. Figures appear to have been inflated by lockdown/post-lockdown behaviour.

Police Scotland

Police activity is moving towards 'business as usual'. Keen to continue to utilise lessons from lockdown, including use of non-custodial options for policing.

Preparing for virtual court and necessary staffing arrangements.

MADP

MADP's new plan had been signed off and PJ thanked people who had provided feedback.

Partnership is awaiting news on Moray's level of funding arising from Scottish Government's planned £250M investment in services over the next five years.

Work is beginning on the Drug Death Taskforce's Medically Assisted Treatment Standards ('MAST') and the development of rapid response procedures.

SFRS

Reviewing working practices in light of the pandemic.
All crime-related work has continued.
SFRS had tried to deliver 'Firesetters' programme in online format but stopped as it wasn't really working, hoping to resume face to face delivery soon.
Aberdeenshire & Moray is merging with Aberdeen City and there will be a new SFRS representative on the Partnership from July 2021. AD will attend for handover.

SACRO

SHINE and Veterans Mentoring Service continue to be delivered remotely, usually by phone.
The 'Click' pilot (a service for women engaged in online sexual activity) has ended. It's not yet known whether this service will resume.
Business as usual at SACRO's supported accommodation sites.
SACRO has been supporting the NHS Alcohol Brief Intervention ('ABI') initiative by delivering training on this approach.

Criminal Justice Social Work

We have now secured a COVID compliant venue for our group work programme and will restart the MFMC group programme on 8 June. We are also refreshing our practice and processes for working with perpetrators of domestic abuse.

We will be resuming drug testing from 31 May and offer the full DTTO service to the Court.

The elements of the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020 relating to community orders were applied in March 2021 and the 35% reduction in unpaid work hours resulted in a significant reduction of orders and outstanding hours. Orders dropped from 186 to 150 and hours from 18,000 to about 9500.

Now that Moray is at Level 2, the number of people undertaking Unpaid work is increasing and this should increase further when Moray moves to Level 1. We are now operating on a 1:3 basis but still cannot use our vans to transport clients. As is the case elsewhere in Scotland, individual placements are currently limited.

Court business is now increasing and this will impact on the CJSW team. We are reviewing the need to recruit additional staff to deal with an increase in court reports and orders.

We are meeting the Sheriff in June to discuss our recovery plan in terms of restarting programme work, DTTO and new initiatives like Structured Deferred Sentences and how we can increase the uptake of bail supervision.

<p>8. AOCB</p>	<p>We are looking to review our approach to diversion, especially youth diversion, due to some evidence of increased numbers and a predicted increase in demand for this service going forward.</p> <p>Scottish Courts Our Sheriff Clerk at Elgin Court, Frances MacPherson has retired and her replacement is Iain MacArthur.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JP Court business will resume 7 June 2021. • Sheriff Court Cited cases will continue to be dealt with, but with restrictions on personal appearances at Court with them being identified in advance by the Sheriff and given a specific time slot to attend. • Trial Courts will proceed with agreed maximum loading of 5 Trials per day. Priority will continue to be given to custody cases, Domestic Abuse cases or those involving child witnesses. • New custody matters will continue to be dealt with at Inverness Justice Centre • Intermediate Diet Courts will proceed as normal due to the present systems in place with the Lord President’s Practice Note which significantly restricts any requirement for an attendance at Court. • Any custody matters calling at Elgin will be dealt with by way of video links with the Prison. • Civil business will continue as normal but remotely using conference calls. Any hearing at which evidence is to be led will only be dealt with by personal attendance if it is deemed essential and cannot be dealt with remotely. • The Sheriff Clerk’s Office remains closed to the public but full service is provided by staff by way of phone, email and mail. Central and on-line systems remain in place for fines payments. <p>TS left the meeting so that the Chair/ Vice-chair vacancies could be considered.</p> <p>It was agreed by all remaining attendees that TS should continue as permanent Chair of the Partnership. It was also unanimously agreed that Ian McKinnon take up the position of Vice-chair.</p>	
<p>9. Next meeting</p>	<p>11.00 am on Thursday, 26 August 2021.</p>	<p>All</p>