



Report

Report to:	Lanarkshire Community Justice Authority
Date of Meeting:	4 March 2011
Report by:	Chief Officer

Subject:	Chief Officer Update
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1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-
Update members on national and local developments relevant to the authority.
- Area Plan
 - National Outcomes & Standards Training Report
 - Commencement of Community Payback Orders
 - ADP Draft Terms of Reference
 - Conference Reports
 - Meeting dates for remainder of 2011
 - Consultation of Independent Monitoring on Prison (Visiting Committees)

2. Recommendation(s)

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

(1) that the report be noted.

3. Area Plan

- 3.1. On the 13 September the Convenor received a letter from the Justice Secretary regarding the contents of our Area Plan 2011-14. The Justice Secretary formally approved the Plan and noted in particular the strong relationships created with partners.

Overall the panel considered this to be 'be a good comprehensive Plan with tangible time bound deliverables evidence linked to CJA strategic aims and with lead responsibilities identified.

4. National Outcomes & Standards Training Report

- 4.1. Between 14 September and 7 October 2010, 215 participants from North and South Lanarkshire Councils attended the revised National Outcomes & Standards training. The participants consisted of Service Managers, Senior Social Workers, Team Leaders, Qualified Social Workers from Justice and Child and Families teams, Community Service staff and Justice Social Work Assistants.

This training was co-ordinate and lead by the LCJA Training Officer Carol-Anne Soones and the evaluation of the training indicated the following very positive feedback.

- 77% of participants indicated that their immediate reaction to the course was that it was a good / extremely good investment of their time.
- 72% of participants indicated that they enjoyed the course.
- 77% found the training pack useful.
- 81% found that the course met their learning objectives.
- 71% thought the organisation, facilities and refreshments were good to excellent.

The National Outcomes & Standards exercise has been followed by similar exercises in relation to the new Community Payback order and the new Criminal Justice Social Work Report template.

5. Commencement of Community Payback Orders

- 5.1 The provisions of Community Payback Orders and the presumption against short prison sentences (less than three months) commenced on Tuesday 1 February 2011.

6. ADP Draft Terms of Reference

- 6.1 Following discussions between our partners in Health, Police, Prisons and Local Authorities a working group was established in September 2010 whose key purpose is to improve outcomes with substance misuse problems.

The draft remit for the group is attached for members' information and it is intended that the work of the group will contribute to a number of practical initiatives such as joint funded initiatives which will lead to an improvement in the health outcomes of offenders with substance misuse problems thereby reducing offending.

7. Conference Reports

- 7.1 SASO

8. Meeting Dates for 2011

- 8.1 Friday 3 June 2011- North Lanarkshire
Friday 2 September 2011 – South Lanarkshire
Friday 2 December 2011 – North Lanarkshire

9 'Consultation of Independent monitoring of Prison' (Visiting Committees)

- 9.1 The above document was issued by the Scottish Government on 14 January 2011. The deadline for responses was 25 February. Following consultation with the Convenor and Vice-Convenor of the CJA the attached response was forwarded to the Government.

- 9.2 Members are asked to note that there were three consultation questions one of which could result in the functions of Visiting Committees being integrated into HM Inspectorate of Prisons, removing Visiting Committees as separate public bodies.

10. Employee Implications

- 10.1 Not Known.

11. Financial Implications

Not Known.

12. Other Implications

- 12.1 Not Known.

13. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

13.1 No significant consultation was undertaken as part of this report.

13.2 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 February 2011

List of Background Papers

- Letter of 13 September from Kenny Macaskill
- Evaluation of training – National Outcomes and Standards
- Letter of 4 February from Scottish Government
- Draft Terms of Reference
- SASO Conference Reports
- Consultation of Independent monitoring of Prisons - Visiting Committees

Contact for Further Information

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

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