



Inverclyde Alliance

AGENDA ITEM NO: 9

Report To:	Inverclyde Alliance Board	Date:	6 December 2021
Report By:	Allen Stevenson Interim Corporate Director (Chief Officer) Inverclyde HSCP	Report No:	
Contact Officer:	Sharon McAlees Head of Criminal Justice & Children's Services	Contact No:	01475 715282
Subject:	Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership Annual Report 2020-21		

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to present to the Inverclyde Alliance Board the Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership Annual Report 2020-21.

2.0 SUMMARY

2.1 The Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 provides the statutory framework for the model of community justice. The Act stipulates adherence must be given to the National Strategy for Community Justice; the Community Justice Outcomes Performance and Improvement Framework and associated Guidance in the development of a local Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan and subsequent Annual Reports.

2.2 The Inverclyde Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan (CJOIP) 2017-2022 was submitted to Scottish Government on 31st March 2017, with full local responsibility for implementation commencing on 1st April 2017. The Inverclyde Alliance Board at its meeting on 4th October 2021 endorsed a decision to extend the Inverclyde CJOIP by one further year concluding in March 2023.

2.3 Section 23 of The Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 requires the community justice partners of a local authority area to publish an annual report that is also submitted to Community Justice Scotland. The annual report for 2020-21 was initially submitted in September 2021 pending endorsement from the Inverclyde Alliance Board. The annual report is appended as Appendix 1.

2.4 The annual report notes progress over the reporting year including reference to the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on the Community Justice Partnership, collective partnership achievement during the reporting year and activities against the seven national outcomes.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that the Inverclyde Alliance Board:

- a) Notes the content of the Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership Annual Report 2020/21; and
- b) Approves final submission of the Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership Annual Report 2020/21 to Community Justice Scotland.

Allen Stevenson (Interim Corporate Director (Chief Officer), Inverclyde HSCP)

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 The Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 (“the Act”) requires community justice partners to produce a Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan (CJOIP) for each local authority area, outlining how they intend to work together to reduce re-offending. Partners must report annually on progress against locally and nationally determined outcomes.

4.2 The Act outlines the functions for community justice partners and expectations around local arrangements and reporting of progress of local Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan (CJOIP) with the publication of an Annual Report.

4.3 The Annual Report must include detail on each nationally determined outcome and any local determined outcome. Partners must also use the relevant indicators as outlined in the Community Justice Outcomes Performance and Improvement Framework.

4.4 The national community justice outcomes consists of four structural outcomes and three person-centric outcomes as outlined below:

Structural Outcomes	Person- Centric Outcomes
Communities improve their understanding and participation in community justice.	Life chances are improved through needs, including health, financial inclusion, housing and safety being addressed.
Partners plan and deliver services in a more strategic and collaborative way.	People develop positive relationships and more opportunities to participate and contribute through education, employment and leisure activities.
Effective interventions are delivered to prevent and reduce the risk of further offending.	Individual's resilience and capacity for change and self-management are enhanced.
People have better access to the services they require including welfare, health and wellbeing, housing and employability.	

4.5 Community Justice Scotland (CJS) recognises that there are a set of circumstances at time of writing that make this process different from the three previous Annual Outcome Activity Returns, namely:

- The Covid-19 pandemic which was present for the entirety of the 2020-21 reporting period and will continue to have implications for the work of community justice partners.
- The review of the Outcomes Performance and Improvement Framework (OPIF) which is running concurrently with the Outcome Activity Returns process. Until the review of the OPIF has concluded CJS recognises a transitional template (such as this one) is likely to be required.

4.6 The 2020-21 template takes into account the feedback from local Community Justice Partnerships across Scotland with the following changes:

- The most substantial change is the focus on outcomes taking account of the indicators rather than asking partnerships to report on progress against each individual indicator.
- CJS have created space for community justice partners to reflect on the collective achievement they are most proud of during the reporting period.
- There is an opportunity to reflect the impact of the pandemic on community justice activity under each of the outcomes. There is a dedicated section to give partners the opportunity to reflect on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the partnership.

- CJS have also included a new section to allow community justice partners to reflect on how they have, or intend to, implement activity in response to recommendations in the 2019-20 Annual Outcome Activity Return.

4.7 Although the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted on partnership activity, highlights during the reporting year include:

- An opportunity to celebrate the efforts of staffing groups from the Community Justice Partnership who were able to continue supporting individuals in difficult situations during the lockdowns. Both Public Sector services and Third Sector providers were able to continue offering their service to individuals and where appropriate to signpost to other services and agencies across Inverclyde.
- Acknowledging an increased range of digital resources and activities tailored for people in the justice system and under the umbrella of the Community Justice Partnership, an application was made to the Scottish Government Programme 'Connecting Scotland'. This programme seeks to provide iPads and Chromebooks and support individuals to develop digital skills who are digitally excluded on low incomes or experiencing poverty.
- Progress in respect of the Early Action System Change Programme with a theme of women and criminal justice. The test of change proposed is to adopt a trauma informed approach to support women as close to their entry to the criminal justice system as possible. In addition, the test of change will also feature, again with a trauma informed approach, facilitation for opportunities for women to engage in activities, volunteering or employment within their community.
- The creation of an unpaid work sub-group jointly chaired by the CJP Vice Chair and Justice Social Work Service Manager to consider the relationship with those agencies who may engage with individuals on unpaid work requirements along with the interface between Criminal Justice Social Work and the range of community groups within Inverclyde.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Legal:

Section 23 of the Act sets out that the community justice partners of a local authority area must report on progress in relation to community justice outcomes.

5.2 Finance:

A Community Justice Lead Officer is appointed and hosted by Criminal Justice & Children's Services within Inverclyde HSCP using the Scottish Government's transition funding allocation of £50,000 to Inverclyde. There is however an annual shortfall and the Criminal Justice Social Work budget is currently being utilised to meet these costs. This highlights the temporary nature of funding and the need to articulate at appropriate national forums the case for a long-term commitment to funding to ensure the successful implementation of the community justice agenda.

5.3 Human Resources: none at present

5.4 Equality and Diversity: none at present

5.5 Repopulation: none at present

5.6 Inequalities: none at present

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

6.1 This report has been prepared after due consideration with statutory and third sector partners.

7.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None

Community Justice Scotland
Ceartas Coimhearsnachd Alba

Community Justice Outcome Activity Across Scotland
Local Area Annual Return Template
2020-21

May 2021

1. Background

The introduction of the [Community Justice \(Scotland\) Act 2016](#) (the Act) triggered the formal implementation of the new model of Community Justice in Scotland. A number of key documents are associated with the Act including the [National Strategy](#), [Guidance for local partners in the new model for community justice](#), [Justice in Scotland: Vision & Priorities](#) and the [Framework for Outcomes, Performance and Improvement](#).

The Act places a duty on community justice statutory partners to produce a Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan (CJOIP) which outlines key local needs and priorities and the plans and actions to address these against a backdrop of the documents noted above. Beyond this, the partners are also tasked with reporting, on an annual basis, the community justice outcomes and improvements in their area, again with reference to the associated strategy, guidance and framework documents and, when complete, submit those annual reports to Community Justice Scotland (CJS)¹.

CJS is committed to working in partnership with community justice partners and have designed the template and guidance to support local areas in reporting on their annual outcomes and improvements in a meaningful way that captures necessary data in an effective and efficient manner. It also supports areas in fulfilling their statutory obligations on annual reporting under section 23 and fulfils our requirement to consult on the preparation of an annual report on performance in relation to community justice outcomes under section 27(3).

CJS recognises that there are a set of circumstances at time of writing that make this process different from the three previous Annual Outcome Activity Returns; namely:

1. The Covid-19 pandemic which was present for the entirety of the 2020-21 reporting period and will continue to have implications for the work of community justice partners.
2. The review of the Outcomes Performance and Improvement Framework (OPIF) which is running concurrently with the Outcome Activity Returns process. Until the review of the OPIF has concluded CJS recognises a transitional template (such as this one) is likely to be required.

To allow for both of these, CJS surveyed community justice partnerships in April 2021 seeking views on the completion of the annual report template covering the

¹ Guidance for statutory partners on this annual reporting process – to which community justice partners must have regard - is available at paragraphs 6.38-6.42 of the “Guidance for local partners in the new model for community justice” (linked to above).



period 2020-21. The 2020-21 template takes into account the feedback from 17 completed surveys with the following changes:

1. The most substantial change is the focus on outcomes taking account of the indicators rather than asking partnerships to report on progress against each individual indicator.
2. We have created space for community justice partners to reflect on the collective achievement they are most proud of during the reporting period.
3. There is an opportunity to reflect the impact of the pandemic on community justice activity under each of the outcomes. There is a dedicated section to give partners the opportunity to reflect on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the partnership.

This template includes a new section to allow community justice partners to reflect on how they have, or intend to, implement activity in response to recommendations in the 2019-20 Annual Outcome Activity Return.

CJS would like to extend thanks to those community justice partners that took the time to complete the template survey, spoke to us as part of the OPIF review process and to those that sense-checked the guidance points in the draft template.

2. Statement of Assurance and Data Usage

The information submitted to Community Justice Scotland using this template is for the primary purpose of fulfilling the requirement under s27 of the Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 for Community Justice Scotland to produce a report on performance in relation to community justice outcomes across Scotland.

In line with provisions in the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), CJS will use appropriate data to ensure that there is continuous reporting, development and progress towards the national outcomes. By providing data to CJS you are consenting to its use by CJS as indicated. Community Justice Partnerships should be aware that any information held by Community Justice Scotland is subject to statutory Freedom of Information obligations.



3. General principles of the template

The template is designed to capture a range of important data in a way that allows local partners to highlight key aspects of community justice activities, outcomes and improvements over the specified period without it being onerous or time and resource demanding. CJS has made some changes to the template this year (as outlined on pages 2-3) to account for the ongoing OPIF review process and the Covid-19 pandemic.

Most of the template is self-explanatory and, where this is the case, there is little guidance required. In the sections that require more direction for completion, the text (in blue) will outline what is expected in terms of reporting.

Template sections:

[Section 1 Community Justice Partnership / Group Details](#)

[Section 2 Template Sign-Off](#)

[Section 3 Governance Arrangements](#)

[Section 4 Progress from 2019-20 Recommendations](#) (new section for 2020-21)

[Section 5 Covid-19 Pandemic Impact](#) (new section for 2020-21)

[Section 6 Performance Reporting – National Outcomes](#)

[Section 7 Partnership Achievements](#)

[Section 8 Challenges](#) (unrelated to Covid-19 pandemic)

[Section 9 Additional Information](#)

It would be helpful if responses in each of the “evidence and data” boxes within section 6 of the template (“performance reporting”) is kept to a minimum by capturing the main points only. This allows for an efficient analysis by Community Justice Scotland on return. The use of bullet points in your answers is acceptable.

Where the template asks for evidence, a written response will suffice and there is no expectation that you send additional supporting documentation – if there are any aspects Community Justice Scotland is unclear on it will be our responsibility to request clarification where necessary.

If any response or evidence requires details about people with lived experience (e.g. evidence in respect of someone’s life story) please **DO NOT** include any personal or sensitive information (as outlined in Schedules 2 & 3 of the Data Protection Act 1998) as Community Justice Scotland does not require such information. If this is unavoidable then please ensure that the data is fully anonymised.



This is the fourth iteration of the template and guidance. If you have any queries about completing the template then please email CJSImprovement@communityjustice.scot.



4. Template Completion

1. Community Justice Partnership / Group Details	
Community Justice Partnership / Group	Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership
Community Justice Partnership Group Chair	Sharon McAlees
Community Justice Partnership / Group Coordinator	Ian Hanley
Publication date of Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan (CJOIP)	31 st March 2017

2. Template Sign-off	
<p>The content of this annual report on community justice outcomes and improvements in our area has been agreed as accurate by the Community Justice Partnership / Group and has been shared with our Community Planning Partnership through our local accountability arrangements.</p>	
Signature of Community Justice Partnership / Group Chair:	Date:
<i>Sharon McAlees</i>	24-09-2021
.....	
.....	

3. Governance Arrangements
<p>Please outline below your current governance structure for the community justice arrangements in your area. This section is the same as previous templates so if there have been no changes in this respect, copying and pasting from previous template submissions is acceptable.</p>



The Community Planning Partnership's vision for Inverclyde is:

'Nurturing Inverclyde: Getting it right for every Child, Citizen and Community'

This means that the Alliance will work in partnership to create a confident, inclusive Inverclyde with safe and sustainable, healthy, nurtured communities, and a thriving, prosperous economy, with active citizens who are resilient, respected and responsible and able to make a positive contribution to the area.

Inverclyde's Outcomes Improvement Plan (OIP) 2017/22 sets out the strategic priorities that the community planning partners in Inverclyde will focus on in order to achieve this vision. This should in turn improve the wellbeing and quality of life of the residents of Inverclyde, with a particular focus on reducing inequality and poverty.

The Alliance has four strategic priorities as outlined in the Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2017/22.

- Population
- The Local Economy
- Inequalities
- Environment, Culture and Heritage

The Alliance Board is Inverclyde's Community Planning Partnership (CPP). It operates strategically, take key decisions, leads the partnership and carries out an overall scrutiny role. This role includes oversight of the Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership. There is a requirement that the Community Justice Partnership presents the Annual Report and Annual Outcome Activity Return on an annual basis.

Inverclyde Alliance and Inverclyde HSCP have put in place arrangements for locality planning that meet the needs of both pieces of legislation. Six localities have been established which cover the whole of Inverclyde to ensure all communities are able to participate in locality planning. A Locality Planning Group (LPG) will be established for each of the following localities:

- Kilmacolm and Quarriers Village
- Port Glasgow
- Greenock East and Central
- Greenock South and South West
- Greenock West and Gourock
- Inverkip and Wemyss Bay

The Community Justice Lead Officer for Inverclyde is hosted by Inverclyde HSCP and updates are provided to both the Inverclyde Health and Social Care Committee and Inverclyde Integrated Joint Board where relevant to do so.



In addition, there are strong links with the Inverclyde Alcohol and Drug Partnership, Community Safety Partnership, Public Protection Network, Inverclyde HSCP Housing Partnership, MAPPA, Adult Protection and Child Protection.

4. Progress From 2019-20 Recommendations

To reduce the burden of reporting on progress from 2019-20 recommendations through an additional process please detail any work the partners have undertaken, or intend to undertake, in response to the following 2019-20 recommendations:

Recommendation for CJPs	Progress / Activity during 2020-21
<p>That community justice partners establish mechanisms to identify and engage collectively with local third sector and victims organisations.</p>	<p>The Vice Chair of the Community Justice Partnership is the TSI Representative and as such plays a pivotal role in the relationship between the third sector and the community justice partnership.</p> <p>In early 2020 we refreshed the 'Resilience Network' with a key aim to provide a space to sow the seeds of collaboration with third sector and community organisations, strengthening our local community assets. Although Covid-19 impacted on how the Resilience Network progressed a number of justice issues it did have significant involvement in the Covid-19 recovery efforts in the authority area.</p>
<p>That community justice partners meet statutory requirements for strategic planning. This includes being able to evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) a range of strategic needs and strengths assessment (SNSA) activity b) a published and up-to-date Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan (CJOIP) which 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) In 2019/20 the Partnership undertook a refreshed needs assessment based on learning from a Care Inspectorate Criminal Justice Social Work inspection during summer 2019. The focus of the inspection was on Community Payback Orders. The Partnership have committed to a full SNSA activity during 2021-22. b) The Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan was published on 31st March 2017 and expires on 31st March 2022. This plan is published and available for viewing at Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership - Inverclyde Council. A



<p>includes a participation statement</p> <p>c) a published annual report assessing progress towards outcomes</p>	<p>participation statement is included in the CJOIP (section 5). In 2021/22, following notification from The Scottish Government and Community Justice Scotland on a decision to review the National Strategy for Community Justice and Outcomes Performance Improvement Framework, the Inverclyde CJP have proposed to extend the current Inverclyde CJOIP by one further year and to publish a new CJOIP in April 2023. This is pending endorsement by the Community Planning Partnership.</p> <p>c) The Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership Annual Report 2019-20 was approved by the Inverclyde Health and Social Care Committee on 22nd October 2020 (Link to paper) and endorsed by the Community Planning Partnership (Inverclyde Alliance Board) at its meeting on 5 October 2020 (Link to Paper). The report is published and available for viewing at Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership - Inverclyde Council</p>
<p>Ensure community justice SNSA activity forms a crucial component of understanding the needs of the whole area population.</p>	<p>Activity has been carried out in Inverclyde over the past years in terms of a Partnership Needs Assessment which highlighted justice needs, in addition to this the Inverclyde Community Safety Partnership published a two year strategic assessment in October 2020.</p> <p>Following publication of the Community Justice Scotland SNSA Templates in February and December 2020, the Partnership recognises the need to consider future work in line with the templates and work is currently progressing in 2021-22. This will ensure that the partnership fully understands the community justice picture in Inverclyde and ensures our needs, issues and action planning are firmly embedded with a strong evidence base.</p>



5. Covid-19 Pandemic Impact

This is a new section for 2020-21. It should be used to reflect some of the a) challenges/negative implications and b) opportunities/positive implications from the Covid-19 pandemic on the community justice partnership / group. There is an opportunity to reflect impact on community justice activity in Section 6 under each of the national outcomes so this section is to capture any impact on the partnership over and above this.

Area impacted	Challenges / Negatives	Positives / Opportunities
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<p style="text-align: center;">Our community justice partnership</p>	<p>Immediately prior to the first national lockdown in March, the Partnership had to postpone a Partnership development session due to the then uncertainty around the pandemic. Subsequently all meetings have been held online and whilst attendance has remained consistent the Partnership do wish to meet in person and have subsequently agreed to two development sessions in the 2021/22 period.</p> <p>Whilst the use of digitally enabled technology was identified as a benefit there were also limitations to this approach. Partners spoke of difficulties with their own IT systems in enabling a swift transition during the early stages of the first lockdown. Additionally in terms of those individuals supported in our communities there was issues around affordability of service users making telephone calls to services. Justice social work staff note that during the first lockdown there were real concerns when service users could not be contactable by telephone and due to vulnerabilities around health there were additional concerns around face to face interactions.</p> <p>Justice Social Work staff responsible for the delivery of unpaid work within Inverclyde have had to significantly alter the offer compared to before the pandemic. This included being unable to transport individuals to sites to carry out work, reducing the numbers of individuals in order to</p>	<p>The Partnership agree that the pandemic expedited some of our use of technology which was only possible due to the established relationships in Inverclyde. This included staff/prisoner use of the 'Email a Prisoner' scheme which was used by Criminal Justice Social Work to support prisoners being released as part of the national early release scheme ensuring issues around housing, medication and alcohol and drug recovery services were arranged prior to release. Scottish Prison Service introduced virtual visits, access to phones ensuring contact between prisoners, their families and local services ahead of their release.</p> <p>As Inverclyde is a relatively small authority area there has been longstanding partnership working among justice partnership members and the partnership in general this meant that relationships have been long established and work was able to continue to support individuals. Examples of this included legacy work around early release and Voluntary Throughcare.</p> <p>There is a real opportunity to celebrate the efforts of staffing groups from the Community Justice Partnership who were able to continue supporting individuals in difficult situations during the lockdowns. Third Sector providers such as Turning Point Scotland and Action for Children were able to continue offering</p>
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	<p>maintain social distancing and limiting activities to avoid multiple persons touching equipment.</p> <p>The Partnership is aware of the impact that the pandemic has had on Sheriff Court business particularly with regard to case conclusions, scheduled trials and disposals. There is a current challenge from the end of the reporting year into the new year that as the Courts begin to recover there will be a knock on effect for Criminal Justice Social Work that could without careful planning overwhelm the Service which will also be on its own recovery journey.</p>	<p>their service to individuals and where appropriate and needed to signpost to other services and agencies across Inverclyde. SPS, in order to ensure those leaving prison were able to return home when there was limited/no public transport options drove people home. When not engaged in direct supervision of Unpaid Work placements, the supervisors (Criminal Justice Social Work) were involved in a range of other tasks in support of both the wider HSCP and the community. These tasks have included delivering essential medication to households in Inverclyde and also delivery of hot and cold food to individuals in the community who were self-isolating or shielding. Supervisors also assisted the Inverclyde Centre for Independent Living in delivering Occupational Therapy equipment to people's homes.</p> <p>Our PSPs (Turning Point Scotland, Shine) also supported individuals leaving prison by providing mobile phones for individuals who were able to keep in contact with key agencies and individuals.</p> <p>Under the umbrella of the Justice Partnership, an application was made to the Scottish Government Programme 'Connecting Scotland'. This programme seeks to provide iPads and Chromebooks and support individuals to develop digital skills who are digitally</p>
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		<p>excluded on low incomes or experiencing poverty. Acknowledging that there are an increasing range of digital resources and learning tailored for people in the justice system that was not accessible to a large number of people in the justice system in Inverclyde due to digital poverty, the Partnership were successful in their application and were awarded 20 digital devices. The 20 devices (3 chromebooks and 17 iPads) were distributed across two projects.</p> <p>For people leaving custody, and led with CVS Inverclyde, a lending library of 3 chromebooks was established at the CVS Hub. A Justice Services staff member and a CVS staff member became Digital Champions, bringing different expertise and an opportunity to learn together. The lending library model ensured digital access to a highly transient group of people, but who are also the most vulnerable group.</p> <p>Supporting those individuals on a Community Payback Order, their allocated worker became digital champions and provided support as part of their regular contacts. 17 iPads were distributed to people for them to keep at home for the purpose of accessing learning material and online support (including peer recovery groups and 1:1 support). Staff also accessed online resources as part of modular activity from Community Justice Scotland.</p>
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6. Performance Reporting – National Outcomes

This section is designed to capture the evidence and data that has been used by your Partnership over the reporting period to assess progress against the national outcomes.

This year we are asking you to report on each outcome rather than against every indicator (as in previous years) but we ask that you report against the outcome **taking account** of the indicators. Please detail any specific impacts (positive and negative) the Covid-19 pandemic had on activity or progress under each of the outcomes.

We encourage you to **share life stories and practice examples** as part of your evidence and data – this enriches the final report and creates deeper understanding of community justice activity.

Please indicate where any particular factors have been a **hindrance in making progress** against a particular outcome.

NATIONAL OUTCOME ONE

Communities improve their understanding and participation in community justice

Where applicable have regard to the following 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 CPO
- Evidence from questions to be used in local surveys / citizens’ panels and so on
- Perceptions of the local crime data

	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
Evidence and Data	There was extensive engagement with local communities in preparation of the Inverclyde HSCP	Regarding perceptions of local crime data, the Winter 2020 Inverclyde Citizens’ Panel focused on community safety. Sixty-one per cent of panel

	<p>Strategic Plan 2019-24. This strategic plan has '6 big actions</p> <p>We developed a question set in 2016 and repeated the question set relating to community justice with the Citizen Panel in November 2018. The report of findings was reported to the Community Justice Partnership in July 2020. These questions are due to be ran for a third time and will inform our work in 2021/22 as we prepare a SNSA.</p> <p>Through a combination of local and national consultations and official published statistics both the Community Justice Partnership and Community Safety Partnership understand the perceptions of local crime and any emerging trends that may impact on future planning. Regarding perceptions of local crime data the Community Safety Partnership has a question set within the Inverclyde Citizens' Panel.</p> <p>The National Lottery Community Fund (TNLCF) Early Action System Change (EASC) programme awarded £682,250 (inclusive of £75,000 test of change monies) to Inverclyde HSCP in 2019. The funding was awarded to the Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership under the women and criminal justice theme. The project aims to achieve a system change in the response to women in the criminal justice system and</p>	<p>members responded to that survey and the following points were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respondents were next asked to consider a variety of issues and state how concerned they were about those issues in their neighbourhood. The top three issues that people are most concerned about are: theft/robbery (40%); vandalism, graffiti or other deliberate damage to property (39%); and people hanging around the street (29%). • Ninety-four per cent of people said they feel safe outside during the day, while 70% of people said they feel safe in their neighbourhood outside at night. <p>While these results are very positive, the Inverclyde Community Safety Partnership is not complacent about the impact of anti-social behaviour on the lives of residents and the community of Inverclyde. In October 2020, the Partnership therefore published the Inverclyde Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2020/25 which brings together the key partners in Inverclyde who respond to anti-social behaviour. The Strategy 2020/25 will be complemented by an Anti-Social Behaviour Policy Document which will set out in detail how the Partners will respond to anti-social behaviour</p>
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	<p>seeks to fully involve women with lived experience, ensuring that they co-produce this change. This project is hosted by Criminal Justice Social Work and consists of a Project Manager, Communities Worker and Data Analyst. Throughout the reporting year (year two of phase 1 of the project) the project has engaged with women with lived experience of the criminal justice system and two broad common themes have emerged:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of support around initial involvement in CJS – period between arrest and possible court outcome 2. Lack of obvious opportunities for positive and supportive community networks or groups 	<p>in the local area. The learning from the Citizens' Panel and Inverclyde Antisocial Behaviour Strategy was shared with the Community Justice Partnership to identify any opportunities for additional work streams. In respect of the Women Involved in the Criminal Justice System, the project Steering Group identified the following key points for development of the test of change proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication style is crucial – need to consider more how messages are received and perceived by women. • There currently seems little emphasis on social connections/community activities. More opportunities to be linked into community are needed. • Issues around self-esteem/anxiety which impact on interactions with services and others – this has clear implications for tackling above two points. Need for dignity, respect and compassion. • There are several 'generalised' support services available in Inverclyde (many funded by the HSCP) e.g. Care Navigators, Community Link Workers, Community Connectors, Social Prescribing – are they being accessed by women in CJS for additional support? What
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		<p>approach can be taken to better facilitate women's access to these additional services?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There is scope for developing how referrals/handovers to these services are approached by services currently supporting/engaging with women?• Are there options for women to gain experience of/opportunities for work, particularly around supporting others? Especially given the expected need for an even broader range of social care roles in the longer term post-Covid-19 recovery environment. <p>Taking the above into account, and given the emphasis on the impact of trauma on women in the CJS highlighted by the project literature review, the test of change proposed is to adopt a trauma informed approach to support for women as close to their entry to the CJS as possible. In addition, the test of change will also feature, again with a trauma informed approach, facilitation for opportunities for women to engage in activities, volunteering or employment within their community. Funding has been approved by the funder and phase 2 commences on 1st September 2021.</p>
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		Crucially the community worker embedded in the project continues to engage with women.
Other information relevant to National Outcome One		
<p>The purpose of Inverclyde Council's Citizens' Panel is to regularly consult with local people on a wide range of issues. The Community Justice Partnership have a question set every second year with question sets around awareness of community justice, panel views on what they believe community justice is and confidence in the role that community justice makes in Inverclyde. Additionally, the Community Safety Partnership have a question set every other second year that asks panel members to consider their safety outside during the day and night, their concern of particular community safety issues in their neighbourhood and if they had been a victim of crime or antisocial behaviour in the previous twelve months.</p>		



NATIONAL OUTCOME TWO

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

Where applicable have regard to the following indicators:

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

	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
<p>Evidence and Data</p>	<p>The Community Justice Partnership have created an unpaid work sub group jointly chaired by the CJP Vice Chair (representing the third sector) and the Criminal Justice Social Work Manager. This group is made up criminal justice social work staff, the third sector interface and the Department of Work and Pensions.</p> <p>The Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership undertook a comprehensive strategic needs assessment in 2019. This considered the whole justice journey, including opportunities for early intervention. This included previously stated statistical information extracted from the National Custody System as well as data from the Justice Services Level of Service / Case Management Inventory (LS/CMI) where people are</p>	<p>The aim of the unpaid work sub group not only considers the relationship with those agencies who may engage with those individuals on an unpaid work order but also the interface between Criminal Justice Social Work and the range of community groups within Inverclyde. Early work in the group looked at establishing referral pathways between justice social work and the Department of Work & Pensions in supporting individuals into employability and relevant training when identified. Through the Vice-Chair of the Community Justice Partnership and their relationship with the third sector, voluntary sector and community groups in Inverclyde there is a real emphasis on identifying community projects that not only meets the criteria for unpaid work but supports the wider community planning priorities in Inverclyde.</p>



	<p>asked for details at the point of preparing a Criminal Justice Social Work Report.</p> <p>The National Lottery Community Fund Early Action System Change programme awarded to Inverclyde HSCP in 2019. The funding was awarded to the Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership under the women and criminal justice theme. The project aims to achieve a system change in the response to women in the criminal justice system and seeks to fully involve women with lived experience, ensuring that they co-produce this change. Phase one of the project (during 2020/21) has an aim of establishing the current experiences of women in Inverclyde and their involvement with the criminal justice system and identify a system change which could better support women, enhance their wellbeing and potentially positively impact on their patterns of service use. There is synergy between the EASC programme and the early help in police custody project.</p> <p>Led by the Inverclyde Alcohol and Drugs Partnership funding has been secured from the Scottish Government for an early help in police custody. The starting point of this test of change is recognising that people at the highest risk of a drug related death are most likely to also be experiencing SMD, trauma and adverse childhood experiences and living alone in</p>	<p>The present impact of the early help in police custody is still progressing. It is anticipated the project will commence during quarter 3/4 of 2021/22.</p> <p>In respect of domestic abuse SafeLives was commissioned to deliver training and within the reporting period 5 sessions had been organised to a total of 72 staff with a further 11 sessions to be delivered by the end of April 2021.</p> <p>In respect of the EASC Programme, engagement with women and development of a Co-production Group was about to begin in spring 2020 and unfortunately coincided with the first Covid-19 lockdown. The Covid-19 restrictions in place for the remainder of phase one, along with the extreme difficulties that the pandemic presented for many women had a significant impact on engagement. The most significant hurdle was that recruitment for engagement or co-production had not yet begun at the commencement of the first lockdown and so there were no pre-existing relationships between women and the project team. Therefore it was not only a case of moving pre-existing relationships to a new form of communication, but a case of trying to establish new relationships within extreme limitations for contact and around issues of exclusion from digital communication for many women. In spite of these difficulties, the Community Worker was able to successfully make inroads and</p>
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	<p>some of our most deprived communities. This necessitates a public health approach in the form of early help being made available while in police custody.</p> <p>Acknowledging the significant impact domestic abuse has on victims and communities Inverclyde Women's Forum identified Equally Safe funding to allow VAW MAP to deliver training to raise awareness of Domestic Abuse with staff from Inverclyde Council and partners across the area.</p> <p>Regular interface meetings are held involving Team Leaders and Service Managers of Justice Services, ADRS, Homelessness Services and Mental Health Services.</p> <p>Our MAPPA arrangements are well established and include a robust performance and quality assurance framework which has supported a well evidenced commitment to staff training and development.</p> <p>The North Strathclyde MAPPA Strategic Oversight Group (SOG) is tasked with keeping the MAPPA arrangements under review and ensuring the systems which support its delivery are fit for purpose. Again, virtual platforms enabled attendees to fulfil this</p>	<p>communicate with a small number of women with involvement with the criminal justice system in Inverclyde. Initial contact was mostly achieved through referrals from frontline staff in HSPC services who were already supporting women. Some additional contact with women came via social media channels. The Community Worker also communicated with third sector networks in order to open up the potential for referrals as widely as possible.</p> <p>Progress in respect of the EASC programme was positive despite the impact that the pandemic had particularly in relation to engaging with women and the creation of a Co-Production group. The early help in Police Custody progressed during the latter stages of 2020/21. There has been progress made in the 2021/22 year with both projects separately but the interface between the Community Justice Partnership and Alcohol and Drugs Partnership should ensure collaborative working between both.</p> <p>Regarding the regular interface meetings (Justice Services, ADRS, Homelessness and Mental Health) these meeting have improved understanding of each other's roles and responsibilities, while also improving operational pathways. There is closer working together and identifying shared outcomes at both operational and strategic levels. These have been</p>
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	<p>function with the required four meetings taking place in 2020/21.</p> <p>The North Strathclyde MAPPA Operational Group (MOG) supports the ongoing development of MAPPA and monitors performance at an operational level. This group too continued to meet virtually throughout the pandemic and also fulfilled its requirement of four meetings taking place in 2020/21</p>	<p>critical to supporting operational delivery during Covid-19 particularly when responding to vulnerable individuals.</p> <p>To support Criminal Justice Social Workers in their risk assessment and risk management activities the North Strathclyde SOG hosted the SAPROF (Structured Assessment of Protective Factors) training course. The training was facilitated online with 12 individuals from Inverclyde successfully completing the course in February 2021. Not only will this course sharpen practice with regard to risk assessment and risk management it will also provide a helpful vehicle to engage with those individuals who both deny their offending and/or who have a learning disability. An implementation group has been established involving key operational staff to help ensure a co-ordinated and consistent approach to the application of this training in practice during 2021/22.</p> <p>A key process in the management of individuals subject to MAPPA is the Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA) process. The purpose of the ERA is to identify any housing related risks associated with individuals living within the community or about to be released into the community. It is a collaborative process involving primarily Police and Criminal Justice Social Work staff and is co-ordinated by Community Safety colleagues. The ERA process is extensive and</p>
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		on average takes two weeks to complete per property. During 2020/21, 42 ERA assessments were completed within the Inverclyde area.
Other information relevant to National Outcome Two		



NATIONAL OUTCOME THREE

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

Where applicable have regard to the following indicators:

- Partners have identified and are overcoming structural barriers for people accessing services
- Existence of joint-working arrangements 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
- % of people released from a custodial sentence:
 - a) registered with a GP
 - b) have suitable accommodation
 - c) have had a benefits eligibility check
- Targeted interventions have been tailored for and with an individual and had a successful impact on their risk of further offending

	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
Evidence and Data	<p>Protocols were created to utilise the 'email-a-prisoner' scheme to make offers of support. During April 2020, 16 individuals were identified as being suitable for release as part of the early release scheme were contacted. All were contacted, 13 of whom accepted an offer of support. Support provided to these individuals included making referrals to the appropriate agencies to provide support to address housing; mental health; addictions and benefits issues and referrals to third sector partners such as Shine and Inverclyde Faith in Throughcare</p>	<p>It is hoped that the Partnership can build on the proactive approach established in the last year to create a more efficient and streamlined offer of support to those leaving prison custody using effective sharing of information between statutory and third partners agencies to ensure that such individuals are offered the right support at the right time.</p> <p>The Data Sharing Agreement provides a legislative framework between Inverclyde HSCP and the Scottish Prison Service for the sharing of relevant information in relation to:</p>



	<p>The Partnership supported the successful completion of an Information Sharing Agreement with the Scottish Prison Service and Inverclyde HSCP which has enabled the effective and timeous sharing of information with key partners. The Information Sharing Agreement will provide a springboard to look at issues around housing options with an opportunity for the Community Justice Partnership to consider other relevant issues where appropriate.</p> <p>We have established regular intra-agency meetings involving Justice Services; Homelessness; ADRS and Mental Health Services.</p> <p>We have extended our Community Justice Network to become a Resilience Network. This is a significant shift to enable easier access to supports without the need to come through a specific “justice” entry point.</p> <p>The Housing Partnership has prepared a Housing Contribution Statement and there has strong involvement with the development of the Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • people being admitted to custody each week from the Inverclyde Council local authority area • people liberated over the preceding week into the Inverclyde Council local authority area • people scheduled for liberation to the Inverclyde Council local authority area in the forthcoming twelve weeks . <p>The completion of the Data Sharing Agreement provides a framework to strengthen work between Inverclyde HSCP and Scottish Prison Service in supporting those leaving prison in respect of their housing options. This seeks to see support individuals in prison in relation to their housing options, to move away from only accepting homelessness applications towards maintaining existing accommodation or exploring housing options prior to release from prison custody. Working with the Inverclyde Housing Partnership there has been ongoing work with housing providers and other bodies to ensure local implementation of the SHORE Standards.</p> <p>The Resilience Network was created in February 2020 and developed in response to our learning to the Hard Edges Scotland report (as noted in our 2019-20 annual</p>
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		<p>outcome activity report) and included 3rd sector and public service colleagues from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mental health • community justice • alcohol and drug recovery • homelessness • social isolation/loneliness <p>The aim of the Resilience Network is a partnership approach to help people across Inverclyde build resilience and foster hope. The network has been created as a space for collaboration, knowledge exchange and partnership working. The Covid-19 pandemic saw the Resilience Network Members support the wider Inverclyde population around Covid-19 recovery but highlighted the undercurrent of the multiple disadvantages individuals and communities were already facing. The Resilience Network were also involved in the creation of podcasts and during the reporting year produced content on loss, belonging, kindness and hope.</p>
<p>Other information relevant to National Outcome Three</p>		
<p>During 2020/21 key presentations have been given at Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership meetings. Topics have included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A presentation on the findings of the Inverclyde offer of Voluntary Throughcare • A presentation of findings relating to Drug Related Deaths. 		



- A presentation from the 'Women Involved in the Criminal Justice System' and their phase 1 findings focusing on the experiences of women.

As indicated in previous Annual reports, currently there is no national or local mechanism for capturing data around the percentage of people released from a custodial sentence who have registered with a GP, have suitable accommodation and have has a benefits eligibility check.



NATIONAL OUTCOME FOUR

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

Where applicable have regard to the following indicators:

- Use of 'other activities requirements' in CPOs
- Effective risk management for public protection
- Quality of CPOs and DTTOs
- Reduced use of custodial sentences and remand:
 - a) Balance between community sentences relative to short custodial sentences under one year
 - b) Proportion of people appearing from custody who are remanded
- The delivery of interventions targeted at problem drug and alcohol use [NHS Local Delivery Plan (LDP) Standard]
- Number of Police Recorded Warnings, police diversion, fiscal measures, fiscal diversion, supervised bail, community sentences (including CPOs, DTTOs and RLOs)
- Number of short-term sentences under one year

	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
Evidence and Data	<p>In relation to other activity, Criminal Justice Social Work have helped service users identify and access Other Activity resources online. Principally this has included accessing modules co-sponsored by Inverclyde Adult Education and West Scotland College with the aim of enhancing employability e.g., obtaining a health and safety qualification for work in the construction industry and/or addressing issues related to past offending e.g., completing a drink driving course.</p>	<p>The total number of hours of Unpaid Work completed in 2020/21 was 2617 and covered a variety of tasks such as: litter picking; ground work (reclaiming over grown paths, situating a new path, planting trees and servicing old drainage); preparing raised beds for planting; planting vegetables and fruit; painting raised beds; joinery work (constructing raised beds); removing/reducing bracken; trimming hedges and cutting grass. Additionally, the number of other activity hours carried out in 2020/21 was 440 hours.</p> <p>Feedback from people participating in all justice interventions includes:</p>



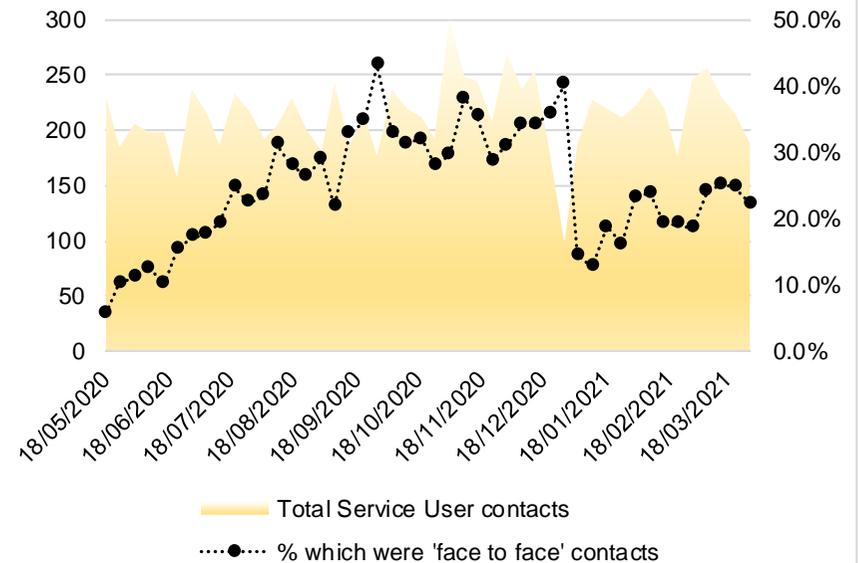
	<p>As a consequence of the pandemic it is important to note that during the period where Unpaid Work placements were paused, Criminal Justice Social Work Services actively engaged in planning for recovery. The priority was on identifying potential outdoor projects which offered sufficient space to support social distancing requirements and were also easily accessible to service users to minimise their use of public transport and thus potential exposure to the Covid-19 virus. Prior to Covid-19 staff would have routinely transported service users in vans to their placement sites. However this was no longer an option due to ventilation and social distancing considerations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Stopped getting into trouble by doing stupid things - stopped associating with certain people. Learned that my actions were wrong</i> • <i>Had another child, got a new house, got married, decorating new home</i> • <i>Improved general health, physical health running walking, improved relationships with mum, understand new learning opportunities</i> <p>Following the introduction of the first national lockdown on 23rd March 2020 as across Scotland all Unpaid Work placements had to be paused. Within Inverclyde individual service users were advised of this both by telephone and in writing. Notwithstanding this their allocated worker remained in contact with individuals throughout the pandemic to support their Court orders and in particular to monitor their circumstances and offer guidance and support where appropriate. The nature and frequency of this contact was determined on an assessment of their level of vulnerability along with their risk and needs profile and this was kept under regular review.</p> <p>During the period where Unpaid Work placements were paused, Criminal Justice Social Work actively engaged in planning for recovery. The main priority was on identifying potential outdoor projects which offered sufficient space to support social distancing requirements and were also easily</p>
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		<p>accessible to service users to minimise their use of public transport and thus potential exposure to the Covid-19 virus. Prior to Covid-19 individuals would have been routinely transported to their placement sites but was no longer an option due to ventilation and social distancing considerations.</p> <p>From mid-May 2020, the Criminal Justice Social began to capture data on the number and nature of all contacts with service users and their contact with other agencies. The purpose was to assist with recovery planning as well as to understand the impact of decisions at a national level regarding lockdowns and changes to local authority Covid-19 protection levels. The data pertaining to service user contact is illustrated below.</p>
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Contacts with Service Users



The above graphic captures both direct face to face contact and overall contact (which includes telephone contact). This has remained relatively stable throughout 2020/21 averaging 215 per week. The chart shows that as restrictions eased, face to face contact increased and reduced again as the second lockdown commenced in late December 2020, although not to the same extent as it had during the first lockdown.



Other information relevant to National Outcome Four

Previous annual report submissions highlighted a need to focus on interventions at key transition points with regards to the range of justice disposals for Inverclyde specifically around the development of bail supervision and structured deferred sentences (SDS). In terms of SDS, progress to implement was made towards the end of the reporting year with its introduction during 2021/22, whilst bail supervision remains in development. Another key transition point is at the end of an Order, whether community or custodial. We have continued to develop a new model of voluntary Throughcare and will continue to evaluate and improve this. Due to the impact of Covid-19 we have been unable to develop a new model of delivery of personal placements for people on Unpaid Work.



NATIONAL OUTCOME FIVE

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

Have regard to the following indicator:

- Individuals have made progress against the outcome

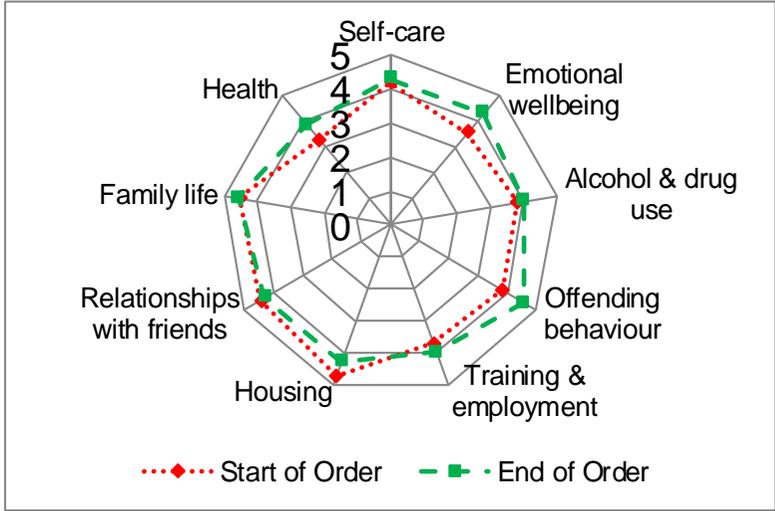
	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
Evidence and Data	<p>A new model of Voluntary Throughcare has been developed. This includes key partners as part of a local Voluntary Throughcare Network.</p> <p>Criminal Justice Social Work is acutely aware of the deprivation profile of its service user group, with pervious analysis indicating that 81% currently experience among the highest levels of deprivation in Scotland. In addition, the pandemic exacerbated issues of social isolation, substance use and mental health.</p> <p>Criminal Justice Social Work have a bespoke Criminal Justice Needs Review Tool which individuals subject to statutory involvement are asked to complete both at the start and end of their involvement. The aim is to capture from the individual's perspective their view of their needs, particularly in terms of the extent to which these needs are considered by them to be an issue and, thus an appropriate target for intervention.</p>	<p>Criminal Justice Social Work's new model of working during the pandemic also included a commitment to maintaining a key-worker system and this has remained in place through 2020/21. This has enabled the service user's relationship with their allocated worker to continue and develop and provided them with a named person to contact in times of difficulty. The importance of this approach for service users particularly in the early days of lockdown was reflected in the feedback we received when we reached out to understand their experience of our Service.</p> <p>Regarding the deprivation profile of the service user group, this has strengthened the need for services to work closer together on an individual case basis and also strategically. This was particularly relevant in relation to Homelessness Services and Alcohol and Drug Recovery Services, where it was recognised that service users engaging with all three services were facing severe and multiple disadvantage. Thus a coordinated approach was adopted to ensure that</p>



support was made available throughout the week and that Services complemented one another without duplication.

The Criminal Justice Needs Review Tool is designed to further embed a person-centric approach by the Service, identify unique outcome measures for service users and to address those outcomes research has evidenced supports desistance.

Evidence collated for 2020/21 highlights the journey from the start and end of their involvement with Criminal Justice Social Work across nine outcomes.



Other information relevant to National Outcome Five		



NATIONAL OUTCOME SIX

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

Have regard to the following indicator:

- Individuals have made progress against the outcome

	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
Evidence and Data	<p>During 2020/21 the Community Justice Partnership supported the creation of an Unpaid Work Subgroup (UPWSG) to help the Partnership plan and deliver approaches and services to individuals (carrying out unpaid work) and communities in a more strategic and collaborative way. Initial membership includes Criminal Justice Social Work, Inverclyde CVS and the Department of Works and Pension. It is the intention to co-opt other members from the Partnership when there is an identified need.</p>	<p>Initial focus of the UPWSG was on developing third sector placements for service users, supporting transitions around employability opportunities and developing specialist placements for our younger service users. As a consequence of the pandemic opportunities have been limited, particularly in exploring individual work placements and new group work placement but is expected to improve as Covid-19 restrictions ease.</p> <p>The creation of the UPWSG has allowed the membership to fully explore the potential offer across Inverclyde to individuals and the wider community. This is particularly relevant in respect of Inverclyde’s Local Outcome Improvement Plan and the links between justice to environment, culture and heritage, employability and to strengthen partnership working as well as the opportunities in respect of locality planning.</p>



		<p>Initial meetings of the group have highlighted the need to consider the introduction of pathways between criminal justice social work and agencies such as DWP (in respect of employability) and Community Learning & Development (in respect of adult learning).</p> <p>The undernoted case study highlights some of those opportunities to participate in education and volunteering.</p> <p><i>Case Study</i></p> <p><i>A is on a Community Payback Order with both Supervision and Unpaid Work Requirements. He complies fully with supervision and is currently undertaking an online certificated course in Awareness of Mental Health Problems run by West Scotland College in conjunction with Adult Education Services. This is giving him insight into his past difficulties, some of which had impacted upon his behaviour, including offending. He will be credited with Other Activity hours upon completion of this course. A is also becoming involved in voluntary work, the nature of which will be assessed as a potential Unpaid Work individual placement.</i></p>
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Other information relevant to National Outcome Six

Due to the Community Justice Lead Officer role being vacant in quarter 4 of 2020/21 intended progress of the UPWSG stalled. Following recruitment of the post, work has progressed during 2021/22 resulting in closer partnership working with other strategic groups in Inverclyde.

NATIONAL OUTCOME SEVEN

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

Have regard to the following indicator:

- Individuals have made progress against the outcome

	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
Evidence and Data	<p>Criminal Justice Social Work service's new model of working during the pandemic also included a commitment to maintaining a key-worker system and this has remained in place through 2020/21. This has enabled the service user's relationship with their allocated worker to continue and develop and provided them with a named person to contact in times of difficulty. The importance of this approach for service users particularly in the early days of lockdown was reflected in the feedback we received when we reached out to individuals to understand their experience of our Service.</p>	<p>Service user feedback includes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>My Social Worker called me on the day of lockdown to inform me of the changes to contact arrangements and also ensured I had food and utility supply.</i>• <i>Telephone contact goes well, my supervising officer always ensures I am ok to talk and in a safe place. I enjoy the calls as it gives me someone different to talk to in the week and we're usually on phone for an hour each time.</i>• <i>I do miss the face to face contact, as it is more personal, although I prefer that it is my allocated worker calling me rather than someone different</i>



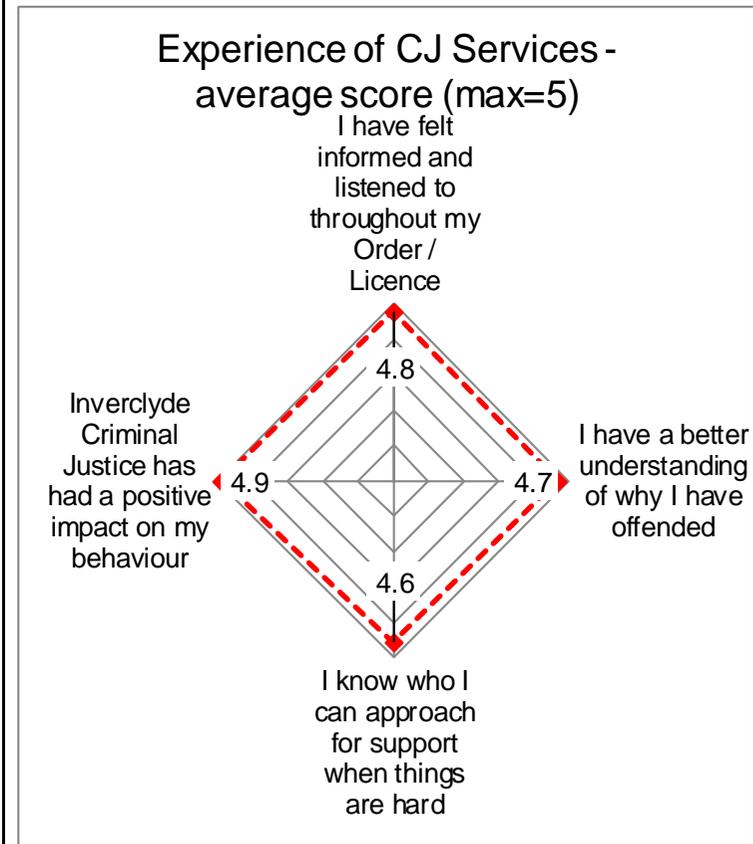
	<p>Noting activity in national outcome five in respect of Criminal Justice Social Work is acutely aware of the deprivation profile of its service user group</p>	<p><i>like other services. I appreciate my social worker offering a face to face for my last appointment.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I really appreciated the support from my social worker as it was a difficult time for everyone. On some occasions when I had disclosed that I hadn't spoken to anyone else she called back later in week as well which was nice and made me feel less isolated</i> • <i>I have been able to keep up with my Order which has helped my mental health.</i> <p>Understanding the positive impact made by staff groups and the collaborative working arrangements is highlighted below in case study B.</p> <p><i>Case Study B</i></p> <p><i>B is an adult male who as a child reported being the victim of emotional and physical abuse from a family member. This impacted on his relationships with others. His behaviour was often physical and threatening, which brought him to the attention of services throughout his early years and into adulthood.</i></p> <p><i>B was made subject to a community sentence. Prior to sentencing B had been homeless and had struggled to remain in settled accommodation. B had a history of using illegal substances which impacted on his mental</i></p>
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		<p><i>health with episodes of self-harm and hospital admissions. Prior to being placed on his community sentence B had agreed to intervention and support from a range of agencies and this plan was shared with the Sheriff via a Criminal Justice Social Work Court Report.</i></p> <p><i>Lockdown was particularly stressful for B, which resulted in a number of episodes of self-harm and self-medicating using illicit substances. Partners worked in a collaborative way to organise additional support for B which included counselling.</i></p> <p><i>The frequency of contact was increased in response to his increasing vulnerability. This included face to face, telephone and text contact. Indeed, during lockdown B received a more intense level of support than he had done previously. This support was aimed at building resilience and supporting him manage his negative thoughts.</i></p> <p><i>This collaboration between services helped to ensure the support offered to B was responsive to his changing needs and comprehensive in its approach.</i></p> <p>The Criminal Justice Needs Review Tool highlights the experience of those individuals subject to statutory</p>
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involvement with criminal justice social work services. This matrix below outlines the experiences of criminal justice service users throughout their order/licence and is helpful as it embeds a person-centric approach by the Service. Additionally overtime it will help the Partnership understand the impact of the service and where both partnership and agency improvements could be made.



Other information relevant to National Outcome Seven



7. Partnership Achievement

Despite the significant challenges that impacted on how services were delivered by partnership members, there is agreement that whilst we are a relatively young partnership relationships between partnership members have been pivotal in continuing to support and protect individuals during this time.

There is also satisfaction that the Early Action System Change project focused on women with involvement in the Criminal Justice System (CJS) in Inverclyde has developed during 2020-21. Engagement with women with lived experience of the CJS and the formation of a co-production group were significantly disrupted by Covid-19 restrictions. However, an adapted approach focusing on remote engagement and collaboration with frontline services, including several Community Justice partners, to provide referrals has allowed for progress in developing relationships with women either currently involved in or with previous experience of the CJS. As a result, women have been involved in establishing the current context of their involvement in the criminal justice system and have identified areas where limitations exist which could be addressed and improved by a system change approach. This has been central to the development of a test of change proposal which, pending funder approval, will commence in late 2021 and which women with lived experience of the CJS will continue to co-produce.

8. Challenges

The Community Justice Partnership by its admission is a fairly young partnership by virtue of the legislation and compared to more mature partnerships in Inverclyde such as the Child Protection Committee, Adult Protection Committee and Alcohol and Drugs Partnership. During 2020, Partnership membership focused on supporting individuals and communities as part of a Covid-19 response in Inverclyde. Whilst the Partnership did continue to meet online throughout the year and progress pieces of work there is agreement that when safe to do so, and as part of our partnership recovery, to move towards in person meetings as we prioritise actions in the 2021/22 year.



Within Inverclyde the Partnership is run by virtue of annual funding from the Scottish Government, this allows for the appointment of a Community Justice Lead Officer hosted by Criminal Justice Social Work. There is however an annual shortfall and the Criminal Justice Social Work budget is currently being utilised to meet these costs. This highlights the temporary nature of funding and the need to articulate at appropriate national forums the case for a long-term commitment to funding to ensure the successful implementation of the community justice agenda.

Funding has been raised as an issue by our third sector community justice partnership members. Whilst there was agreement that additional and flexibility to funding during the pandemic has allowed organisations to continue operating, some did highlight that they had to use reserved funding to maintain some services. Organisations have raised concern that from 2022/23 and from 2023/24 funding may reduce either as part of government funding or from other funding programmes reliant on public donations. As part of our preparatory work around our next CJOIP this matter will be considered in respect of future works.

9. Additional Information

On 1st May 2019 the Care Inspectorate advised of their intention to inspect Criminal Justice Social Work Services within Inverclyde. Their particular focus was on how well Community Payback Orders were being implemented and managed as well as how effectively the Service was achieving positive outcomes. The Care Inspectorate published their findings in December 2019. Using a quality indicator model to form their evaluation, they scored the Service's performance as very good (3 indicators) and good (2 indicators).

Although this was a very positive outcome two areas were identified for improvement:

- Senior officers should review policy and practice relating to the timescales for completing Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (LS/CMI) assessments and plans to ensure that a best practice approach is implemented and clear guidance is provided to staff.
- Senior officers should ensure that quality assurance processes are well embedded in order to improve the quality of practice around statutory reviews and case recording.



During 2020/21 the following progress has been made:

- Detailed Guidance has been developed covering the use of Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (LS/CMI) tool at all stages in the Criminal Justice system (i.e. pre and post sentence and in the community and custodial environments). It provides staff with a clear steer on the use of the shortened and full versions of the tool as well as when to review and reassess.
- A comprehensive protocol to support the review of all cases involving statutory supervision has been developed and shared with staff. As well as providing clear guidance on content and timescales, the framework advanced also incorporates service user engagement and makes full use of information obtained through the application of our Criminal Justice Needs Review tool.
- On case recording, a Short Life Working Group (SLWG) involving staff from three different Criminal Justice settings (community, prison, court) was established in December 2019. This met three times, focusing on current practice and learning from feedback from the Care Inspectorate, research on case recording and applying learning.

The Partnership through the Chair, Criminal Justice Social Work Manager and Lead Officer acknowledged that the pandemic brought a reduction in the frequency of requests from national bodies during the reporting year. The Partnership do however acknowledge the need to report on local issues to understand the national picture.

Through the Vice Chair of the Partnership is our involvement in Inverclyde Cares. Inverclyde Cares will create a strategic network of organisations from the third, public and private sectors underpinned by values of kindness, compassion and equality. Inverclyde Cares will have three core principles: engaging communities, connecting people and building neighbourly and kind communities. A Programme Lead has been appointed and the Community Justice Lead Officer sits on the programme steering group, this is a real opportunity to change the narrative on how we care in Inverclyde.

Inverclyde Criminal Justice Social Work is aware of the impact that the pandemic has had on Sheriff Court business particularly with regard to case conclusions, scheduled trials and disposals. The above indicates that as the Courts begin to recover there will be a knock on effect for Criminal Justice Social Work that could without careful planning overwhelm the Service which will also be on its own recovery journey. The support of the Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership will be critical to such planning, particularly in relation to the Unpaid Work Subgroup which could help to bolster capacity with regard to UPW placements and support transitions

Concluding our annual report for 2020-21, there are several work streams that the Community Justice Partnership will advance during 2021-22:



- To undertake a comprehensive Strategic Needs and Strengths Assessment using the preferred templates by Community Justice Scotland to better understand the community justice issues in Inverclyde
- To seek an extension to the current CJOIP by one further year in order to align closer to the community planning local outcomes improvements plan as well as the publication of a new community justice strategy and revised Outcomes Performance Improvement Framework.
- In respect of the Early Action System Change Programme, phase 2 will commence in 2021/22. This will build upon the learning in phase 1 around engagement with frontline staff, engagement with women and a literature review to adopt a trauma informed approach and support women as close to their entry to the criminal justice system as possible. In addition, the test of change will also feature, again with a trauma informed approach, facilitation of opportunities for women to engage in activities, volunteering or employment within their community.
- We will work collaboratively with the Inverclyde Alcohol and Drugs Partnership and their funded project on early help in Police custody and the likely shared outcomes between both partnerships.
- Through our Unpaid Work Sub-Group to improve the current offer to individuals and communities in Inverclyde and where appropriate identifying new members who can contribute to this agenda.
- We will examine the impact that Covid-19 has had on individuals and communities in Inverclyde particularly in respect of the community justice picture.

