



# COMMUNITY PAYBACK ORDER ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18



**Types of unpaid work projects and activities which have been carried out; the total number of unpaid work hours completed during the year; and information and examples that help to demonstrate how communities benefit from unpaid work.**

### Unpaid Work Orders Completed

In relation to all orders and all ages involving unpaid work, the following is confirmed:

- Total number of **hours completed** during 2017/18 = 11,462
- Total number of **new hours made** during 2017/18 = 13,553
- Total number of **new Community Payback Orders** (CPOs) with Unpaid Work =
  - i) 79 with Unpaid Work only
  - and
  - ii) 37 with Unpaid Work and Supervision

The above figures demonstrate a significant reduction compared with the previous year. We are currently examining these figures in more detail to help inform the reasons for this reduction.

### Unpaid Work Projects and Activities

East Lothian Council prides itself in providing a range of unpaid work projects and activities across the county. Examples of unpaid work projects carried out during the past year include:

- Supporting North Berwick In Bloom entry to Scotland In Bloom by enhancing the physical environment through painting and/or restaining benches, fencing and other street furniture.
- A programme of ground care management and development work at a number of sites throughout the county. These include: Prestongrange Mining Museum, Whatton Lodge, Dirleton Community Orchard, Belhaven Hospital and Cockenzie House. Further, there are several sites being managed by various voluntary sector organisations and trusts which we work alongside with.
- The team continue to receive referrals from the Tenancy Support Team to clear or upgrade gardens of clients who have mental health or vulnerability issues. This encourages tenants to take responsibility and pride within their home area as well as help tenants reduce the risk of council warnings or possible eviction procedures being instigated.
- We continue to be offered placements within a number of local charity shops, parks, a cemetery, a third sector growing project and social enterprises.
- Ongoing support to the Amenity Service Countryside Ranger Team to help deliver projects. Examples include the installation and upgrade of barriers at

beach car parks as well as the erection of a viewing platform and surface improvement at Yellowcraig beach (see photo below).

### **Yellowcraig Beach, East Lothian**



### **A 'mud kitchen' made from pallets, built for a local nursery in East Lothian.**



Two specific placements – one in a golf course and the other in an Amenity Services Depot - continue to be extremely positive placements due to the developmental opportunities they provide to clients. These include learning new skills, being given work responsibilities and working as part of team. Staff members also report personal

benefits as they describe a sense of satisfaction and pride at helping clients grow in confidence as they learn new skills and become valued team members, albeit on a temporary basis. Clients are regarded as a positive addition to the work place.

### **'Play steps' built for a local nursery**



### **Quotes from people on CPOs and beneficiaries about the impact of the unpaid work on them and/or the community.**

#### **Client Feedback**

#### **In respect of UW, what would you change or do differently?**

- *Have inductions closer to home given poor public transport, perhaps offer another venue?*
- *Less red tape around being ill and personal commitments (written procedure)*

#### **Attitude to offending behaviours**

- *All actions have consequences*
- *There are a lot of people worse off than myself and I feel selfish and irresponsible*
- *To be more patient and walk away from trouble*

#### **Impact on self**

- *Prior to UW I was suffering from clinical depression linked to a number of personal circumstances, particularly retirement after years of public service and working in a close knit team. The Order gave me the opportunity to meet new people and feeling valued as part of a team. I have continued as a volunteer since the end of the Order.*

- *Confidence building, found routine useful*
- *Improved my ability to plan and to time keep*
- *It has given me more confidence to return to work and develop different relationships*
- *I have learned not to take the law into my own hands and that my behaviour could be considered as anti-social*
- *It showed me people can make mistakes but there is still a lot of good in them*
- *It showed me to not break the law as it has a massive impact on your weekend*

### **Positive experiences**

- *Enjoyed working as part of a team and am going back as a volunteer*
- *Meeting people and knowing you are helping people*
- *I have volunteered one day per week*
- *Learned how to use gardening equipment*

### **Negative experiences**

- *Making friends with people then they leave*
- *Some days not having enough staff*

### **Impact on communities**

- *Amazed to see how many local people use the shop and donate to it – makes me want to continue as a volunteer*
- *Helps to support work needing done by the Council*

### **Other**

- *The shop manager was helpful, not treating Community Payback people any differently from volunteers*
- *The placement helped me so much at a time I needed other people around me*

### **Feedback from ELC Tenancy Support**

- *I have been able to refer some of our more vulnerable tenants for help and support with their gardens. The results have been amazing and have made a real difference to the people I work with who were unable to enjoy and access their gardens before the team were involved.*
- *The work was carried out to the highest standard and the workers, along with their supervisors, were always respectful and accommodating of any requests from our tenants. This team is a fabulous asset to East Lothian Council and should be commended for their professionalism and care when dealing with our more vulnerable tenants.*

## Feedback from a Community Council representative

- *Working with the Payback team has been of a great benefit to Wallyford and the wider community with regard to maintaining the area around the Pinkie Cleugh Memorial stone at Crookston. To have it looking in pristine condition throughout the year, making it look cared and attended for, keeping it well presented at the gateway into Wallyford from the city bypass, and especially for the commemoration ceremony each anniversary of the battle of Pinkie Cleugh on 10th September each year.*

## Pinkie Cleugh Memorial Stone



## Types of "other activity" carried out as part of the unpaid work or other activity requirement.

During 2017/18, we have continued to engage with partners to help develop 'other activities'. Developments have included:

- A pre-Construction Skills Certification Scheme awareness / development group facilitated by an external trainer with some clients moving on to undertake the full award.

- Through our partnership with Access To Industry which commenced in September 2017, clients have accessed employment information, support, guidance and training at the Recovery College or other educational or work placement.
- Individual clients referred to other counselling / support agencies such as Venture Trust, Changes, Connect, etc.

**Activities carried out to consult prescribed persons and organisations, pursuant to section 227ZL of the 1995 Act, and wider communities on the nature of unpaid work and other activities and how the consultation results helped determine which projects were undertaken.**

A Citizens Panel Survey, completed and collated in January 2017, identified that there was little community awareness of unpaid work/other activity. Over the 2017/18 year, through the Community Justice Local Outcome Improvement Plan (CJ LOIP), we identified the need to promote unpaid work across the county. As a result, the unpaid work manager was tasked with completing promotional events.

In 2017/18, the Unpaid Work Manager gave a presentation to the Musselburgh Probus Club and arranged for articles in both the Musselburgh Courier and East Lothian Housing Association Tenants Magazine to be published. These type of activities are actively encouraged to help inform the community of the work that is being carried out in the county.

As part of the CJ LOIP Annual Report, we have committed to undertaking further community survey(s) to confirm if community awareness has increased. We are also keen to develop a focus group to gain more in-depth and detailed views from those within the community.

**Use by the courts of CPO requirements other than unpaid work, for example what, and in what way, different requirements are being used for those whose offending is driven by drug, alcohol and mental health issues; or how requirements such as programme or conduct are being used to address offending behaviour.**

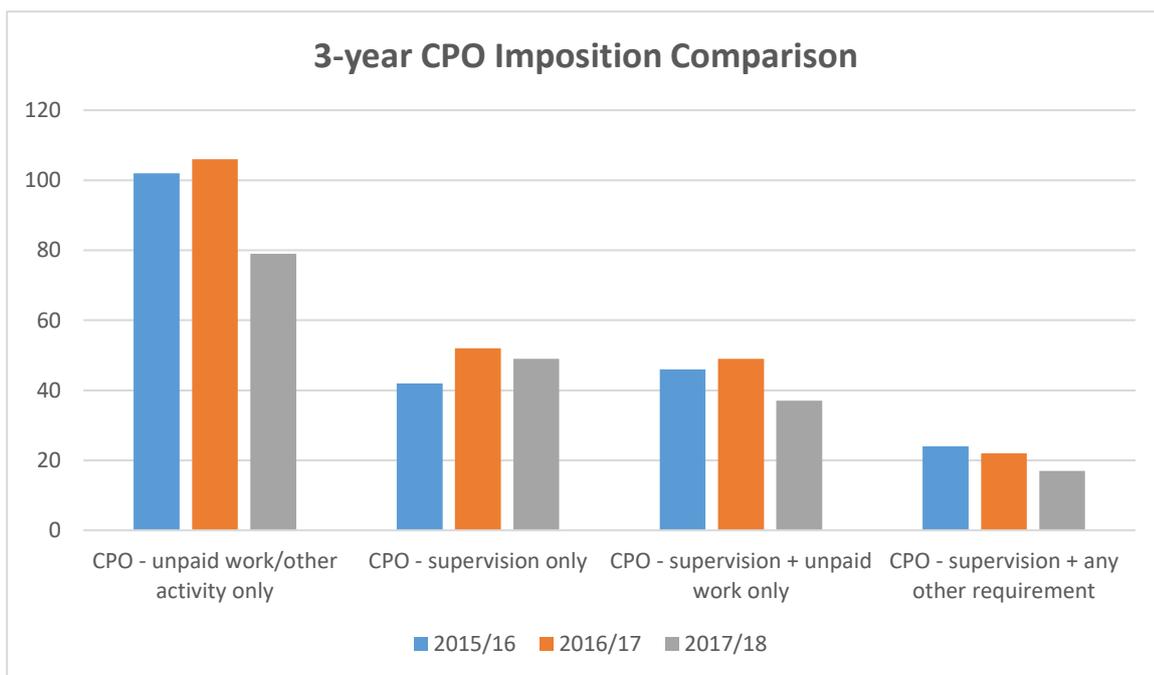
During 2017/18, 182 Community Payback Orders were imposed, compared to 229 the previous year. This reduction in orders is very unusual and something we have never experienced. As a result, we are carrying out more in-depth analysis as to why this is the case.

With regard the type of requirements made, the following table gives a 3 year breakdown:

## CPOs and Requirements

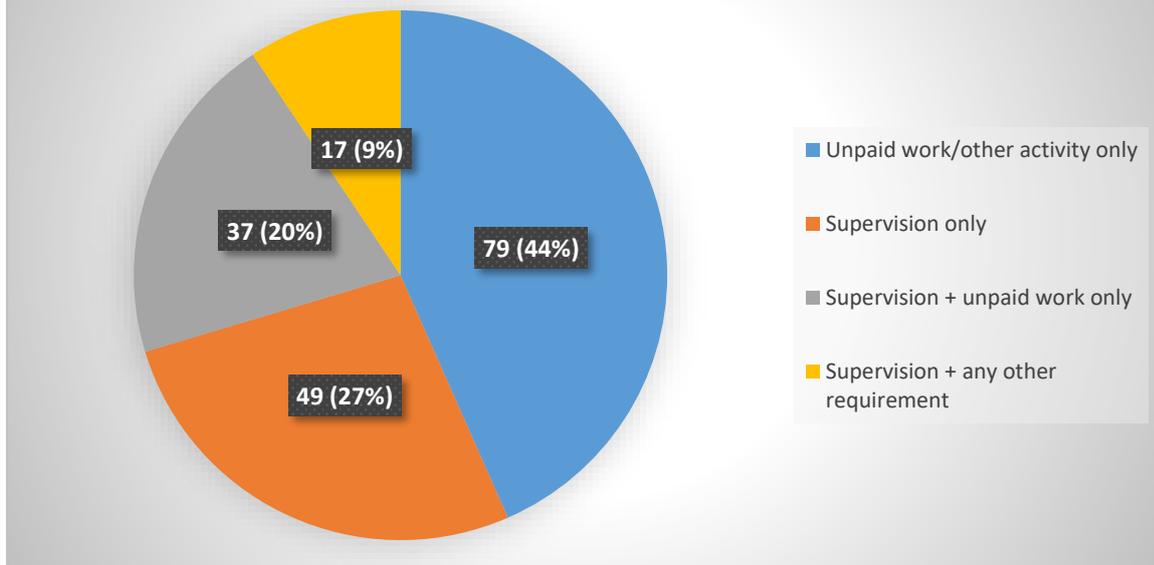
	2017/18	2016/17	2015/16
Unpaid work (only)	79	106	102
Supervision (only)	49	52	42
Supervision + UW	37	49	46
Programme	8	8	10
Compensation	4	8	11
Conduct	4	5	1
Alcohol treatment	0	1	2
Drug treatment	1	0	0
Mental health treatment	0	0	0
Residential	0	0	0
<b>Total number of CPOs</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>214</b>

As can be seen, the additional requirements of alcohol; drug treatment; mental health and residential are rarely, if ever used. However, it should be noted that these issues are often better dealt with through other channels (ie Drug Treatment and Testing Order), rather than there being no presenting need.



As can be seen, there has been a reduction in orders throughout this year which is a change when compared to 2016/17.

## 2017/18 - CPO requirements



### Programme Requirement(s)

East Lothian continues to have individuals subject to CPOs with requirements to attend The Caledonian Programme (domestic abuse) and Moving Forward: Making Changes (sex offences). The individual work is carried out in supervision sessions with the client and supervising social worker in East Lothian, with the groupwork being undertaken by centralised teams in Edinburgh. This allows for excellent partnership working with colleagues as well as holding those with convictions to account within their local area.

### Conduct Requirement(s)

Such requirements have been used to limit an individual's access to the internet and/or contact with children under the age of 16 years. However, on one occasion a conduct requirement was used to impose compliance with substance misuse services. Such requirements are rarely used in East Lothian with most expectations managed by way of the supervision requirement whereby clients are instructed to work with appropriate welfare and supportive services.

There have been requirements for women to attend **Connect** – a female only group within East Lothian. Here, a structured group is run in the morning and deals with a variety of topics including offending behaviour, distress, managing emotions, finances, etc. In the afternoon, there is a more free flowing session which aims to introduce the group members to resources within their community whilst boosting self confidence and general inclusion.

### Alcohol Requirement

This was used on one occasion. However, the individual moved outwith the area in the early stages of their order.

## **Compensation**

This requirement has been imposed on several individuals alongside unpaid work. This must also include the imposition of a supervision requirement (legislative requirement). In early assessment and case management planning, it has become evident that the focus is often around the reparation of unpaid work and direct compensation to the victim, with little focused work being required. Consequently, oversight has focussed on compliance/management purposes only.

## **Any issues affecting access to services which are provided by other partners (e.g. drug and alcohol services) and, where such issues have been identified, what work is underway to resolve them.**

There is long standing partnership arrangement with local substance misuse services within East Lothian. However, there are significant waiting lists for service provision for many who have substance misuse issues. East Lothian Criminal Justice Services continue to work with Mid & East Lothian Drug and Alcohol Partnership (MELDAP) and associated services to provide access to counselling, substitute prescribing/harm reduction and psychological input.

With the development of Community Justice, East Lothian and partners are beginning to look at a more holistic approach to the health needs of individuals with planning around developing a one-stop Hub at an advanced stage. Criminal Justice Services have also trained staff to use naloxone to assist individuals who take opiate overdoses. It is hoped that this harm reduction programme will reduce the incidence of drug-related deaths across the County.

## **Any other relevant information. This might include details of work which is carried out with people on CPOs to address their offending behaviour but which does not fall into the category of a specific requirement.**

### Connect Women's Group

This groupwork programme for women who are either in, or at risk of, entering the criminal justice system, has continued to grow during 2017/18. The focus around trauma-informed practice has been of significant benefit to attendees, some of whom have had adverse childhood experiences.

The facilitators have backgrounds in criminal justice, adult services, the voluntary sector (e.g SACRO) and the NHS although at times it has been difficult to maintain representation from all sectors due to staffing resources.

There have been challenges in the group membership with mental health, domestic abuse and substance misuse affecting attendees and their ability to make the most of the input. However, feedback from the women is very positive. We are currently examining exit strategies for individuals to ensure that they can move onto appropriate services in the community as and when they are ready.

## Individual Interventions

### Gambling

There have been a number of individuals with gambling related offending behaviour identified when on supervision. Whilst there is no dedicated East Lothian service, we can and do make use of Gambling Anonymous. Supervising Social Workers have used a Gambling Workbook (developed in Canada) to support improved understanding of such behaviour so individuals are better able to reduce or control their gambling.

### Anger/violence control or management

Many individuals subject to CPOs have identified needs around violence and aggression. The majority of intervention work is done on an individual basis with the supervising social worker.

### Anxiety/Coping Mechanisms

We are currently developing a programme of interventions and support using recognised tools around mindfulness and self-calming.

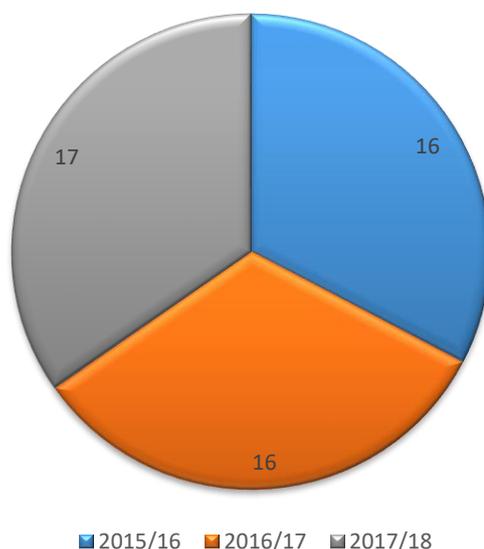
### Social Inclusion

Our staff mix now includes a Social Work Assistant to ensure that support for welfare issues, with particular focuses on poverty and employment, is available. Matters around the rollout of Universal Credit and the bedroom tax were highlighted with advocacy, assessment support and journal updates a regular feature of their work. Additionally, we engaged Access to Industry to provide a dedicated service to individuals with convictions seeking to move in employment, education or training.

### Substance Misuse

East Lothian has a recognised Drug Treatment and Testing Order Service (DTTO). As such, those clients with substance misuse problems would normally be assessed for a DTTO rather than a CPO with a drug treatment requirement.

**DTTO Imposition - Comparison**



The above pie chart illustrates that numbers have remained stable for this type of order which would suggest that the Courts view a DTTO as a reliable and appropriate community disposal.

#### Community Justice

Through community justice, we are aiming to improve services and outcomes for individuals involved in the justice system. East Lothian's Criminal Justice Service remains committed to this and will strive to ensure that community disposals are robust and effective.

COMPLETED BY: Fiona Duncan

DATE: 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018

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