



Report

Report to: Lanarkshire Community Justice Authority

Date of Meeting: 3 June 2011
Report by: Chief Officer

Subject: Chief Officer Update

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-
 - update Members on national and local developments relevant to the CJA.

2. Recommendation(s)

- 2.1. The CJA is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-
 - (1) that the report is noted.

3. Consultation of Independent Monitoring of Prison (Visiting Committees)

- 3.1. At the previous meeting of the Board on the 4 March our response to the above consultation was noted. The Confederation of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) have since prepared a report for the Community Safety Executive Group in relation to the same matter.
- 3.2. Members are asked to note in particular paragraphs 7 and 8 of the attached report which could lead to an increased role for CJAs in relation to the governance of the committees.

4. Cashback/Payback Monies

- 4.1. On the 1 February 2011 the Cabinet Secretary for Justice announced the Scottish Government would make available an additional £4 million to support unpaid work. Lanarkshire CJA's share will be £500k.
- 4.2. It is intended by the Government that £375k will involve getting offenders sentenced to unpaid work to upgrade/maintain/refurbish sports facilities and the remaining £125k will be used to buy materials and equipment for use in unpaid work schemes.

5. Scottish Local Authorities Remuneration Committee (SLARC)

- 5.1. The attached briefing paper examines the 3 specific recommendations related to CJAs contained in the SLARC report of March 2011.
- 5.2. In summary if the recommendations are put in place it will mean that the Conveners additional remuneration will rise from £4060 to £6035 and that the Vice Conveners remuneration £3045 will cease to exist.

6. Prisoner Numbers

- 6.1. The Scottish Prison Service supply the CJA with figures every month which provide a snapshot of the number of prisoners from Lanarkshire and all other CJA areas. The figures are broken down by gender, age and length of sentence and include specific information about the number of sex offenders in custody.
- 6.2. Members and Partners are asked to note the attached figures in relation to the 12 months of the last financial year. Attention is drawn to the overall reduction of 10% in prisoner numbers for Lanarkshire and in particular the fall of 40% for those under 21.

7 Employee Implications

7.1. None known.

8. Financial Implications

8.1. If SLARC recommendations are put in place there will be a saving of £1070 in the CJA administration budget

9. Other Implications

9.1. None known.

10. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 10.1 No significant consultation was undertaken as part of this report.
- 10.2. The report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy therefore no equality impact assessment was carried out

Tony McNulty, Chief Officer Lanarkshire Community Justice Authority

23 May 2011

List of Background Papers

COSLA Prison Visiting Committees 2010 Review of Remuneration Local Authority Councillors Prison Figures

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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