



Community Justice Scotland
Ceartas Coimhearsnachd Alba

May 2021

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

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:

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.

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 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.

We 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](#).

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).



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.

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.

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.

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.

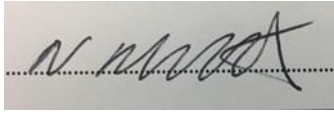
If any response or evidence requires details about people with lived experience (e.g. evidence in respect of someone’s life story) please DO NOT include any personal or sensitive information (as outlined in Schedules 2 & 3 of the Data Protection Act 1998) as Community Justice Scotland does not require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



Template Completion

Community Justice Partnership / Group Details	
Community Justice Partnership / Group	East Lothian Community Justice Partnership
Community Justice Partnership Group Chair	Local Area Commander, Chief Inspector
Community Justice Partnership / Group Coordinator	Community Justice Coordinator
Publication date of Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan (CJOIP)	EL CJOIP 2021/24 published in June 2021

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> <p>Signature of Community Justice Partnership / Group Chair: Date: 24/09/2021</p>  <p>Community Justice Partnership Chair</p>

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> <p>The Community Justice Partnership (CJP) has responsibility for setting the strategic direction of community justice in East Lothian and for the three Workstreams. The newly formed CJ Steering Group supports the direction setting of the CJP. The Workstreams are responsible for delivering on the strategic aims set by the Partnership. Below is a diagram of the communication flow between wider Governing structures, the Partnership, the Steering Group and the Workstreams.</p>





The Community Justice Partnership Steering Group’s role is to:

- Ensure the creative and effective use of resources in line with the strategic direction set by the Community Justice Board in East Lothian for 2020/21 – this will enable the East Lothian Partnership (ELP) and Health & Social Care Partnership (H&SCP) to fulfil its functions.
- Oversee the implementation of the actions in the Improvement Action Plan.
- Develop any further strategic community justice actions for agreement by the Community Justice Partnership (CJP).

Membership

Chair and Vice Chair of the Community Justice (Police Scotland and the H&SCP), the Head of the Connected Community Service (ELC), the General Manager of Statutory Services (H&SCP), the Service Manager of Statutory Services (H&SCP), the Chief Operating Officer Children’s Services and Chief Social Work Officer (ELC) and the Community Justice Coordinator (ELC).

The Three Workstreams are:

Community Engagement – to promote and raise awareness of the partnership and related services to help people with experience of the justice system.

- Sponsor: Head of Connected Communities (ELC)
- Lead: Connected Communities Manager (ELC)
- Co-lead: Justice Social Work Team Leader (H&SCP)

Purpose

- To promote and raise awareness of the work of the CJP and its local priorities within our communities, promoting the vision of the CJP and embedding the principles of community justice in community partnership collaborative working and projects – all with the intent of preventing and reducing further offending.
- To lead community and stakeholder engagement on behalf of the CJP.
- To establish and support a Community Justice Citizen’s Advisory Group, including those with lived experience of the criminal justice system, to assist with CJP planning and community engagement.
- To link community volunteering opportunities with people/ services undertaking and delivering Community Payback Orders (CPOs).



- To consult with the community and promote the opportunities and benefits derived from locally based Community Payback Orders.
- Work proactively with people who have lived experience of the community justice system
- To raise awareness of local services and interventions supporting the community justice agenda in East Lothian, including services offering Victim Support.

Membership

Community and Area Partnerships, Justice Social Work, Adult Social Work, Children's Services, East Lothian Works, Community Learning & Development - Youth Work, Public Protection Unit (PPU), ELC Protective Services, ELC Housing, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS), Volunteer Centre East Lothian (3rd sector interface), Mid & East Lothian Drug and Alcohol Partnership (MELDAP), Police Scotland, Scottish Prison Service (SPS), NHS Lothian, Health & Social Care Partnership (H&SCP), ELC Communications Officer, Heavy Sound (3rd sector org).

Early Intervention and Prevention – working to ensure the right services and programmes are in place to prevent young people from entering the justice system.

- Sponsor: Partnership Chair, Police Scotland
- Lead: Community Planning Officer, Police Scotland
- Co-lead: Justice Social Work Team Leader, H&SCP

Purpose

- To focus and target our work and respond timeously and efficiently to antisocial behaviour and youth justice issues by creating sustainable pathways away from offending behaviour at earlier stages.
- To support children and families affected by parental imprisonment.

Membership

Youth Justice Social Work, Justice Social Work, ELC Children's Services, Community Learning & Development – Youth Voice, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Volunteer Centre East Lothian (3rd sector interface), ELC Education, MYPAS, Police Scotland, ELC Safer Communities Team.

Getting it Right to Reduce Reoffending – this work focusses on making sure people with convictions and their families can get access to the information, advice, resources and support they need while in prison or out in the community, to prevent reoffending.

- Sponsor: Chief Operating Officer, Children's Services, ELC
- Lead: Housing Options Team Manager, ELC
- Co-lead: Justice Social Work Senior Practitioner, H&SCP

Purpose

To help readdress the balance of inequalities experienced by people with offending histories and their families, through improved service provision, by working across sectors, focussing on criminogenic needs and risk factors. The sub-group covers both services targeted at people with a conviction and their families and universal services, which reduce the likelihood of re-offending, benefitting the whole community.

Membership

Adult Social Work, Communities & Partnerships, Councillors, Justice Social Work, ELC Education, East Lothian Works, Public Protection Unit, ELC Safer Communities Team, ELC Housing, Skills Development Scotland, Police Scotland, SACRO, DWP, Community Learning & Development, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS), Mid & East Lothian Drug and Alcohol Partnership (MELDAP), Scottish Prison Service (SPS), Social Security Scotland.



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 CJs	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>3rd Sector partners sit on the Community Justice Partnership including Volunteer Centre East Lothian (VCEL – the 3rd sector interface for EL) and each of the three Workstreams (membership detailed above) have 3rd sector representatives on them. Recent structure changes in local victim organisations has allowed for new relationships to be formed and these will be further developed over 2021/22.</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 includes a participation statement C. a published annual report assessing progress towards outcomes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Queen Margaret University (a CJP Member) compiled a Community Justice Strategic Needs and Strengths Assessment (SNSA). Which was completed in August 2020. B. We have finalised our new <u>Community Justice Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2021/24</u> C. We did not publish our Annual Report for 2019/20 as there are accessibility issues within the template format. We propose to do a “front facing” version for the reporting year 2020/21.
<p>Ensure community justice SNSA activity forms a crucial component of understanding the needs of the whole area population.</p>	<p>We communicated the key findings from the SNSA (link above) across the CJP and Workstreams in the first instance and the SNSA forms a key part of the development of our CJLOIP 2021/24. Additional data gathered as part of the CJLOIP development process was included in the final version of the CJLOIP 2021/24.</p>



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.

Context

The Community Justice Partnership (CJP) meetings went ahead quarterly during 2020/21. Agenda items for these meetings included updates from partners about the impact Covid was having on their services and we discussed how we could support partner organisations. The minutes from these meetings captured the positive and negative impacts of Covid across services and partnership working. The following paragraphs are formed from two CJP meetings which took place in June and September 2020 and from information we received from the Workstream leads and other CJ partners that highlight the positives and negatives. Full copies of the minutes of the meetings can be found here **Community Justice Partnership meetings**


It is not anticipated that the CJP will have known impacts of Covid for this Annual Report but these should become clearer in the 2022/23 reporting year. The CJP are considering a SNSA update for 2021/22 to fully understand the impact of Covid on people who use our services and for service providers.

Area impacted	Challenges / Negatives	Positives / Opportunities
	<p>Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The limited number of cases going through the Court system, post arrest and the length of time taken to process people through Court. Off the back of this discussion the CJP agreed to invite COPFS to the next meeting.- Delays at the Scottish Courts and Tribunal Service with hearings have raised concerns about the impacts of the time lapses on the accused, victims and witnesses.- Considerable delays and backlogs of unpaid work.- An increase in youth related disorder and ASB in Musselburgh and Dunbar.	<p>Positive (and a challenge)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- IT and access to video conference systems allowed business to continue. However, the use of different systems between large organisations meant that some partners had limited functionality and some could only “dial in” to meetings. The Community Justice Coordinator had to ask a Partner for admin support to arrange CJ meetings as East Lothian Council (ELC) used Skype and other key partners (Police Scotland and the Health and Social Care Partnership) used MS Teams. This created an additional strain on partners’ time.



	<p>Negatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In March 2020, only 12 Courts were open across Scotland creating a considerable backlog of solemn and summary business. - People in prison on remand who had been in for 14 months. - The lack of structure for young people in care settings, the impact on their mental health, and challenges for staff trying to keep young people in and adhering to Covid legislation. - Skills Development Scotland (SDS) reported an increase in youth unemployment and were taking a targeted approach to working with school leavers. School leavers with limited home support were struggling to find positive destinations to move on to. 	<p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The implementation of the ‘Early Release Scheme’ aimed to reduce the number of prisoners across the Scottish prison estate to minimise the Covid risks associated with overcrowding and close contact. In East Lothian, this meant one person was released early. The Housing Options Team and Prison Service worked closely to ensure they had suitable accommodation on release. This work is now being progressed by the Getting it Right to Reduce Reoffending Workstream and formalised in to a group known as TRANSITION (see page 11 for more detail). - Ongoing commitment from COPFS to work with our CJP. - Investment in school counselling services and the recruitment of 6 mental health youth workers. - Volunteer Centre East Lothian (VCEL) supported the digital access program and worked with “People Know How” who distributed refurbished laptops to improve digital access. - Forming the Community Justice Steering Group.
<p><u>Context</u> The 3 supporting Workstreams met less frequently during the reporting year due to staff time constraints and front line service priorities. However, when they did meet Covid responses and recovery was an item on the meeting agendas.</p>		



<p>Our community justice partnership</p>	<p>Early Intervention and Prevention Workstream</p> <p>Negative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prevented some member organisations from carrying out their services due to social distancing requirements. <p>Community Engagement Workstream</p> <p>Negatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The impact on Justice Social Work (JSW) service users during lockdowns was the absence of face to face contact with their social worker (unless in an emergency). Therefore a significant impact on the ability to undertake offence focused work and provide support to address criminogenic need, and the ability to undertake unpaid work projects of benefit to the community. - The financial impact on JSW service users as some are employed in the gig economy or in unstable employment. Government financial support has not always been accessible or provided as immediately as it is required. - Digital poverty: whilst most of us were able to work from home and had the infrastructure to support this, many people did not have/could not afford the wifi, additional data packages, or devices to access the internet. <p>Getting it Right to Reduce Reoffending</p> <p>Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The reduction in longer-term strategic planning. Covid has focussed staff on the needs of service users, both in terms of 	<p>Early Intervention and Prevention Workstream</p> <p>Positives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allowed members to explore new ways of providing services which are not necessarily face to face. - New support services identified for children and young people with a focus on their mental wellbeing. <p>Community Engagement Workstream</p> <p>Positives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supporting the JSW workforce to work from home and promoting this support into the future. We learnt that people will work at home and want to work at home and that this can contribute to a better work/life balance (and therefore more productive workforce). Equally having access to the office for our essential service delivery has been essential, welcomed, and positive. - Demonstrating flexibility and creativity in how we deliver unpaid work/other activity and taking that creativity forward. - Implementing the accredited Caledonian 1:1 programme so that we can continue to address domestic offending behaviour even if group work provision is unavailable. - New communications at the Risk Management Case Conferences with ELC's Connected Communities Team in relation to the rehousing of high risk offenders and the media. <p>Getting it Right to Reduce Reoffending</p> <p>Positive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A Multi-Agency Release Planning Group (now formalised and known as TRANSITION) was set up in May 2020,
		

	<p>a planned approach and crisis management and day to day operational priorities. While this is to be commended, to an extent this has resulted in a reduced focus on wider long-term strategic planning. Operationally it is clear that joint working has improved across teams, however the previous focus on the longer-term vision for GRRR Workstream for example has been put on hold.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Difficulties engaging / supporting service users. There has been an increase in ASB and the profile has been raised in respect of drug related deaths. Our ability to engage with, manage and support chaotic service users has been reduced, given difficulties around face to face support and home visits. <p>Negative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Limited flow through the housing system. Covid has resulted in significant blockages in B&B / temporary accommodation, further exacerbating issues in respect of the ability to accommodate service users in settled accommodation. <p>Other Information Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Anti-social behaviour. Difficulty raising action due to restrictions imposed / inability to raise eviction proceedings due to court imposed moratorium leading to long-term impact on affected neighbours and communities. - Substance misuse. Increased alcohol use evident for some vulnerable service users during lockdown. Reduced 	<p>initially in response to the Covid early release scheme, with monthly meetings taking place to discuss the data in respect of prison leavers anticipated to be released and accommodated in East Lothian. Meetings have enabled an improved awareness of people anticipated for release; the ability to identify gaps and share plans for a smooth transition for East Lothian residents moving from a custodial to a community setting and in some cases, a planned approach has enabled people to avoid making a statutory homeless assessment and / or reduce time in B&B.</p> <p>Opportunity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improved working relationships. The ability to have virtual meetings has in some ways enabled closer working across key agencies i.e. Justice Social Work; Housing Options Team and Safer Communities Teams. Prior to Covid, there were ongoing difficulties in respect of time and capacity to meet face to face in an office setting, whereas virtual meetings have allowed for greater flexibility and promoted efficient, effective and regular meetings, with the ability to meet immediately where necessary and respond to crisis situations very quickly. <p>Other Information Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collaboration. The pandemic has promoted numerous examples of positive joint working i.e. local joint response to the early release of prisoners; collaborative work with QMU to access vacant university accommodation; work with the Scottish Government re
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	<p>availability / higher cost of drugs and associated risks around safety for users. Drug offences showed an increase of 121% in EL, rising from 24 to 53, compared to national decrease of 11% (taken from EL Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan).</p>	<p>holiday caravan park closures and extensive community efforts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Addressing poverty. Emergency food provision in place, food mapping resource underway; various funds open for third sector agencies; children’s hubs established and delivery of school lunch packs ongoing. East Lothian Poverty Working Group established. <p>Positives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Registered Sex Offenders (RSOs). MAPPA / RMCCs have continued to run smoothly re the management of RSOs via virtual meetings. - 32 donated bikes have been collected and checked/ repaired and provided to care experienced 15+ clients since the start of the pandemic. Collection and delivery was initially carried out between the 15+ Team and the Community Payback Work Team.
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NATIONAL OUTCOME ONE

Communities improve their understanding and participation in community justice

	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
Evidence and Data	<p>The CJP (via the Community Engagement Workstream) has a number of different means of sharing information and engaging with local communities around community justice issues. For example we have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CJ Twitter account - follow us @ELComm_Justice - <u>ELC Community Justice webpages</u> - Minutes and agendas from the previous <u>Community Justice Partnership meetings</u> - New branding for the CJP, including a new logo and colour palette. <p>In previous annual reports we have added detail on the feedback from local organisations and community groups who benefited from unpaid work. They are usually asked about their “<u>satisfaction with work undertaken as part of a CPO</u>” but due to Covid, there was a significant reduction in the number of unpaid work hours completed so this feedback could not be sought.</p> <p>Proposed work to engage with people with <u>lived experience</u> of community justice did not happen as planned over the reporting year due to the Community Justice Coordinator having a slight change to their work remit due to Covid. However, this work has started for the reporting period 2021/22.</p> <p>The <u>Residents Survey</u>, which asks local people about their perceptions of crime was not carried out during this reporting period due to Covid and competing demands.</p>	<p>We continue to measure the impact of the messages through monitoring social media interactions/ website hits and responses to other engagement activities. For example: The ELC Community Justice webpages went live in November 2019. Since then there have been a total of 656 page views and 259 of these page views were unique. For the financial year April 20 - Mar 21 there were 274 page views and 98 of these were unique. There was a spike in traffic on the 9 December 2020 with 42 views).</p> <p>East Lothian Health and Social Care Partnership (H&SCP) have a Facebook page that promotes community justice information and events. The page has circa 2,100 followers.</p> <p>Our commitment to using peoples lived experience of community justice has been built into the CJ Coordinator’s role from April 2021 and will be reported on for 2021/22.</p>



East Lothian Councils “See Survey” (the Student Evaluation of Experience Survey) carried out with P6&S2* students show there has been a decrease in the % of pupils who feel safe in their neighbourhood during the day or in the evening from 2017/18 to 2020/21 but in the main, these figures remain relatively stable.

“ % of pupils agreed that they feel safe to go out in their local neighbourhood during the day”

2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
95.1%	94.9%	94.3%	93.4%

“% of pupils agreeing that they feel safe to go out in their local neighbourhood during the evening”

78.1%	77.8%	79.7%	77.1%
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*Note The 2020/21 survey was only conducted with P6 pupils while the data from 2019/20 includes P6, S2 and S4 pupils

Police Scotland continued to hold the **Local Area Community & Police Partnership** (CAPP) meetings throughout the pandemic (via online platforms such as Skype and MS Teams) and the main priorities highlighted across the county were Antisocial Behaviour and speeding.

The impact of the CAPP meeting was that local people’s concerns were addressed, with community police officers tasked with carrying out speed checks at the areas highlighted and targeted patrols in areas where antisocial behaviour had been reported.

Other information relevant to National Outcome One

For more information relevant to NA One can be found in:

Our Participation Statement and Service Mapping Exercise - see [Appendices 6 & 7. of the CJLOIP 2021/24](#)

Our “Judicial Information: Local Area Disposal Template” submitted to CJS in September 2021



NATIONAL OUTCOME TWO
Partners plan and deliver services in a more strategic and collaborative way

	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
Evidence and Data	<p>Community Justice Partnerships across Scotland were allocated extra funding (in additional to the transitional funding they receive) to support partnership working. In East Lothian, the CJP agreed that each of the 3 Workstreams would receive £4,000 and the Workstreams then funded the below to address actions contained within their Workstream Plans:</p> <p>Getting it Right to Reduce Reoffending</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supporting homeless families project - Housing 1st/ Mental Health Team <p>Community Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Heavy Sound to develop a peer mentoring project <p>Early Intervention and Prevention</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Youth Crime Oversight Group for diversionary work - Recharge Centre for diversionary work <p>Young people and mental health has been one of the greatest concerns noted anecdotally by CJ Partners over the reporting period as an impact of Covid and lockdowns. In response to this there have been 6 new Mental Health Posts recruited across High Schools and other services such as the below have continued to run to support young people.</p> <p>Police Scotland have also been focusing on Covid recovery in schools. The Link Officers have been responding to the detrimental effect of Covid on young people and their mental</p>	Impact will be reported in 2021/22



	<p>health, due to isolation and not having the daily routine and structure of going to school.</p> <p>In November 2019 'People Know How' were awarded a contract by NHS Lothian to deliver a Positive Transitions Service in East Lothian. With a mix of Council and NHS Health Improvement Funding they supported 255 young people with 1754 hours of support delivered through the Positive Transition service. They also provided 1000 hours of support to parents & carers. 20% of young people supported by the service were on a CAMHS waiting list and the main reasons for referrals were emotional difficulties & transition to High School.</p> <p>Other examples of "Partners plan and deliver services in a more strategic and collaborative way" are shown below.</p> <p>An outcome of the Community Justice Self Evaluation & Validation process (which we undertook with support from the Care Inspectorate from October 2019 until February 2020) was an 'Improvement Action Plan'. The key areas for development have been completed and the Action Plan signed off by the CJP in March 2021.</p> <p>The Community Justice Transitional LOIP 2020/21 was also signed off in March 2021 and the 4 identified actions completed were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Undertake a service mapping exercise. 2. Embed the Workstreams. 3. Complete a Strategic Needs and Strengths Assessment. 4. Publish a CJLOIP for 2021/24. 	<p>Most commonly reported outcomes from the People Know How services are improved confidence, and improved self-esteem. The full evaluation is not yet available.</p> <p>Developments from the Improvement Action Plan included actions around planning and delivering services in a more strategic and collaborative way. The four key areas in the action plan were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Making strategic links and improving performance - we widened the membership of the CJP and Workstreams to include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Security Scotland and • A rep from the Public Protection Unit/ Violence Against Women & Girls group • Appointed co-leads from Justice Social Work to each of the Workstreams <p>We also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formed a CJ Steering Group.
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with the Head of Children’s Services who is the Trauma Informed Lead for ELC and • The Community Justice Coordinator is the single point of contact for trauma training in the CJP. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Developing robust data and outcome reporting – we produced a SNSA and are using this to inform future work in the CJLOIP 2021/24. 3. Utilising partner relationships more effectively – as key area 1. 4. Forward planning and future proofing community justice – We have developed the role of the CJ Coordinator to include a remit for ongoing engagement with people with lived experience of community justice which includes victims of crime.
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Other information relevant to National Outcome Two

MAPPA has continued to run throughout the Covid pandemic.
 New members of the CJP:- **Social Security Scotland**, an executive agency of the Scottish Government, work to the principles in the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018 and Our Charter, which sets out what people in Scotland can expect from their new social security system.

A **new Social Worker was employed by adult services to work within the substance misuse service**. Justice Social Work is funding seven hours of this post to specifically provide JSW service users with a direct link to substance misuse services. The worker is also part of a multi-agency team delivering group work to women who are involved in, or at risk of being involved in offending.

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

	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
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<p>Evidence and Data</p>	<p>The following paragraphs demonstrate that partners have identified and are overcoming structural barriers for people accessing services during Covid and the existence of joint-working arrangements such as processes / protocols to ensure access to services to address underlying needs.</p> <p>The SHINE Mentoring Service (delivered by SACRO and Access to Industry) and the CONNECT group have overcome structural barriers for people accessing services by supporting women on a one to one and group basis. Both services had to adapt to new ways of working with women during the lockdowns, mostly by using digital platforms and telephone as a means of communication. All CONNECT Group members chose to end their telephone support by the end of the financial year.</p> <p>SHINE risk assess each service user's case and where it was deemed essential, were able to offer welfare visits where they met with women face to face. The visits focussed on wellbeing, ensuring they had internet connectivity and knew all about online support groups etc. They were able to collect Foodbank orders for women and deliver to them directly as it was very difficult for some women to collect their food due to lack of public transport and financial inequalities. They applied for grants for women to support them with fuel, linked women in with East Lothian SMS services and counselling services and, referred them to Women's Aid and CONNECT. During the year April 2020 - March 2021 SHINE worked with five women residing within East Lothian.</p> <p>Circle run a service for "Children Affected by Substance Use Project". During the pandemic they offered families as much face to face support as they could. They were innovative in</p>	<p>See case study in National Outcome 6 for evidence of the impact of the ELORS service, delivered by Access to Industry that demonstrates how a targeted intervention has been tailored for and with an individual and had a successful impact on their risk of further offending.</p> <p>The impact of the change of delivery model for SHINE and CONNECT to telephone and digital platforms is unknown at this stage. However, being able to maintain contact with vulnerable service users throughout this time would have made an impact on their ability to progress (or not regress to previous behaviours) during this time.</p> <p>Circle recently (January 2021) had an independent evaluation of the Children Affected by Substance Use Project which uses a whole families approach, and long term support to families</p>
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	<p>their responses to this whilst abiding by restrictions and this included meeting families in gardens, for socially distanced walks, drop offs and pick-ups from school.</p> <p>Another example of a targeted intervention that has been tailored for and with an individual and had a successful impact on their risk of further offending is the Youth Crime Oversight Group (YCOG). Membership of this group includes Children’s Services (led by the team leader with lead for Youth Justice), Police (the Police Youth Justice Officer - PYJO) and Education services. All Police VPD (youth offending) forms are referred to this group and cases unallocated to social workers are discussed in relation to what outcome would best fit the child’s needs. Allocated social workers are required to discuss separately with the PYJO or refer to YCOG for further discussion. The YCOG’s focus is to ensure that all children offending, or getting into trouble which could lead to charges, get the help they need to avoid coming into the Criminal Justice System.</p> <p>In this reporting year there were 137 Parent Advisory Letters (PAL) issued, although not all of these would be via the YCOG. For a list of the interventions and diversions used by the YCOG is in the ‘other info relevant’ section below.</p> <p>ELC’s Housing Options Team recruited two additional officers 1. A Prevention Officer and 2. A Tenancy Support Officer</p>	<p>affected by parental substance use. The outcomes identified in the report for children and their families included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 23 children were kept out of care - Eight children were either taken off the Child Protection Register (CPR) or avoided being put on the CPR as a result of the service support. <p>See the Youth Justice Group Work evaluation in the other information section of this outcome for detail on the impact of the programme (that ran despite the Covid restrictions) and supported the work of the YCOG.</p> <p>Figures for Youth Offending Referrals show that over the reporting period there were 96 allocated and 170 unallocated VPDs passed to the YCOG.</p> <p>The impact of these posts will be reported in 2021/22</p>
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	<p>They took up post in the Housing Options (Prevention) Team in December 2020 and January 2021 respectively. The two additional officers have created capacity within the Prevention Team to take a new preventative approach to three specific groups, including people leaving prison.</p> <p>Work is ongoing in respect of each of these three areas, however to an extent this has been delayed due to Covid.</p> <p>TRANSFORM (a local service focusing on reducing reoffending) has been under review for this reporting period.</p> <p>TRANSITION – see page 11 for more information on this service. Enables pre-release planning from prisons.</p> <p>The Data Sharing Agreement between the Scottish Prison Service and East Lothian Council to allow for the implementation of TRANSITION, SHORE and prison release scheme was renewed in November 2020.</p>	
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Other information relevant to National Outcome Three

List of current interventions/diversions used by the YCOG

- Warning Letter** – can be issued as a direct police measure, but more often after discussion with partners to ascertain no further concerns.
- Restorative Warning** - can be issued as a direct police measure, but more often after discussion with partners to ascertain no further concerns and generally after a recently previously reported incident of offending but of a minor nature.
- Education** – if an offence has occurred within school and they have taken action of if they are the most suitable partner, i.e. best relationship to provide guidance and intervention for the offence.
- Social Work** – if concerns are noted in relation to the environment a child is being cared for or the circumstances of the offence are serious due to violence or risk, to assess if the family require support to correct this behaviour, also offering group work for repeat offenders.
- Fire and Rescue Service** – offer intervention for fireraising and other risk taking behaviours.
- Mypas** – if substances, alcohol and or counselling required (referred through Education, independently or following discussion).
- Recharge** – for group work if appropriate (referred by any of partners independently or following discussion).
- Artlink** – for tailored intervention for the individual (referred by any of partners independently or following discussion).



Heavy Sound – for group work/education with music instruction and muai thai activities along with other tailored activities if required, the bus can also be used in the community for access by local youths if there is a hot spot of ASB/Offending.

Pitching in – Police run intervention available for football related offending or for intervention with youths who have an interest in playing football.

A targeted intervention from **Social Security Scotland** (who have a statutory responsibility to make people aware of the benefits they are entitled to and help them to access it) deliver their services in a number of ways – they have created a Local Delivery Service to provide residents with locally based support and to work collaboratively with other partners and stakeholders to support the achievement of the national outcomes.

Note to CJS – We are still unable to source information on the % of people released from prison who are registered with a GP and have had a benefits eligibility check.

CHILDREN’S SERVICES YOUTH JUSTICE GROUPWORK EVALUATION 2020-2021

Introduction

Early and Effective Intervention is a key element of East Lothian Council’s Youth Justice Strategy and the Whole Systems Approach (WSA) which is underpinned by the principles of “Getting It Right for Every Child”. The aim of the WSA is to achieve positive outcomes for some of the most vulnerable young people in Scotland, helping them to fulfil their potential and become contributors to their communities. The Scottish Government supplied two years funding to East Lothian Council Children’s Services for the development of the Whole Systems Approach. Our proposal was that we work to progress our delivery of Early and Effective Intervention (EEI) with the development of group-work for children involved in offending behaviour, and that we look to introduce a Restorative Justice service following Scottish Government guidance thereafter. We ran a pilot group in the Autumn of 2020 limited in numbers as a result of Covid restrictions and this is the evaluation of it.

We had planned to run a programme lasting eight weeks involving 8-10 young people and with sessions delivered by our agency partners (Mypas, Community Learning, Police Scotland and Heavy Sound). For example Heavy Sound were going to run a “skate jam” one session. In addition to this being fun Heavy Sound were going to use this as an opportunity for their workers who have lived experience to discuss the impact of offending on later life. As social workers it was difficult to replicate this “voice of experience” for the young people. Community Learning and Development had been due to run a session around problem solving (the Escape room session) and it had been hoped that this would also allow them to make more links with participants which would encourage them into diversionary youth activities and introduce them to local youth groups.

The decision was taken that a smaller group would run to fit with Covid restrictions although there was a risk of the young people dropping out. A risk assessment was completed to minimise the risk of Covid transmission and appropriate consents were sought from parents.



There was also difficulty in accessing the right venue as many buildings were shut due to the restrictions but a local community centre was available. This group was not run with the planned participation from partner agencies who were not in a position to contribute due to Covid impacting on their services. We decided that despite the above factors which potentially could have meant that the group was entirely unsuccessful, that we would attempt to run this small group ourselves as a pilot.

Description of the Group

A social worker was the lead for the group and their role involved:

- assessment of suitable children for the group
- liaison with their social worker if they had one,
- discussion with the child and parent/s/carers about what the group would entail,
- the purpose of it and
- the Covid precautions that were being taken

Consent forms were completed with the families to ensure that the family consented to information-sharing, attendance at the group and to necessary Covid precautions. A Family Support Worker and a member of the 15+ Team helped run the group.

A group of children were identified based on their anti-social and/or offending behaviour; these young people had previously come through the EEI process before the development of Youth Crime Oversight Group, and there was significant concern about the level of their behaviour and the risk of further such behaviour. There was a cohort of similarly aged young people with persistent offending/anti-social behaviour who were assessed as suitable for the group. In four cases there was an allocated social worker (3 of these in long term teams and 1 in the duty team).

Evaluation

The participants were asked for feedback on the group by the facilitators informally during the group and at the end. The feedback provided was universally that a larger group would be better. The most detailed feedback came from the final session, but it was only the most motivated young person who was attending at this point. They noted that the session they most remembered was the previous session on impact of offending. However they had been the sole attendee so had the facilitators' undivided attention which may have some bearing on their recollection.

Social workers were asked to get feedback from their young people; one young person's worker fed back that they had enjoyed the groups they attended. They had been anxious that it would feel like school but had been reassured when it had not. The worker fed back that their attendance was influenced by his family's ability to prioritise his attendance at group (as with school). They apparently feel that they had no way to impact on his behaviour. Another worker fed back that their service user had reported he was finding the group "good" but this seemed at odds with his presentation and poor attendance. In future we would create a more formal and anonymous form for the young people to complete with their social workers in an attempt to gain more useful feedback.



The Problem Solving Session 1 and Victim Impact Sessions seemed to be particularly successful. In these sessions the young people seemed to engage particularly well with the material. These sessions allowed neutral discussions about things that seemed to interest them. The young people liked the opportunity to think about all the possible solutions to the presented problems, including potential solutions which were left field and which they might have expected facilitators to reject out of hand. This discussion had lots of energy partly as it was one of the better attended sessions. The exercises in the victim impact session seemed to really interest the one participant who attended. They were by far the most engaged participant and did not seem negatively affected by being the sole group member. They seemed to find the discussion interesting and was keen to share their views. They also were by nature reflective, so able to think about their own offending and link it to the discussion. The feedback given to their workers by two other participants was that they enjoyed the sessions but they did not go into details about what they liked or disliked.

It is important to engage the young people near the time of their actual offending so that it is a live issue for them to increase motivation from the young person and family. This means that when children come to the attention of the Police and are referred to YCOG that this needs to be done speedily; currently there are often lengthy delays in this process making effective work more difficult.

One learning point is that the young people need to be motivated and enabled to attend at the start or they may drop out or impact negatively on the participation of the other young people. One young person was included in the group despite stating they had no interest in it, which was perhaps never likely to be successful. Better planning about how to ensure the young people attend will be carried out in future, along with more preparation in relation to each prospective participant on a 1:1 basis before the group starts. In future we will need to be clearer with social workers about our expectations of them; for example, they will be needed to help ensure the young people attend. Prior to the next group it would be helpful to visit team meetings to discuss the group, who is suitable, how to refer and explicitly discuss the role of the social workers supporting the young people. There needs to be an understanding from workers that their involvement will be active and crucial.

The importance of the meeting with group worker, family, young person and social worker has been highlighted as very important as part of the preparation. There needs to be an explicit discussion around why the young person's behaviour is a worry and the importance that this is addressed.

There is an issue about transportation for the young people who are referred through the Early and Effective Intervention route and who do not have an allocated worker. After the initial session taxi transportation may be more reliable than relying on family, as it seemed even when prompted there were issues with reliability. Rather than ask allocated workers to remind and check in with non-attenders it may be better if the group facilitators do this. There seemed to be a systemic issue with workers not having the time and space to do this quickly enough, and it may therefore be better carried out by group staff who could provide a reminder on the day and chase up quickly in the case of non-attendance. The introduction of a mid-point session with both worker and young person and their family may help to increase the levels of communication between group facilitators and allocated workers and will be introduced in the next group.

AB, Social Worker and Group Lead

SD, Team Leader and Youth Justice Lead



NATIONAL OUTCOME FOUR

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

	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
Evidence and Data	<p>Quality of CPOs</p> <p>Q1 in the Exit Questionnaire asks “In your contact with the Criminal Justice Social Work Service, do you feel that you have been treated with respect and courtesy?”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 people (100%) said yes they were <p>Q2 asks “Do you think all your personal circumstances were taken into account to help you to complete your Order/Licence (e.g. literacy, childcare)?”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 people (100%) said yes they were <p>Q3 asks “When attending your appointment, were you seen on time?”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 people (100%) said yes they were <p>Q5 asks “When you were first placed on supervision, were the terms of your Order/Licence explained to you?”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 people (100%) said yes they were <p>Q6 asks “Do you think that being on supervision has helped you?”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 people (100%) said yes they were <p>In East Lothian the DTTO scheme is over seen and managed by partners in Edinburgh Social Work – due to Covid restrictions and demands on services we were unable to gain impact data relating to 2020/21.</p>	<p>Service user feedback from people completing unpaid work was:</p> <p>Attitude to offending behaviours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My attitude to offending behaviours was negative before this and I will not offend again. <p>Positive experiences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feel like I was achieving something • Sense of self-worth while completing tasks • Placement staff made the experience rewarding and enjoyable • Learned that offending is not for me • Doing jobs I had never done before <p>Negative experiences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worry about embarrassment of being recognised <p>Impact on self</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Felt good to give back as reparation for mistakes • Learned that there are a lot of nice people out there that give time freely • Have become a stronger person through this experience • May do volunteer work in future <p>What would you change or differently?</p>



	<p>The following data relates to ELCs Youth Justice Service and was taken from their Annual Report for 2020/21.</p> <p>There were two Criminal Justice Social Work Reports and 19 Diversion Report requests (16 were completed).</p> <p>Diversions from prosecution: There were 53 Diversion Reports requested in this reporting period.</p> <p>Community Sentences at the end of March 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 78 people completing CPOs (with Supervision and any/no other requirement) and 19 people undertaking Statutory Throughcare • 39 people were undertaking Statutory Throughcare (custody) and • 16 people were undertaking Voluntary Throughcare (custody, eligible) • Eight people were undertaking Voluntary Throughcare (community, receiving). (N.B. these are people that we have not put into abeyance, but those with whom we have had contact in the past six months) • 11 people in the community were RSOs • Less than five people were in MAPPA Category 3 (both for violence) • 23 people had Risk Management Case Conferences (RMCCs) held • 16 people had Caledonian Orders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase potential for employment at the end as this would reduce risk of reoffending <p>The Youth Justice Service data shows that there has been a significant reduction in criminal justice reports and CPOs which has a significant impact on young people and our communities. Clearly the Criminal Justice system is working successfully to avoid children having to come into the system where their immaturity and vulnerabilities makes breach and the consequences of breach very likely. As expected the number of diversion suitability reports has gone up significantly as part of the general diversionary principles. Several of these relate to repeat offending by the same young people; there were in total 14 different young people referred to us for this purpose. No cases came back as Court reports so it is likely that all cases were in fact diverted successfully.</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Six people had Domestic Abuse CPOs (supervision) or a Domestic Abuse Statutory Throughcare Licence • 34 domestic abuse related CJSWRs • Less than five people had a DTTO imposed <p>Court: 184 Criminal Justice Social Work Reports (CJSWRs) were requested</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 127 – CJSWRs submitted (96% within timescale) • 49% - had a preferred option of CPO (supervision), DTTO or post-release supervision <p>A snapshot from the Scottish Prison Service (SPS) Scheduled Reports tells us that in March 2021 there were: 63 people across the Scottish prison estate including Young Offenders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 of these were on remand • One had a sentence between 3 and 6 months • Seven had sentences between 3&6 months and 6 months and 2 years • Ten had a sentence between 2 and 4 years • 30 had a sentence over 4 years (including life) <p>There were no females from East Lothian in prison at that time.</p> <p>The SPS produce ‘Local Authority Supplementary Sentencing Reports’ and for the 3rd February 2021 there were 22 males from East Lothian on remand (of 66 people in prison).</p> <p>Police Scotland - Operation Juneau is a multiagency approach to tackle the harm caused to individuals and communities by</p>	<p>This shows that there were a small number of people in prison with a sentence of less than 12 months. The Data Sharing agreement ensures that we are aware on weekly basis of who is leaving prison and when, meaning we can put any applicable substance misuse services in place as needed.</p> <p>Operation Juneau identified best practice and new processes for dealing with people who are affected by substance misuse.</p>
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	<p>substance misuse and drug dealing by working collectively with partners to rehabilitate and support those affected. Launched in October 2020, the initial 3 week enforcement phase led to 18 warrants executed, 46 people arrested, 58 charges libelled and over 50k in drugs seized. 206 targeted letter drops and 60 people were given fast track referrals to partner agencies. The Operation has continued with many more warrants executed, drugs seized and arrests made and this will continue through the year ahead. We supported vulnerable victims subjected to Cuckooing and robustly pursued those involved in County Lines drug dealing.</p>	<p>Evolving from this learning, the 'Substance Use Harms Co-ordinating Group' is now up and running. It is Chaired by the Head of Operations from the Health and Social Care Partnership. As a direct result of learning from the operation, a new information sharing process has been set up where people who have taken a near or non-fatal overdose now get referred to support services within 24 hours of police contact. This is currently unique to East Lothian but will be extended across the police division later in the year.</p>
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NATIONAL OUTCOME FIVE
 Life chances are improved through needs, including health, financial inclusion, housing and safety, being addressed

	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
Evidence and Data	<p>Throughout the reporting period there were a number of Partnership groups formed in response to Covid that aimed meet peoples basic needs round health, income, financial inclusion and safety. Community Justice Partners - Heavy Sound helped deliver emergency food parcels, and changed their model of delivery to ensure people's needs were met given the circumstances. For more examples of services changing the delivery model to meet the needs of people see National Outcome 3 on the SHINE/ CONNECT and Circle services.</p> <p>East Lothian Council (ELC) convened an emergency Food Group whose role was to ensure a spread of emergency food provision across the County and to support children in receipt of free school meals to continue to access food while schools were closed.</p>	<p>See the case study on Bail Supervision in the other information section to see the positive impact of partnership working to address needs.</p>

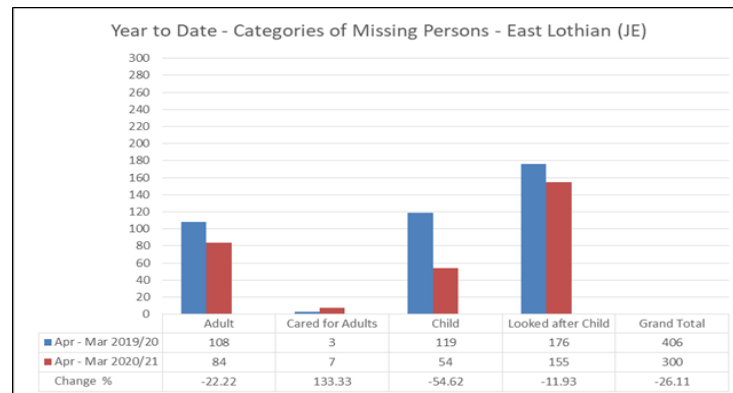


Volunteer Centre East Lothian worked closely with ELC and local Resilience Groups to ensure they were equipped to be working with vulnerable people as the Covid crisis continued.

Social Security Scotland – continued to remodel their service and are committed to tackling poverty and promoting social security nationally and locally. They work with others to help people get all the support they need, ensuring public money is used responsibly.

Keeping people safe - **Police Scotland** introduced **the Herbert Protocol** which is an early intervention scheme directed at tracing people with dementia who have been reported missing, within a timeous manner, reducing the risk of harm to the person.

Police Scotland have also been working with **Young Persons Units** in response to reports of looked after young people being reported missing. This has resulted in a positive reduction in reports compared to previous years.



Work has been undertaken in respect of engaging with children identified as repeatedly being reported missing. This has led to several partnership meetings being convened to support these children. These have led to a significant reduction in reported incidents involving such children and ensured support for them.

The issue of young people going missing from supported accommodation has been identified as a big issue by the CJP over the last few years so seeing the positive impact of these interventions and the reduction in the number of cases is very welcome.



	This table shows a reduction in the number of people who went missing in this reporting period in East Lothian (from Police Scotland)	
Other information relevant to National Outcome Five		
<p>Case study – Supervised Bail</p> <p>X was made subject to supervised bail by Edinburgh Sheriff Court. One of the purposes of supervised bail is to support individuals desist from further offending whilst waiting on their case to be concluded by the courts. X had undiagnosed learning needs and had committed a violent offence whilst under the influence of alcohol. This behaviour was out of character and happened during a period of significant change. During the time they were on supervised bail there was a number of incidents involving anti-social behaviour in and around their property. X had little experience of independent living and was assessed as being taken advantage of by some others in the community. Their accommodation was being used as a gathering point by others was the cause of complaints by neighbours.</p> <p>X’s supervised bail worker provided information to the Adult Monitoring Group to assist their understanding of the situation and X’s own vulnerabilities. They also supported X to register with a G.P, and mental health team, and connect with a third sector organisation that aids young people’s transition from adolescence to adulthood. Without the support of their supervised bail worker, X may have lost their accommodation and would not have been referred for support with mental health issues. They would also not have been referred for specialist housing and employment support. By addressing X’s needs their risk of re-offending whilst on bail was reduced.</p>		

NATIONAL OUTCOME SIX		
People develop positive relationships and more opportunities to participate and contribute through education, employment and leisure activities		
	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
Evidence and Data	For this section we have a case study which shows the progress Y made while working with Access to Industry.	See below
Other information relevant to National Outcome Six		
<p>Access to Industry Case Study</p> <p><u>Early stages of engagement with the service</u></p> <p>Y was referred to Access to Industry (AI) from a local Job Centre, as they were interested in gaining a Construction Skills Certificate Scheme (CSCS) card and looking to re-enter the workforce fulltime. AI originally met with Y in August 2019 and from that first meeting it became apparent that their life was very</p>		



chaotic with numerous issues to be addressed. They had no network of support established and were reluctant to accept any support. They had left home at 15, initially staying in a vehicle and then 'sofa surfing' for a number of years. They spent a year in prison after a year "on the run" and during this period abandoned a Council Housing tenancy, accruing thousands of pounds in rent arrears.

Y's mental health has been greatly affected over the years including a relationship breakdown with their partner and subsequent refusal to access their young child. They also had outstanding convictions that were still to go to trial, involving serious assault and was on a 9pm-6am curfew until these were addressed.

Following AI's initial assessment, Y had to declare themselves homeless. After several moves, they were placed in a B&B until they were allocated a council tenancy. In advance of this they had to write a letter explaining their reasons for abandoning a property and set up a direct-debit payment to address the arrears. While working with AI they had a mental health assessment and had 1:1 sessions to address both mental health and anger issues. These, combined with excessive drinking have resulted in their criminal convictions. They have contacted a family law solicitor who is dealing with the issue of contact with their child. Y's court case resulted in a CPO for 18 months with 210 hours of unpaid work/other activity.

The impact

This has been of great benefit and allowed them to:

- complete a REHIS Elementary Health and Safety Certificate
- training for the theory element of a CSCS card
- completing Driving Theory training and
- completing a Personal Effectiveness SQA, which has enabled them to set targets and plan how to achieve them.

While working with AI, Y's mental health is improving and they are slowly becoming more stable and addressing issues they have been avoiding for many years. They seem determined to move on from their past and provide a stable future for themselves and their child.

On exiting the service

AI worked with Y for just under 2 years and they now feel ready to move on from the project. There are still concerns surrounding debt and rent arrears, which they are trying to address and have been referred to the CAB.

From those initial first months following Y's assessment and the chaos that surrounded their life, they have now managed to secure their own permanent tenancy and have regular contact with their child. They are also self-employed as a brick-layers labourer, constructing houses in the Lothian area.

During Y's time working with AI they completed an 18-month CPO and was required to attend regular sessions with their Justice Social Worker.



The Covid impact

They still have outstanding unpaid work hours to finish, which has been hindered due to lockdown. There are also outstanding charges relating to an incident that occurred during those early chaotic months which is waiting to go through the court system. They have not offended since this incident.

Y successfully gained a place on an 18-week Railway Engineering course at a local College. Unfortunately as they were entering full time education they would no longer qualify for Universal Credit or housing benefits making it impossible for them to study and remain financially stable. After a lot of research they were fortunate to receive Justice Self-Directed Support funding to allowing them to study and receive an income to cover rent and basic outgoings. Due to Covid restrictions the course was delivered in a blended learning style, so what was essentially a practical course was delivered online for 3 days per week. Initial difficulties accessing IT and lack of classroom support led Y to withdraw from the course. They enjoyed the 2 days they were able to attend College but found without the additional support of a hands on tutor the theory element was difficult to complete (compounded by the fact that Y is dyslexic). During this period Y's parent unexpectedly passed away and they found it difficult to return to College as a result of this.

Covid restrictions further hindered their progression into employment but as lockdown eased they have been successful in finding and maintaining work on a self-employed basis. They like the routine and stability that comes with working, which is definitely having a positive effect on their confidence and sense of self-worth.

From those initial months of seeing Y at least 3 times a week, their interaction with AI is now very minimal and usually just phone catch-ups. They speak positively of their future, are looking to move into a trade or undertake further training to further progress their career options.

A Big Issue - Financial implications of attending College

18 week course (20 weeks in total when holidays included)

Intended start date: August 2020

Intended finish date: January 2021

Course purpose:

Successful completion will allow the individual to work on the rail infrastructure. Employability training programme – practical course, access real-life experience, gain industry qualifications.

The cost of living

Rent - Y will lose their current Universal Credit payment of £409.89 per month (£94.59 per week) and the housing benefit element. Their rent is £143.92 per fortnight.



Council Tax - Y receives Universal Credit so is only required to pay the water & sewerage elements of their council tax which is currently £22 per month. When they begin the course they will not be considered a student under the council tax rules as the course is less than 24 weeks so will have to pay full single person council tax of approx. £95 per month.

Funding for the course and life costs - as this course is under HNC level, Y is not entitled to funding/loan through SASS but if they accept a place then they will lose their Universal Credit. At this point Y had some hard choices in term of finance and income so many options were explored so they could complete the course and still pay their rent.

Y applied for a bursary from the college which is approx. £106.53 weekly but they will not receive confirmation of that until they can provide a letter from the DWP that their benefits have stopped – this is to be provided on the first day of his course. Bursary payments are paid in fortnightly arrears. Discretionary funding from the college can only be applied for once the course starts. Discussions with the college confirmed they do not generally pay student's rent and expect them to get part-time work to cover these costs. A Student Services Officer, who handles decisions on such funding said they were unable to give any firm answers whether they would be able to assist until an application is received. They will only accept early applications for someone with a disability or having dependent children. As Y still has unpaid work hours to complete they will be doing this on the weekends as well as trying to manage seeing their young child.

Options sought for funding

- East Lothian Educational Trust - although Y lives within the catchment area for this funding, their particular postcode excluded them from applying. Contact with ELC asking if there was something similar to cover the excluded postcodes confirmed there was not.
- DWP – Unfortunately Y does not fit the criteria to remain on Universal Credit whilst a student – no dependents, no disability, and over 21. This was confirmed in an email from Y's Work Coach at the Job Centre. This was further followed up by the Housing Options Team who escalated this with the DWP liaison representative. Unfortunately they came back with the same response that Y will not qualify to remain on Universal Credit. The CPAG also confirmed this.
- Community Housing – a Tenancy Support Officer confirmed Y will not be able to receive assistance with housing costs.
- Team Leader from ELC's Council Tax and Debt Team confirmed that Y would not be entitled to any assistance for housing, unless they were in receipt of Universal Credit. They advised that discretionary payments through the council were only available to someone in a crisis situation, which, if Y received a bursary and chose to pay their rent and council tax they would be in crisis situation as they had no means to support themselves. The problem was that as they would be getting money weekly, they will consider their next payment when making this decision. Unfortunately you cannot apply for any further discretionary payments for the same circumstances and are limited to 3 claims in a year.

There are numerous other funding bodies which AI approached, which were either not making decisions due to Covid or because Y does not fit their criteria – often due to age, lack of dependents etc. These include Princes Trust who do not providing funding for housing costs.



After many meetings and hours of asking with no solution to finance Y's college place it was agreed that accessing the Self Directed Support Payments would be the most appropriate way for Y to pay their rent, cover travel cost and have enough income for food. AI worked with Y and the Justice Social Work Team to set up payment over the duration of the course to ensure that the course could be completed without incurring any debt or rent arrears.

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

	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
Evidence and Data	See the MYPAS Young People's Drug and Alcohol Service below.	The case study shows that "Individuals' resilience and capacity for change and self-management are enhanced".

Other information relevant to National Outcome Seven

MYPAS Young People's Drug and Alcohol Service - Case study

P was the first young person to be referred to MYPAS East Lothian young people's drugs and alcohol support service in January 2020 when they were 16. P was referred by their Children & Families worker for a supportive intervention focusing on their substance use and associated risks. At the time of referral there was a major concern. It was also noted on their referral that they had experienced many adversities, impacted by parental drug use, bereavement and domestic abuse. They lived with their grandparent in a kinship care arrangement. P's grandparent is their one consistent family member and an important protective factor in their life. Other protective factors include being a key member of a sports team, for which they also represented Scotland. They have an encouraging coach and a network of peers with an interest in sport and fitness. They have a good relationship with their allocated social worker.

The young person experienced the loss of a biological parent and this triggered much distress and loss, bringing to the fore many unanswered questions and confusion about their past. Although they only met their parent on a few occasions, the bereavement was significant and painful as it removed any hope of having a renewed relationship with them. At the time of referral P had distanced themselves from friends they knew from sport, and was using a variety of psychoactive substances including cannabis & alcohol. Substance use had become a daily occurrence, with cannabis being used throughout the day, every day.

In addition high volumes of alcohol were being consumed most weekends. The alcohol binge sessions usually happened alongside mixing alcohol with other substances such as MDMA, Cocaine, or Benzodiazepines. They would also smoke cigarettes if they had access to them. Their physical fitness and mental wellbeing were rapidly impacted and they started to incur debt. Often after consuming alcohol they would become volatile displaying episodes of rage, at times hurting themselves and alarming those around them. Just before the referral was made they had been arrested by the Police for vandalising cars. They were clearly in much distress, and were using substances as a means to 'numb' difficult feelings. Although they needed someone they could trust to



confide with, they had refused to attend counselling their grandparent had organised after the death of their parent. They then felt strongly about not needing any support.

As P was unsure about support from MYPAS an initial meeting was organised so they could find out more about the service, then they could decide if wanted to give it a chance, or opt out. During their initial meeting P felt reassured about the confidentiality policy and the flexibility of the service appealed to them. Right away they were keen to go on a cycle with the MYPAS worker and give ongoing support a chance. The cycling helped build a trusting relationship between them as the first few sessions weren't overly intrusive and they reported enjoying the opportunity to be outdoors and active again. They seemed to help them feel comfortable talking about more difficult topics over the coming weeks and months. MYPAS's involvement was an opportunity to nourish a new supportive relationship in their life, and offer him confidential support that would be needs led and flexible.

The MYPAS worker and P explored why their drinking and drug use had been intensifying. They had an awareness right away that they uses substances to cope with difficult thoughts and feelings and that it was also fun and exciting. They said it *"helps me forget the past"*. Together they explored the concept of not being able to change past experiences but how they views them can be different, even if that process is difficult and painful. P started to think differently about accepting the past and it allowed them to explore how they can better respond to difficult emotions. They also started to understand and use support sessions as a safe place and time to explore difficult thoughts and feelings, without having to do it on their own.

Further exploring their relationship with substances, they did a 'cost benefit analysis' activity which helped P visualise how the harm and risks were clearly outnumbering any benefits. They quickly understood their drinking and drug use as a 'flawed coping tool' because the benefit from doing so is always temporary. They quoted *"boozing & partying always makes things worse, something bad seems to always happen"*. Initially they focused on the weekend binge sessions and poly-drug use. Therefore much of the support early into the intervention was based on 'harm reduction' strategies and 'keeping safe'. However, as the support sessions continued, P would report having safer weekends avoiding excess drinking or drug use. As the weeks passed they would present as more motivated and engaged. They would often share with the MYPAS worker various self-help techniques they had sourced from YouTube videos or podcasts. There was encouraging evidence that they was committed to a journey of self-awareness and change well beyond the support sessions. P also had renewed motivation for wanting to reclaim and re-connect with the positives in their life, whether they be sport, rekindling family relationships and getting back into a training or college course. There were several goals they had identified in their sessions. Each week they would write these down on a planner and identify the smaller steps needed. P's goals included:

- feeling better & healthier
- going to college
- to stop smoking cigarettes and using 'party drugs'
- to cut down cannabis
- avoid binge drinking
- learn to drive



- get a part time job
- go to the gym again
- improve sleep
- reconnect with their sports club

As there were so many positive changes they wanted to make they decided to identify some as 'goal outcomes' i.e. 'feeling better and healthier', and broke the others down into smaller manageable steps. They also identified new goals as opposed to things they had previously experienced which were to be regained rather than starting from scratch. They now felt achievable and less overwhelming for them.

The MYPAS intervention for P was multifaceted, and needs led. In addition to the ongoing harm reduction focus, they was supported to address what was happening in their life at a particular time. If they was experiencing a period of adversity they would welcome a space to talk things over during 'person centred' and 'solution focused' sessions. When they experienced a set-back or crisis they was able to ask for additional sessions. When they needed specialised support to address disruptive sleep a referral was made to Sleep Scotland where they had several self-help sessions. When they needed practical support i.e. applying for their college course, care experienced bursary or provisional driving licence that would be the focus. When P was feeling angry they were given a safe space to express, and work through it. During Covid restrictions support sessions continued as socially distanced outdoor interventions, often including trail running or mountain biking. During their LAAC reviews, Child Planning Meetings or one occasion a 'Restorative Justice' intervention P asked their MYPAS worker to attend a trusting advocate.

As of August 2021 P has:

- completely stopped smoking cigarettes
- significantly cut down their cannabis use
- stopped using other illicit substances
- just completed their first year of a three year college course in mechanics
- started taking driving lessons and used their own savings to buy a car
- started going to the gym five times a week
- started a part time job in a restaurant to help pay for their driving lessons
- started training again with their former sports club
- reported better sleep, mental health
- reported feeling happy and optimistic about their future
- reported having a better relationship with relatives
- attended counselling once a week to address childhood trauma, something they didn't imagine they would be willing to try twelve months ago.



By supporting P across these many areas MYPAS has helped contribute to the huge distance they has travelled in making significant changes in their life. Although P has reduced their support sessions from weekly to fortnightly, they don't want the support to end yet. They recently decided that they want to stop using cannabis altogether and has asked The MYPAS worker to help. Reflecting on their success' P stated, *"There is no way I could have stuck out college, stop partying and start getting so fit again if it wasn't for MYPAS, and I don't want the support to end yet, I think I still need it to help me on the good path"*.



Partnership Achievement

Completion of:

- The CJ Transitional LOIP 2020/21
- CJ Strategic Strengths and Needs Assessment
- The Self-evaluation Improvement Plan

Consistent partnership work during Covid and the development of:

- The CJ Steering Group
- Co-leads for each of the 3 Workstreams
- Expansion of the membership of the CJP

Communications and social media:

- A new Twitter account for the partnership
- New branding/ logo

Successful service delivery despite the impacts of Covid

- Work with service users still undertaken with phone calls/ distanced face to face when restrictions eased
- Shift to new ways of working in the early stages of pandemic

Challenges

Covid recovery:

- Long term impact on mental health
- Long Covid

Local challenges:

- Redesign of ELC Children Services

From Youth Justice Service (YJ Annual Report) Areas for development:

- Restorative Justice, bail supervision and supervised deferred sentences, as well as the further development and establishment of offence-focused individual and group interventions

Constraints on the housing system:

- Reflecting changing guidance from the Scottish Government that people should not move home during lockdown, people should stay local
- All new build activity suspended, with 12 housing sites closed
- There was a reduction in termination of tenancies as transfers were suspended by local authorities and RSLs; major works on void properties stalled; open market acquisitions did not go ahead as planned and properties available for let via the private rented sector were limited

National challenges:

- National Care Service Report
- Transforming Justice (the RRT programme)
- OPIF revision
- Improving the Management of Sexual Offences Cases (March 2021)
- The Promise



Additional Information



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
Working together for a safer Scotland

To: East Lothian Community Justice Partnership	From: Group Commander David L Girrity Mid/East Lothian & Scottish Borders Prevention & Protection Manager
Subject: SFRS Community Justice Activities 20/21	July 2021

Introduction

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) have a proud history of working with many groups within society to reduce inequalities and make Scotland a safer place to live.

We serve our communities delivering various prevention and diversionary programmes including fire safety awareness, reducing anti-social behaviour and supporting our many partners to achieve their objectives.

SFRS is a statutory partner under the Community Justice Act 2016 (Scotland). We work with other partners and agencies across Scotland to deliver the aforementioned initiatives and are fully committed in supporting the reduction of re-offending. SFRS are represented on all Community Justice partnerships within Scotland and contribute to the development of Community Justice Improvement Outcome Plans (CJOIP) for the Local Senior Officer (LSO) areas we represent.

East Lothian Landscape

Within East Lothian, SFRS have been working with partners for many years to deliver bespoke initiatives and activities to support our Local Fire Plans objectives and the CJOIP. Our Senior Management team are responsible for delivery of these plans.

We contribute to the CJOIP with representation within all levels of the East Lothian Community Justice Partnership arrangements.

The following programmes are at the heart of what we deliver and how we contribute towards the local CJOIP, the national performance indicators and the SFRS Local Fire Plan.

Our local Community Action Team (CAT) plan and deliver all activities detailed below. East Lothian Fire Station personnel also contribute to the delivery of Fireskills courses within their respective areas.

Fireskills programme

Our Fireskills programme has been developed from the best practice of the legacy Scottish Fire services to support our personnel engage effectively with young adolescents. The programme is a blend of practical activities based on firefighter drills and reflective learning to enable the young people to recognise their achievements. The programme has shown that it is effective in challenging the attitudes and values of young people, enabling them to build a range of core skills for life, learning and employment as well as contributing to a reduction in service demand.

The programme consists of a series of activity sessions that can be delivered individually or combined to create a course and the flexible approach will enable the SFRS to deliver services based on local need whilst maintaining a consistent national approach. Fireskills session include: Induction, Station Tour, Drill Ground Activities, Emergency First Aid, Road Traffic Collision, Anti-Social Behaviour, Ladders, Search and Rescue and Presentation and Pass-out. To ensure the safe and effective delivery of the sessions the programme also provides all the supporting resources including: Risk Assessments, Presentations and Planning and Evaluation tools.



DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS NO FIRESKILLS COURSES WERE DELIVERED 2020/21. (National outcome 4).

Fireskills Employability Award

The Fireskills Employability Award has been developed with Police Scotland and demonstrates SFRS commitment to provide the best opportunities for young people by providing formal recognition of their achievements. The award has been successfully delivered for several years now at the Polmont Young Offenders Institute. The course uses many elements of the Fireskills programme, focusing on Anti-Social behaviour and its consequences.

DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS NO FIRESKILLS COURSES WERE DELIVERED 2020/21. (National outcome 3).

Fire-setter Intervention and Re-education Scheme Programme

Fire related antisocial behaviour places a significant demand on the resources of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS), other public services and communities. These acts include deliberate fire setting, malicious actuation of fire alarm systems, hoax calls, hydrant abuse and attacks on personnel.

The SFRS work in partnership to establish a Fire-setter Intervention and Re-education Scheme (FIREs). Through a programme of targeted interventions, FIREs offer a flexible approach to assist in the education of those who demonstrate an unsafe or concerning interest in fire and prevent related re-offending.

During the period and the aforementioned restrictions, 2 Fire-setters interventions were carried out. (National outcome 3&4).

Home Fire Safety Visit Programme (HFSV)

Similar to many of our normal activities, delivery of the programme was interrupted due to COVID restrictions. For most of 2020/21, SFRS adopted a targeted approach, focusing our efforts and service provision on those at the greatest risk of fire within the home.

A number of these referrals were generated through MAPPA and MARAC forums which SFRS are statutory partners or represented. (National Outcomes 3&5)

Summary

SFRS continue to work in partnerships within East Lothian to deliver Intervention and diversionary activities. Our efforts support SFRS and partner agency objectives, whilst meeting the requirements of our statutory responsibilities.

The year has been particularly challenging in relation to participation and delivering meaningful outcomes. We would normally have more direct engagement with Schools and youth groups across East Lothian. Covid restrictions curtailed the majority of our core activities and programmes aligned to Community Justice and SFRS related responsibilities.

As always, SFRS continue to support individuals and communities in reducing anti-social behaviour and making East Lothian a safer place to live, we are constantly looking for opportunities to maximise the influence of our resources and experience. Our commitment to the East Lothian CJOIP is demonstrated fully by our participation at all levels of the local Community Justice framework and more significantly by the work we carry out and deliver.

David L Girrity

