
Report to: CLACKMANNANSHIRE ALLIANCE

Date of Meeting: 4th DECEMBER 2015

Subject: COMMUNITY JUSTICE TRANSITION PLAN 2016/17

Report by: STRATEGY AND PERFORMANCE MANAGER

1.0 Purpose

This report presents the Clackmannanshire Alliance with the Community Justice Transition Plan for 2016/17 for Clackmannanshire. The plan is provided at **Appendix A** to this report.

2.0 Recommendations

It is recommended that the Clackmannanshire Alliance;

- agree the proposal to establish a Community Justice Partnership for Clackmannanshire, the purpose of which will be to lead on planning and delivery of Community Justice in Clackmannanshire;
- Note, challenge and comment on the proposed next steps and timescales for implementation of transitional arrangements;

3.0 Considerations

- 3.1 This transition plan sets out the arrangements that the CPP will be developing over the next 12 months in preparation for taking responsibility for Community Justice from 1st April 2017. Forth Valley Community Justice Authority will continue to take responsibility for community justice in Clackmannanshire during the shadow period to 31st March 2017.
- 3.2 This transition plan has been developed in line with expectations set out by Scottish Government and in line with the major milestones for transition set out in the Community Justice (Scotland) Bill 2015. Submission of a transition plan to Scottish Government is required by the end of January 2016.
- 3.3 The Scottish Government has made it clear that the Community Planning Partnership will be locally responsible for new Community Justice Arrangements. This will involve creating a local profile on community justice and offending; publishing a strategic plan in line with the national performance framework and reporting regularly on progress. An annual progress report will be submitted to a new

national body (Community Justice Scotland) following implementation of the new model.

- 3.4 It is proposed in Clackmannanshire that a new partnership is established to take forward the local community justice agenda. This partnership will be known as the Clackmannanshire Community Justice Partnership, will report into the Clackmannanshire Executive and will be accountable to the Clackmannanshire Alliance. It will sit alongside (and align with) existing partnerships namely the; Community Wellbeing and Safety Partnership; Business, Jobs and Skills Partnership; Children and Young People Strategic Partnership and Public Protection Forum. It will also closely align with the work undertaken under the Health and Social Care Integration strategy.

Next Steps

- 3.5 It is proposed that the CPP will commence a number of steps in early 2016 to progress transition to the new community justice model. These are to:
- undertake a strategic assessment of community justice and offending in Clackmannanshire to determine trends, strengths and areas for improvement. This will help identify local priorities going forward. The strategic assessment will be developed in partnership with FVCJA and will build on priorities and data set out in the FVCJA Area Plan for Clackmannanshire 2014/17.
 - invite community justice partners to participate in a workshop and networking event. The aim of this event will be to collectively review the strategic assessment and agree a broad set of partnership aims and priorities.
 - Community Justice Partners will then be invited to nominate a representative and a schedule of meetings will be agreed. Initial focus will be on developing a local strategic plan for Clackmannanshire and shaping planning and performance arrangements following publication of national guidance.

Appendices

Appendix A - Community Justice Transition Plan for Clackmannanshire 2016/17

Author(s)

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Appendix A

Clackmannanshire Community Planning Partnership

Community Justice Transition Plan for 2016/17

- 1.1 This plan sets out Clackmannanshire Community Planning Partnership's arrangements for Community Justice Transition in an interim period up to 31st March 2017. During this time Forth Valley Community Justice Authority (FVCJA) will remain responsible for Community Justice in Clackmannanshire, with the Community Planning Partnership taking responsibility from 1st April 2017.
- 1.2 This transition plan sets out the arrangements that the CPP will be developing over the next 12 months in preparation for taking responsibility for Community Justice from 1st April 2017. This transition plan has been developed in line with expectations set out by Scottish Government and in line with the major milestones for transition set out in the Community Justice (Scotland) Bill 2015. In anticipation of the Community Justice framework and Guidance from Scottish Government which is yet to be published, this plan focuses on planning, governance and accountability functions within the context of Community Planning in Clackmannanshire.

Background and National Context

- 1.3 In May 2015 the Community Justice (Scotland) Bill was introduced into Scottish Parliament and set out a process of change which would see the disestablishment of the existing 8 Community Justice Authorities, in favour of aligning Community Justice within preventative approaches already in place via CPPs. The objectives of the bill aim to create stronger community justice arrangements based on local planning and delivery. The basis of these objectives acknowledge that other partners and partnership arrangements have an interest and can influence the positive achievement of community justice outcomes.
- 1.4 A new national body (Community Justice Scotland) will be established which will provide leadership and opportunities for learning and development. This body will focus on developing a strategic approach for community justice in Scotland which will be set around the following high level aims;
 - Increasing positive citizenship;
 - Increasing public safety;
 - Increasing public reassurance;
 - Reducing costs associated with offending; and
 - Reducing stigma.
- 1.5 The national body will also undertake a dual development and monitoring role. It will aim to develop national and local arrangements through the creation of a hub for innovation, commissioning arrangements and workforce development of community justice professionals. It will also establish a

national performance framework against which CPPs will plan and report on progress.

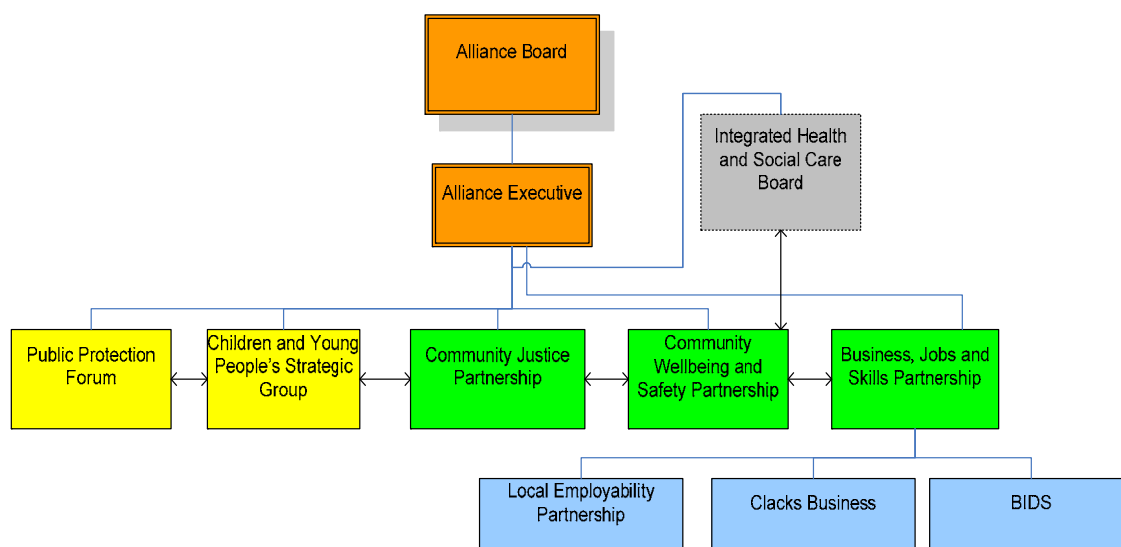
1.6 Core partners of the national body are identified as;

Local Authorities	NHS Boards	Police Scotland
Scottish Fire and Rescue	Skills Development Scotland	Health and Social Care Integration Boards
Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service	Scottish Prison Service	

Local Arrangements

- 1.7 The Scottish Government has made it clear that the Community Planning Partnership will be locally responsible for new Community Justice Arrangements in Clackmannanshire. This will involve creating a local profile on community justice and offending; publishing a strategic plan in line with the national performance framework and reporting regularly on progress. An annual progress report will be submitted to Community Justice Scotland.
- 1.8 The Clackmannanshire CPP is a non body-corporate board comprising Clackmannanshire Council; NHSFV board member; Forth Valley College board member; Clackmannanshire Business board member and board members from both the Joint Community Council and Tenants and Residents Federation. The Clackmannanshire Alliance Executive supports the Alliance in delivering actions required to achieve the outcomes set out in Clackmannanshire's Single Outcome Agreement 2013/23.
- 1.9 The overall effectiveness of community planning arrangements to improve outcomes, including the role of the Alliance Board, its Executive and partnership groups is scrutinised by the Council's Resources & Audit Sub-committee as defined by its current remit.
- 1.10 It is proposed in Clackmannanshire that a new partnership is established to take forward the local community justice agenda. This partnership will be known as the Clackmannanshire Community Justice Partnership and will report into the Clackmannanshire Executive and will be accountable to the Clackmannanshire Alliance. It will sit alongside (and align with) existing partnerships namely the; Community Wellbeing and Safety Partnership; Business, Jobs and Skills Partnership; Children and Young People's Strategic group and Public Protection Forum. The proposed CPP partnership structure is shown at **figure 1**.

Figure 1 - Clackmannanshire CPP Structure



1.11 It is proposed that membership of the partnership will include;

- Clackmannanshire Council.
- Police Scotland;
- Scottish Fire and Rescue;
- Scottish Prison Service;
- NHSFV,
- Skills Development Scotland (SDS)
- (Discussions will be held with both the Courts and Tribunal Services to engage their involvement where appropriate).

1.12 It is proposed that a senior officer from Clackmannanshire Council is nominated by the Alliance to chair the Community Justice partnership. Appropriate support will be provided by relevant Council services including Strategy and Customer Services and Social Services.

1.13 To enable effective scrutiny, the partnership (in line with the existing CPP performance and reporting framework) will submit its annual delivery plan to the Clackmannanshire Alliance for approval in March of each year.

1.14 The partnership will report on a quarterly basis to the Alliance in line with the existing performance framework. Scrutiny of performance will be undertaken by the Councils Resources and Governance sub-committee in line with existing scrutiny arrangements.

Next Steps

1.15 The CPP will commence a number of steps in early 2016. These are to;

- undertake a strategic assessment of community justice and offending in Clackmannanshire to determine trends, strengths and areas for improvement. This assessment will also produce a more detailed profile of offenders in Clackmannanshire. This will help identify local priorities going forward. The strategic assessment will be developed in partnership with FVCJA and will build on priorities and data set out in the FVCJA Area Plan for Clackmannanshire 2014/17.
- invite community justice partners to participate in a workshop event to take place in May 2016. The aim of this event will be to collectively review the strategic assessment and agree a broad set of partnership aims and priorities. FVCJA will be invited to be part of this event as will appropriate third sector providers and service users.
- Community Justice Partners will then be invited to nominate a representative and a schedule of meetings will be agreed. The first meeting of the partnership will be scheduled in August 2016. Initial focus will be on developing a local strategic plan for Clackmannanshire and shaping planning and performance arrangements following publication of national guidance.

1.16 Clackmannanshire CPP is in the process of recruiting a Community Justice Policy Co-ordinator (funded via available transition funding). It is intended that this post will be filled by January 2016. The role of the postholder will be to support the CPP and Community Justice partners through this transition year and into the first year of Community Justice arrangements under CPPs.

Timeline

1.17 The timetable for both proposed local activity and national milestones is set out below.

Local Timeline		National Timeline	
Transition Plan Complete and submitted to Scottish Government.	January 2016	Enactment of Community Justice (Scotland) Bill	2016.
CJ Co-ordinator post filled.	January 2016	Community Justice Scotland established.	2016
Early engagement with identified community justice partners.	Feb/March 2016	National guidance for CPPs produced	2016
Strategic assessment/offender profile complete.	April 2016	Disestablishment of FVCJA	March 2017
Workshop and networking event held with community justice partners.	May 2016	New CJA model commences	April 2017
First Meeting of Community Justice Partnership.	August 2016		
Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan.	Early 2017.		

Local Profile

Overarching Context

1.18 Clackmannanshire features significant levels of deprivation when compared to Forth Valley and Scotland on the whole. Data tells us that Income and employment deprivation and children living in poverty are prevalent in Clackmannanshire. Associated with this are high levels of male drug prevalence; poor mental health and social isolation; higher than national comparator for domestic abuse and alcohol mortalities.

Community Justice and Offending in Clackmannanshire

1.19 An summary offending profile for Clackmannanshire has recently been completed by FVCJA. This profile highlights some high level trends which show;

- An overall fall in the number of adult prisoners in custody;
- A slight rise in the number of young offenders in custody;
- A 3 year fall in domestic abuse incidents;
- Relatively small number of adults were in custody as at July 2015 - 52 adult males and 6 adult females. For the most part adult males were serving sentences between 2-4 years or 4 years and over; females were serving shorter sentences.
- An overall Increase in Community Payback Orders
- Based on a survey of prisoners from Forth Valley 62% had used drugs prior to coming into prison and almost half reported being under the influence of alcohol at the time of their offence.

1.20 Clackmannanshire CPP will as part of its strategic assessment commission a more detailed profile of offenders in Clackmannanshire, specifically those at risk of reoffending. This will draw on data, information and experience of a range of partners and partnerships in Clackmannanshire including community safety, criminal justice social work, alcohol and drug partnership and health and social care integration. This profile will help to provide a greater understanding of offending and reoffending behaviour in Clackmannanshire and better inform our preventative approaches aimed at reducing reoffending.

Conclusions

1.21 Further guidance from Scottish Government is currently awaited on performance framework, however it is expected that the first community justice outcomes improvement plan will be due in early 2017. This transition plan is not an outcomes improvement plan but provides a foundation for future planning.