




GLASGOW COMMUNITY
PLANNING PARTNERSHIP
**Community
Justice Glasgow**

Our Vision:

”Glasgow is a safer place where reoffending is reduced, the impact of crime is mitigated and all citizens have equal opportunity to thrive. We will achieve our vision through continued partnership working and taking effective action on our key themes.”

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Background

The Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 established new arrangements for the delivery of Community Justice from 1st April 2017 (previously delivered by 8 Community Justice Authorities). Fundamental to the approach is local planning and delivery of services on a partnership basis by local authority area. The Act also established a new national body, Community Justice Scotland (CJS) to provide an independent professional assurance to Scottish Ministers on the collective achievement of community justice outcomes, and to work towards developing a hub for community justice innovation, learning and development.

Why Focus on Reoffending?

In Glasgow, only 30% of court convictions are for individuals with no previous convictions. A focus on reoffending ensures that, as people come into contact with the justice system through their own offending, the services within the system are joined up and more effective at reducing the likelihood that they will offend again. By focusing on those already in the justice system from the point of arrest, through prosecution, sentencing and beyond, there is scope to work with all partners to address the underlying causes of an individuals' offending behaviour, to reduce second and subsequent offences. Evidence from What Works to Reduce Reoffending (2015) tells us that this approach is more effective in reducing crime, and the harm that it causes, to improve community safety overall.

What do the new Community Justice Arrangements look like in Glasgow?

Local Community Justice Partners

The Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 places accountability for the delivery of Community Justice on a range of statutory partners. In Glasgow City, at local authority level, partners are:

- Glasgow City Council
- Police Scotland
- NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde
- Scottish Prison Service
- Scottish Fire & Rescue Service
- Scottish Courts & Tribunals Service
- Skills Development Scotland
- Glasgow City Integration Joint Board
- Crown Office & Procurator Fiscal Service
- A range of Third Sector partners

Accountability, Wider Direction and Governance:

Community Justice Glasgow has established a Transitions Working Group (CJGTWG) to provide a platform for each of the named local Community Justice Partners to fulfil their statutory role, whilst remaining individually accountable under the Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016. To allow a collective commitment, members of this group are responsible for providing a full and open channel between their host organisation and the Community Justice Glasgow arrangements. The group operates under the wider oversight and direction of Glasgow Community Planning Partnership (GCPP) Strategic Board.

Day to Day Activity – Community Justice Glasgow Team

A Community Justice Glasgow team has been established to co-ordinate the day to day partnership activity in Glasgow. The team's focus is on the delivery of actions arising from the Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan (CJOIP – See below). The CJG team are accountable to direction given by the Glasgow Community Planning Partnership Strategic Board, via the Community Justice Glasgow Transitions Working Group.

The team are employed and managed by Glasgow City Council, operationally tied to the Council's Chief Executive Department and resourced collectively by partners. The team ensures that the positive direction of travel, outcomes and good practice achieved by Glasgow CJA are integrated into all future work.

CJG will also work closely with the One Glasgow Reducing Reoffending (12-25) Workstream integrating areas of shared interest, learning from its Whole System Approach to young people involved in the Justice System, to potentially apply good practice to the adult system, and sharing resources and expertise to support those affected and/or involved in the justice system in Glasgow.

What is the Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan?

Under the new arrangements set out in the Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016, each Local Authority was charged with producing a partnership plan known as a Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan (CJOIP) to set the direction and actions to improve outcomes. Glasgow's CJOIP is focussed on the City of Glasgow - one of the largest local authority areas – making up 11.2% of Scotland's overall population. The CJOIP will run from 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018 and will be reviewed in December 2017. It will be aligned with Glasgow Community Planning Partnership's Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP)/ Glasgow Community Plan, currently in development, to be established by October 2017. During the first year of operation partners will work to bring both plans together.

Community Justice Glasgow's Plan has 9 main themes – forming the focus for its work. The themes in the plan were developed by partner members following consultation with wider stakeholders. An evidence based approach was taken to show the importance of these themes to the City of Glasgow. The themes are:

- Women – Responding differently to women involved in the criminal justice system as they face unique factors. Supporting women tackling their complex needs, which will stop the rise in the female prison population and encourage use of community alternatives.
- Prevention – Encouraging early and effective interventions.
- Service User Voice – Understanding that the views of those involved in the criminal justice system are necessary for the continued improvement of community justice services.
- Service and Resource Alignment – Planning and sharing resources and practices through partnership working.
- Families - Working with families directly affected by offending.

- Victims – Ensuring the views of victims affected by offending are understood and used to help shape practice.
- Building Protective Factors – Improving education, employment, health and wellbeing, housing and addiction services (recognised as the main drivers for offending behaviour) to reduce reoffending.
- Throughcare - Supporting individuals and their families through the entire sentencing process.
- Communication – Partners sharing data, information and knowledge to continually improve services.

How will CJG achieve this? – The Action Plan

Glasgow's CJOIP includes an Action Plan for 2017-2018. The Action Plan will guide the day to day activity of the Community Justice Glasgow Team and partners. The timescales for each of these actions varies between short, medium and long-term. Its objectives are:

1. Developing the Partnership - Linking the CJOIP to the Community Planning Partnership Glasgow Community Plan – ensuring that partners plan and deliver services in a more strategic and collaborative way to help communities improve their understanding and participation in Community Justice.
2. Effective Information Sharing - Reviewing existing information sharing arrangements, improving agreements and developing a communication strategy.
3. Joint Commissioning Strategy - Developing a Joint Commissioning Strategy which partners will use to plan and deliver Community Justice Services effectively.
4. Embedding Victim's Voice - Communicating with victims of crime about the justice system, ensuring that they have improved access to the services they require and improved understanding of the processes.
5. Instigating and Developing Early and Effective Intervention in Justice System – Responding at earlier points in the justice system to provide individuals with improved efficiency and effectiveness of response.
6. Improving Health and Wellbeing – Knowledge and Learning - Developing new approaches and building on existing models with NHSGG&C and NHS Scotland – ensuring that people have access to the services they require including welfare, health and wellbeing, housing and employability.
7. Developing the Recommendations of the Commission on Women Offenders (2012) – Supporting local services which understand and respond to distinct needs of women. Supporting the work of the 218 Service and the continued development of Tomorrow's Women Glasgow Justice Centre, developing the Women's Diversion from Prosecution Programme, and providing a forum for shared learning and planning services for women through the continuation of the Glasgow Working Group on Women and Offending.
8. Addressing Addiction Issues for Criminal Justice Service Users - Directly engaging with Alcohol & Drug Partnerships, ensuring people have access to the services they require.

9. Championing Learning and Implementing Pathways to Learning - Directly engaging with the Community Learning and Development Plan – ensuring access to learning opportunities for people with convictions.
10. Continuing to Promote and Improve Employability Pathways - Developing and monitoring pathways for prison leavers into employability and work opportunities; developing volunteering and social enterprise opportunities for those leaving the justice system.
11. Engaging with Housing Providers to find suitable Accommodation - Working with housing providers to develop an integrated approach to securing and maintaining accommodation for individuals with convictions so that they can access the services they require.
12. Supporting Families affected by the Justice System - Supporting development of the ‘The Croft’ Family Support and Visitor Centre at HMP Barlinnie– people having access to services they require.
13. Engaging Service Users as citizens, at the heart of service planning, structure and delivery - Developing a service user engagement strategy for Community Justice Partners to ensure those with a diverse background have an equal voice and that it is directly linked to Glasgow Community Planning Partnership’s Community Engagement Standards - improving communities’ understanding and participation in Community Justice.

To view the full CJOIP please visit:

<https://www.glasgowcpp.org.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=37360&p=0>