

Foreword

Orkney Community Justice Partnership is pleased to present the local Community Justice Annual Report. This report is a localised version of the report submitted to Community Justice Scotland in September 2021.

Community justice was revamped in 2016 with a move to have more local arrangements; however it remains a collection of individuals, agencies and services that work together to support, manage and supervise people who have committed offences, from the point of arrest, through prosecution, community disposal or custody and alternatives to these, until they are reintegrated into the community. Local communities and the third sector are a vital part of this process which aims to prevent and reduce further offending and the harm that it causes, to promote desistance, social inclusion, and citizenship.

This is my first report since taking up the role as the Chair of the Community Justice Partnership in June 2021 and, to date, I have worked with other members of the Partnership in leading us towards the aims and objectives set out in the report.

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

The Community Justice (Scotland) Act, 2016 places a duty on community justice statutory partners to produce a Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan (CJOIP). Our local plan expired in March 2021. The Scottish Government is currently revising the National Strategy for Community Justice (the strategy), and Community Justice Scotland (CJS) is currently developing proposals for Scottish Ministers for the revision of the Outcomes, Performance and Improvement Framework (OPIF). It is anticipated that the new strategy will be published in late spring 2022, following further development and public consultation. The new OPIF will likely be published in autumn 2022, following a period of development after the Strategy publication. Furthermore, the community planning cycle will see the renewal of the Orkney Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) in 2023.

Revision of any one of the three elements above, namely the National Strategy, OPIF or LOIP requires local community justice partnerships to review their own CJOIP. Consequently, following careful consideration and in consultation with CJS, agreement has been reached at Orkney Community Justice Partnership not to revise the CJOIP at this time and extend our current plan. In preparation for the expected publications later this year, work is underway in relation to the compilation of a Strategic Needs and Strengths Assessment (SNSA), which will inform the development of Orkney's next CJOIP. A statement was published on Orkney Islands Council website in November 2021, setting out this position to ensure compliance with legislation, although it is helpful to reiterate the CJP's position.

The existing plan outlines key local needs and priorities and the actions to address these, and this will be replicated in our new CJOIP. The content of this report reflects the set national outcomes and demonstrates local activity and proposed strategies to evidence progress.

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

In addition, the response to Covid19 impacted significantly on our ability to deliver on some community justice activities, although I am delighted that some level of service was maintained, including positive recognition by CJS for an aspect of our unpaid work activity. As with last year, several initiatives mentioned in the report were proposed for introduction in the current reporting year. The restrictions placed on communities by the global pandemic will result in a delay to these activities, which will be continued over into subsequent years.

Community justice continues to be an important partnership within community planning to ensure measures are considered that reduce and prevent offending, with the aim of rehabilitating members of our community who enter the Justice system. Our continued focus on this will maintain public confidence and improve the quality of life for all our residents, continuing to make Orkney a safe and thriving place to live and work.

Stephen Brown, Chair, Orkney Community Justice Partnership.

1. Background

The introduction of the <u>Community Justice</u> (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 <u>National Strategy</u>, <u>Guidance for local partners in the new model for community justice</u>, <u>Justice in Scotland: Vision & Priorities</u> and the <u>Framework for Outcomes</u>, <u>Performance and Improvement</u>.

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:

- 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 <u>activity</u> 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 <u>partnership</u>.

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

<u>Section 8 Challenges</u> (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 Just	1. Community Justice Partnership / Group Details		
Community Justice Partnership / Group	Orkney Community Justice Partnership		
Community Justice Partnership Group Chair	Stephen Brown, Chief Officer, Orkney Health and Care		
Community Justice Partnership / Group Coordinator	Keith Bendall, Community Justice Planning, Performance & Information Officer, Orkney Health and Care.		

2. Template Sign-off

Publication date of Community Justice

Improvement Plan

Outcome

(CJOIP)

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.

Signature of Community Justice Partnership / Group Chair: Date:

April 2018 (expires 2021)

Stephen Brown, 22.03.22.



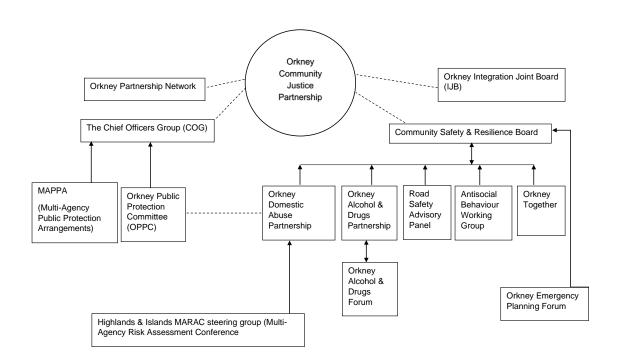
3. Governance Arrangements

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.

Structure diagram is presented below as well as reporting arrangements as contained within the Terms of Reference for Orkney Community Justice Partnership:

The OCJP will provide regular updates to Orkney Partnership Board, Integrated Joint Board and Chief Officers Group via an annual report.

Progress reports in relation to projects or actions contained in the Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan are provided as required. Partnership members and agencies will individually report to their respective Boards/Committees as appropriate.





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	Progress / Activity during 2020-21
CJPs	
That community justice partners establish mechanisms to identify and engage collectively	Victim Support, Woman's Aid, Orkney Rape and Sexual Assault Service have been contributing members of OCJP since the partnership was formed.
with local third sector and victims organisations.	Conversations around effective representation of third sector on CJP are ongoing.
	Local third sector and victims' organisations form an integral part of the Orkney Community Justice Partnership and each are invited to report at Partnership meetings. This can lead to separate sub meetings if issues are identified.
That community justice partners meet statutory requirements for strategic planning. This includes being able to evidence: a) a range of strategic needs	The Partnership is currently carrying out a strategic needs and strengths assessment. On publication of the National Outcomes review currently being carried out by Community Justice Scotland, the current Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan which expired in March 2021 will be reviewed. A positional statement was provided to ensure compliance with legislation.
and strengths assessment (SNSA) activity b) a published and up-to-date Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan (CJOIP) which includes a participation statement	 a) SNSA activity began during 2020/21 and is ongoing. b) Refreshed CJOIP was published in December 2020, which includes a participation statement. Planning for a new CJOIP in 2022 will follow from SNSA.
c) a published annual report assessing progress towards outcomes	c) Annual report for 2019/20 is available on community justice pages of the Orkney Island Council website. 2020/21 report will follow.



Ensure community justice SNSA activity forms a crucial component of understanding the needs of the whole area population.

As indicated above a strategic needs and strengths assessment is currently ongoing.

The pandemic has impacted upon our population at an individual, service and Partnership level. As a result, some of the planned actions contained within the 2018 – 2021 Community Justice Outcomes improvement plan remain outstanding.

OCJP is basing the approach to SNSA activity on that promoted by Community Justice Scotland. The SNSA (in the approach taken and the final product) will be locally appropriate given some constraints around data in a small population.

A range of data has been collected in terms of population and justice specific. In order to consider any gaps/areas requiring further analysis and to begin considering what the data is suggesting, individual consideration by partners of the initial findings has taken place.

The next stage of SNSA will involve group discussions with CJP partners and other stakeholders to ensure an optimum range of specialist knowledge and experience.

To ensure that the next CJOIP complements other strategic plans, processes to develop priorities and related outcomes will also include a range of community planning partners.



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 <u>partnership / group.</u> 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
	Through a combination of imposed social distancing measures and essential staff re-deployment, including the re-deployment of the Community Justice Co-ordinator, some planned activities had to be postponed. This also prevented activities progressing as intended. Initially, very few of us had the Microsoft Teams facility	Despite initial issues around I.T the pandemic has not
Our community	installed on our PCs and this, coupled with staff changes, contributed to a lapse between meetings during the reporting period.	impeded our ability to hold virtual meetings.
justice partnership	Uncertainty surrounding the impact of the pandemic (in general and in relation to the justice system specifically) has added an additional layer of uncertainty to planning for required review of plans.	The impact of COVID across the Partnership and consideration of recovery have afforded an opportunity to fully consider what Community Justice means in Orkney, which will ultimately assist the development of priorities and actions.
	Therefore, although updated national strategy necessitates the updating of local plans and processes, the full impact the pandemic has had across the community are not currently clear.	



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	Members of the Partnership reported that during the lockdown the demand for support around domestic violence had risen in the local area. This resulted in an immediate response and including the domestic	Partnership reassurance of the current low crime figures and the confidence that any rise in any crime type will be identified and a partnership response considered.



Evidence and	violence onto the agenda of weekly 'Care for People' agenda. Members of the CJP were also involved in the Care	Data relating to local crime figures for the period are widely available within the public domain and consistently suggest that OCJP area is one of the safest places in the country to live. It is recognised by the OCJP that the perceptions and misconceptions of crime can be at odds with data to the contrary and these have been regular features of the OCJP meetings throughout the reporting period Individuals involved with the justice system were well
Data	for People subgroups that were created to support the response to the pandemic. This included working with communities to provide support to Individuals who were struggling with the COVID restrictions and required support.	supported during the pandemic. Increased community resilience and support.
Evidence and Data	Positive engagement with third sector representatives throughout the area.	Stronger partnership links with improved information sharing.

Other information relevant to National Outcome One

Communication and engagement specific to the Community Justice Partnership was difficult in 2020-21, however this has provided an opportunity to perhaps reframe Community Justice from a wider perspective, taking account of the bigger picture in relation to inequality and prevention and how OCJP will contribute to this going forward.



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
Evidence and Data	Involvement in the delivery of 'The no one left behind agenda' to ensure those within the justice arena are assisted to maximise employment opportunities. This will be developed to include IT support. It is proposed that the Community Learning and Development worker will operate from these premises while offering the support to CPO clients.	The impact of this has yet to be assessed. However, initial discussions with service users is positive.
Evidence and Data	Increased online training opportunities has led to greater partnership participation.	Enhanced partnership core-skills



Evidence and Data	Partnership working and positive relationships with Orkney Rape & Sexual Assault Service. The project continues to offer spaces to Unpaid Work participants where appropriate.	This agreement supports the backlog of the Unpaid Work hours and allows participants the opportunity to complete their hours in a timely manner following the backlog due to Covid-19. Development of skills and confidence.
		Employability skills.

Other information relevant to National Outcome Two

COVID-19 necessitated a reactive response to the needs of the vulnerable members of our community, particularly within a context where many individuals found themselves unexpectedly vulnerable for the first time. Nevertheless, the level of collaboration between partners in protecting and achieving the best outcomes for vulnerable members of our community remained consistent. Staff within partner organisations worked across organisational and professional boundaries to deliver services and information was regularly shared.

Strategic Needs and Strengths Assessment work began during 2020/21 and is ongoing. This was impeded due to staffing issues.

The move to a predominantly virtual working environment has provided increased opportunity for OCJP and its members to take part and contribute to meetings and training which normally would be difficult to access.



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	Access to all services relevant to community justice was significantly affected by the Covid-19 public health measures and lockdown which was imposed throughout the reporting period.	The full impact has yet to be fully assessed but the capacity for partners to offer full organisational support to the Community Justice Partnership has undoubtedly been affected.
Evidence and Data	Partners provided Covid-19 and lockdown updates throughout the reporting period. This included the experience of service users and how individuals reported they were coping with the significant changes. Partners explored ways to ensure that those who needed support and assistance, could continue to access this through alternative routes such as indirect contact and referral routes.	



Evidence and Data	Fundamental to an effective release from custody is that individuals can access essential services. Therefore, all people released from custody are offered throughcare, either statutory or voluntary. Partners have engaged well in planning for release from custody throughout the reporting period, with reports of good local communication between agencies, including Social Work, Housing and Health. Support is also offered to access benefits. A service level agreement exists between Justice Social Work, Housing and SPS that allows SPS to identify pending releases so that individuals are identified early, and timely release plans initiated.	Where required, 100% of those leaving prison are offered accommodation and general support including food and fuel. Prioritising planned and comprehensive release support strengthens partnership working and is seen as the first point of early intervention against reoffending.
Evidence and Data	During the pandemic, Social Workers increased contact with clients, albeit it on an indirect basis. This was particularly pertinent during the initial phase where contact with all services was restricted. This was on a need led basis and levels of contact adapted to fit need.	Those individuals subject to Court Orders or Licence continued to have regular contact with Social Work Services when wider community services / supports reduced. Individuals were supported to maintain lockdown restrictions through the delivery of food parcels and emotional support, this was primarily via telephone and video link.
Evidence and Data	Families Outside Update Work and support to families outside from OCJP has continued, to ensure families affected by imprisonment in Orkney have access to emotional and practical support, but also to identify and feedback issues to the partnership in regard to issues such as prison visits and travel difficulties in general for the families of those in custody.	Support provided allows families to feel more connected (with their loved one in prison) and also better engaged and included in the Prison System.



Victim and Survivor Agency Update

The Witness Service continued to provide a service but due in part to Court closure there was almost a 50% drop in referrals received during the same reporting period from the previous year.

The Victim Service remained relatively stable with referrals, primarily reflecting those previously recorded.

People affected by crime continued to be offered support which in turn assists them to move forward on both an emotional and practical basis.

Other information relevant to National Outcome Three

Planned progress was impeded by Covid restrictions, including the redeployment of essential staff.



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	Services maximised the potential throughout the reporting period for use of 'other activity' within unpaid work requirements. This reflected the challenges faced in service provision in this area as unpaid work services were unavailable due to lockdown and public health measures. The other activity included remote access to recovery services and remote access to mental health services.	Despite the suspension of unpaid work activities, other core support services were maintained.
	The suspension of Court activity exerted a considerable impact upon the sentencing and disposals throughout the reporting year. Active community disposals saw a significant level of change, flexibility and means of communication with services. Overall, community justice and justice	Individuals continued to receive a service when routine face to face visits ceased. Individuals supported to meet needs and build resilience and manage risk. Reducing risk of offending and promoting community safety.



	social work services adopted a remote access and communication for service delivery.	Opportunities for staff to develop alternative communication skills.
Evidence and Data	During the reporting period Police issued 5 restorative justice warnings and 13 recorded police warnings. This data is collated and reported regularly throughout the reporting year. There were 78 community-based disposals during the reporting period plus 5 diversions from prosecution.	Opportunities for diversion are maximised to increase the potential for change whilst minimising the additional harm caused by unnecessary progression through the Criminal Justice System. The partnership will continue to support any initiative that builds on this.
	There were no RLOs.	
Evidence and Data	During 2020/21 the Partnership recorded less than 5 short custodial sentences.	Data around custody and remand rates should be used with caution due to small numbers.
Other information rel	evant to National Outcome Four	



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	The partners recognise that improvements are required to report on this accurately and how the data can be collated and used to develop service delivery.	The gathering, collation, and analysis of data assists with the effective channelling of resources.

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	As with outcome 5 – there is recognition that outcome measurement across partners requires improvement. Using exit interviews with those subject to Community Payback Order Supervision Requirements, the returns identified positive and therapeutic relationships were typically held with their individual workers.	Although difficult to measure and with so many variables involved, the Partnership can obtain greater insight into an individual's progress and effectively target resources.

Other information relevant to National Outcome Six



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	The ability to measure this outcome is limited to self- report and the framework for reporting on this is still not clear. This remains as a focus for future data reporting work	Improved data collection and analysis will better inform planning and service delivery going forward.
	Exit Questionnaires from those subject to Community Payback Order's indicate increased resilience and improved self-management. Participants indicated that Supervision assisted in reducing further offending behaviour.	Comments received from participants indicate positive impacts but due to low numbers caution must be used.





7. Partnership Achievement

As stated previously, we successfully ensured that those working with Justice Services had their needs considered through the pandemic. Their vulnerabilities were identified, and support provided as part of the wider response through an established Caring for People Group.

This worked well and helped tackle some of the stigma issues often faced by those involved with Justice Services.

All of our services responded well to ensure that through the difficult periods of lockdown, we were able to use technology to much greater effect and we used a risk-based approach to ensure that those who required face-to-face contact were prioritised. Staff across the entire partnership responded flexibly and adapted quickly to new ways of working. This ensured that appropriate supports and interventions continued to be available throughout.

8. Challenges

Although our Strategic Needs and Strengths Assessment is ongoing, the capacity to complete this sooner was severely impacted by the need to respond to the pandemic.

Families of those in custody struggled to maintain the levels of contact that they would otherwise have benefited from. The lockdown periods, and the more extended travel restrictions had an adverse effect on many. Under those circumstances, the support that partners could provide effectively was clearly limited.

9. Additional Information

