

Report

Report to: **Social Work Resources Committee**
Date of Meeting: **15 February 2023**
Report by: **Director, Health and Social Care**

Subject: **South Lanarkshire Justice Social Work Community
Payback Annual Report 2021/2022**

1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ advise Committee of South Lanarkshire's Community Justice Scotland Community Payback Order (CPO) Annual Report 2021/2022
- ◆ highlight the main themes and trends from South Lanarkshire's Community Payback Annual Report 2021/2022

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the content of the South Lanarkshire's Community Payback Order Annual Report 2021/2022 be noted.

3. Background

3.1. The CPO annual reports for 2021/2022 had been requested from each local authority for submission to Community Justice Scotland (CJS) by 28 October 2022 (Appendix 1).

3.2. The template has been updated from last year, in consultation with Community Justice Scotland (CJS) and Social Work Scotland. It no longer asks for information about the number of Unpaid Work (UW) hours carried out. This is because similar data will be collected by Scottish Government Justice Analytical Services. In addition, this year a word limit of 300 words noted as bullet points has been placed on each section of reporting.

4. Preparation of overall summary report by Community Justice Scotland

4.1. Once all the local authority CPO Annual Reports are received, CJS will prepare a summary report, to be published online. The summary report will be laid in Parliament by 31 March 2023 in accordance with the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995. Which will be updated by CJS about when the Summary report will be laid and published, close to 31 March 2023.

4.2. After that date, South Lanarkshire Justice Social Work will make separate arrangements to publish their local annual CPO reports in full. There is no statutory requirement to do so. However, publication, or sharing any of the contents, should not take place in advance of 31 March 2023.

5. Provision of statistical information

- 5.1. This year statistical information relating to the number of Orders and requirements as well as Justice Social Work Reports are not required in the annual report. Local authorities are asked to continue to provide statistics on the operation of CPOs to Scottish Government Justice Analytical Services.
- 5.2. CJS have requested that no personal or sensitive data, or any information that could lead to the identification of a person (other than the author or counter-signatory), be included in the report.

6. Areas of Focus

6.1. Unpaid Work Services

- 6.1.1. The Annual Report highlights that positive work has been undertaken in relation to ground maintenance, gardening and fence repairs. This work includes the Winter jacket appeal working alongside Community and Enterprise to benefit school children within the South Lanarkshire area.

6.2. Supervision

- 6.2.1. In February of 2021 a new system of recording outcomes for service users on Supervision was developed using ten measurements (for example, desistance and substance use). While the data available for the reporting period is limited to 107 CPOs completed in February and March 2021, it does evidence the positive outcomes people subject to Supervision are achieving (Appendix 1).

6.3. Feedback

- 6.3.1. The report includes some of the feedback provided by service users, which demonstrates the impact of staff during what was an extremely challenging period.
- 6.3.2. UPW Services conducted a survey with service users in February 2022 to understand how service users experienced UPW with Covid-19 restrictions and what could have helped them through this time better. This has been used to inform Justice services' practices and provide additional support going forward.

The staff have been first class and extremely understanding whilst ensuring standards are upheld

I had a very good communication with my case manager who helped me a lot and the team leaders are people who support and help you

Attending unpaid work was find during the restrictions. Most of mine was outdoors, so a lot easier to keep distance etc. anything we did indoors was well spaced out also. I'm now doing work from home, and the materials are dropped off and picked up from my home

"I found it (Diamond Art Project) really relaxing and because it's so intricate you really need to focus. Doing this at home has been really good for someone like my self living with PTSD as I said it really takes a lot of focus and time to get the right diamonds in the right place and also I like that it's going to help others in the process".

7. Future Innovation

- 7.1. We have identified a number of areas going forward we intend to develop and lead on. These include:
- ◆ consolidating our peer mentoring services by funding through our Section 27 grant for a further 12 months. Funding was originally sourced through the CORRA fund as part of a public health approach to preventing drug related harm and deaths
 - ◆ as part of our Whole Systems Approach Service 16–21-year-olds we are developing our commitment to the “The Promise” through supporting our Children and Families Services with complex and high-risk young people. We are supporting young people in conflict with the law who are not on statutory orders but currently subject to Compulsory Supervision Orders from the Children’s Hearing System and secure care
 - ◆ initial discussions are taking place with North Lanarkshire Justice Services, Sheriff Principal, Addictions services and Pan Lanarkshire Alcohol and Drug partnerships with a view to developing a dedicated alcohol and drug court in Hamilton Sheriff Court.

8. Performance Measures

- 8.1. The Resource Plan performance indicators have evidenced the following areas of improvement activity over 2021-2022 relevant to Community Payback Orders:
- ◆ 70% of service users had their UPW induction within five working days (Red)
 - ◆ 65% of UPW placements commenced within seven days of Orders being imposed (Red)
 - ◆ 99% of Justice Social Work reports were submitted to court on time (Green)
- 8.2. The target for induction and placement commencement in 2022/2023 is 75% and through South Lanarkshire Council’s Social Work self-assessment and improvement activity annual review the following actions have been taken:
- ◆ re-commencement of induction programme on 5th day with same day start for placement
 - ◆ non-attendance followed up by case manager on same day to promote engagement and identify barriers to attendance
 - ◆ evening workshops placements increased to four nights per week
 - ◆ investment of Whole System Approach UPW service to under 26-year-olds to aligned to principles of “The Promise” and developmental needs of this service user group
 - ◆ recruitment of sessional supervisors to increase workgroup capacity
- 8.3. Progress on this review programme was reported to Social Work Resource Committee in Quarter 2 and again four of 2022. It is expected that improvement will take place in the above RAG indicators over 2022/2023.

9. Employee Implications

- 9.1. Additional staffing in all areas of Justice Social Work Services have been supported through the use of non-recurrent Scottish Government Recovery Covid-19 funding in 2020-2021. These are fixed term posts secured until March 2023. The Scottish Government have indicated there is a letter dated 04 July 2022 that Covid-19 funding awarded to local authorities will continue until 2027. We await a further update before proceeding with expenditure.

10. Financial Implications

- 10.1. The Scottish Governments intention is to maintain the investment made in Justice Social Work (JSW) Services in 2022-23, comprising of both the JSW baseline funding of £108 million, plus the additional £15m in Covid-related funding. Subject to future draft annual budgets being approved by the Scottish Parliament, the intention is for at least this level of funding to remain in place for these Services for the remaining part of the Spending Review period (2023-24 to 2026-27). Following the Draft Budget for 2023-24, South Lanarkshire Justice Services will be issued an indicative grant funding letter to allow the planning process to commence.
- 10.2. There are no additional financial implications identified in this report.

11. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 11.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of information contained in this report.

12. Other Implications

- 12.1. The activity set out within the Community Payback Annual Report 2021-2022 contributes to the Connect: South Lanarkshire Council Plan 2022-2027 and specifically the priority outcomes for Communities and Environment, Health and Wellbeing and Children and Young People.

13. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 13.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy, and therefore, no impact assessment is required.

Soumen Sengupta
Director, Health and Social Care

18 October 2022

Link(s) to Council Values/Priorities/Outcomes

- ◆ focused on people and their needs
- ◆ working with and respecting others
- ◆ accountable, effective, efficient, and transparent
- ◆ ambitious, self-aware and improving

Previous References

- ◆ none

List of Background Papers

- ◆ Appendix 1 South Lanarkshire Community Payback Order Annual Report 2021-2022

Contact for Further Information

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

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