

LANARKSHIRE COMMUNITY JUSTICE AUTHORITY

Minutes of meeting held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Windmillhill Street, Motherwell on 4 June 2010

Chair:

Councillor B McCaig, South Lanarkshire Council (Convener)

Councillors Present:

North Lanarkshire Council

B Chadha, T Lunny, H McGuigan

South Lanarkshire Council

J Anderson, G Scott

Attending:

Lanarkshire Community Justice Authority

T McNulty, Chief Officer; H Marshall, Clerical Assistant; R Reid, Planning and Development Officer

NHS Lanarkshire

C Sloey, Director of North Lanarkshire Community Health Partnership

North Lanarkshire Council

L Cringles, Justice Services Manager; M Fegan, Head of Social Work Services

SACRO

J Johnston, Service Manager

Scottish Prison Service

J Dustan, Community Justice Authority Liaison Manager

South Lanarkshire Council

G Bow, Administration Adviser; H MacGregor, Criminal Justice Services Manager

Strathclyde Police

G Cairns, Divisional Commander

Apologies:

A Adamson, State Hospital, Carstairs

B Doyle, K Gowrie and H Stevenson, South Lanarkshire Council

A Ferguson, Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal's Service

1 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Lanarkshire Community Justice Authority held on 5 March 2010 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

The Authority decided: that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

3 Area Plan 2011 to 2014 - Presentation

A report dated 21 May 2010 by the Chief Officer was submitted updating members on the progress of the Lanarkshire Community Justice Area Plan for 2011 to 2014.

The Area Plan had been circulated for consultation to partners and stakeholders. This consultation process had been completed and the Plan had been updated to reflect the issues raised. The finalised Plan was attached as an appendix to the report.

The Planning and Development Officer gave a presentation highlighting the key issues contained in the finalised Plan.

In recognition of the importance of partnership working and information sharing, the Chief Officer undertook to provide the Authority with additional information on the recently formed Justice Outcomes Group.

The Authority decided: that the finalised Lanarkshire Community Justice Area Plan for 2011 to 2014 be approved and submitted to the Scottish Government for consideration.

[Reference: Minutes of 5 March 2010 (Paragraph 5)]

4 Support for Women Offenders

A report dated 21 May 2010 by the Chief Officer was submitted on the distribution of Community Justice Authority ring fenced funding to provide additional support for women offenders.

In February 2010, the Scottish Government had informed the Lanarkshire Community Justice Authority that resources would be allocated in 2010/2011 to support women offenders, particularly those on release from prison.

In view of the tight timescale and limited opportunity for consultation, it had been recognised that there would be an advantage in allocating the funding to complement existing services.

Following discussion with partners, it was proposed that the resources be allocated to the following groups:-

◆ SACRO	£33,000
◆ CIRCLE – Meet At The Gate Project	£35,000
◆ Lanarkshire Throughcare Team	£31,000

A steering group had been developed to oversee the work of the projects and to consider future funding options. This funding would allow the partners to recruit additional employees and improve existing service delivery.

The Authority decided: that the allocation of resources to the 3 groups detailed in the report be approved.

5 Additional Resources

A report dated 26 May 2010 by the Chief Officer was submitted on the evaluation of various projects which had been supported by additional development money.

Members had been informed that officers were in the process of evaluating initiatives that had been funded by the additional development money in 2009/2010. A full evaluation exercise had been carried out through face to face meetings and correspondence. The evaluation process had now been carried out and relevant evaluation forms had been completed for the following projects:-

- ◆ South Lanarkshire Council – Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Pilot
- ◆ North Lanarkshire Council – Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conferencing
- ◆ Citizens Advice Bureaux – Inside Out Project
- ◆ West Lothian, North and South Lanarkshire Councils – Housing Advice and Support Service
- ◆ North Lanarkshire Council Chief Executive’s Service – Ex-offender Employability Project

The Authority decided:

- (1) that the outcome of the evaluation process for each of the organisations/groups be noted; and
- (2) that proposals to provide continued support to the organisations/groups be approved.

[Reference: Minutes of 5 March 2010 (Paragraph 6)]

6 Prison Healthcare

A report dated 21 May 2010 by the Scottish Prison Services’ Community Justice Authority Liaison Officer was submitted on the establishment of a Lanarkshire Implementation Group to facilitate locally the transfer of healthcare services from the Scottish Prison Service to the local NHS Board area.

The transfer of healthcare would require sensitive negotiations with all employee groups and careful consideration as to how the model would be delivered in Lanarkshire. Although Shotts Prison would be the main focus for the Implementation Group, consideration would be given to instances where prisoners were returning to Lanarkshire from other Scottish Prison Service establishments.

The Authority decided: that the report be noted.

7 Officer Update

A report dated 21 May 2010 by the Chief Officer was submitted on the following national and local issues of relevance to the LCJA:-

- ◆ court visits
- ◆ LCJA newsletter
- ◆ Youth Court update
- ◆ quarterly performance update
- ◆ conference reports

The Authority decided: that the report be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 5 March 2010 (Paragraph 6)]

8 Financial Update

A report dated 21 May 2010 by the Financial Manager was submitted on:-

- ◆ the quarterly performance of the Section 27 budget
- ◆ Quarter 4 spend against the administrative budget

The Authority decided: that the report be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 5 March 2010 (Paragraph 7)]

9 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.