

## ARGYLL, BUTE AND DUNBARTONSHIRES' CRIMINAL JUSTICE SOCIAL WORK PARTNERSHIP JOINT COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of the Argyll, Bute and Dunbartonshires' Criminal Justice Social Work Partnership Joint Committee held in the Council Chambers, Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton on Thursday, 11 June 2015 at 2.00 p.m.

**Present:** Councillors Elaine Robertson and Anne Horne (Argyll and Bute Council); Councillor Gail Casey (West Dunbartonshire Council) and Councillor Gemma Welsh (East Dunbartonshire Council).

**Attending: Argyll and Bute Council:** John Belton, Service Manager, Criminal Justice Services.

**West Dunbartonshire Council:** Norman Firth, Criminal Justice Partnership Manager, Gillian McNeilly, Finance Manager and Nuala Borthwick, Committee Officer.

**East Dunbartonshire Council:** Keith Gardner, Service Manager, Criminal Justice .

**Apologies:** Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Jonathan McColl (West Dunbartonshire Council) and Michael O'Donnell (East Dunbartonshire Council); Jackie Irvine, Head of Children's Health, Care and Criminal Justice Services and Janice Rainey, Finance Partner, West Dunbartonshire Council; Louise Long, Head of Service (Children, Families and Young People and Criminal Justice), Kirsteen Green, Business Support Manager and Rona Gold, Community Planning Manager, Argyll & Bute Council and Gerard McCormick, East Dunbartonshire Council.

### CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair, Councillor Robertson, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Thereafter, Councillor Robertson requested that a standing invitation be issued to each of the three partnership authority Community Planning Partnership Managers for all meetings of the Partnership. It was agreed that should the Community Planning Partnership Managers be unable to attend a future meeting of the Partnership to provide an update on issues in their authority area, then an update on community planning issues be provided to the Committee Officer in advance of each quarterly meeting.

## **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of Meeting of the Joint Committee held on 12 March 2015 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

With reference to the item entitled 'Minutes of Previous Meeting' and in particular the requested adjustment to the Minute of Agreement to allow Members to participate in future meetings via teleconferencing facilities, it was noted that Legal Services had been advised of the requested amendment and that it would be included on the agenda for the meeting of the Partnership on 3 September 2015.

With reference to the item entitled 'Minutes of Previous Meeting' and in particular the item entitled 'Any Other Competent Business – Women's Service: Women Moving Forward, Life Skills and Wellbeing Service', Mr Firth advised that further funding had recently been secured and a report on the service would be provided to the next meeting of the Committee.

## **DRAFT FINANCIAL OUTTURN 2014/2015 AND REVENUE ESTIMATES 2015/2016**

A report was submitted by the Treasurer to the Partnership Joint Committee providing an update on the draft financial outturn for 2014/2015 and outlining measures/proposals regarding efficiencies required in order to achieve a match between income and expenditure for 2015/2016.

Following discussion and having heard the Finance Manager and the Partnership Manager in further explanation of the report, the Partnership agreed:-

- (1) to note the financial outturn for 2014/2015 which was draft and subject to audit and scrutiny by the Scottish Government;
- (2) to note that a final audited statement would be provided to a future meeting of the Partnership;
- (3) to note that the revenue budget for 2015/2016 and that monitoring reports on financial performance would be provided to future meetings of the Committee; and
- (4) that in future, a further column would be provided in the Budget Allocations spreadsheet (Appendix 3 of the report) to enable members to keep budget spend under review.

## **REDESIGN OF COMMUNITY JUSTICE: PROGRESS REPORT**

A report was submitted by the Director of the Community Health and Care Partnership advising on progress of the Partnership response to the re-design of community justice.

Following discussion and having heard the Partnership Manager and the Service Manager, East Dunbartonshire Council in further explanation of the report and in answer to Members' questions, the Partnership agreed:-

- (1) to note the proposals for the future of Community Justice in the continued construct of a Partnership arrangement;
- (2) to note the requirement for clarity around the details of accountability in relation to co-operation between Community Planning Partners and governance arrangements;
- (3) that the Partnership Manager provides further reports regarding progress to the Joint Committee as required; and
- (4) otherwise note the contents of the report.

#### **SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT REPORT: EVALUATION OF COMMUNITY PAYBACK ORDERS, CRIMINAL JUSTICE SOCIAL WORK REPORTS AND THE PRESUMPTION AGAINST SHORT SENTENCES**

A report was submitted by the Director of the Community Health and Care Partnership providing information on the Scottish Government report: Evaluation of Community Packback Orders, Criminal Justice Social Work Reports and the Presumption Against Short Sentences.

Following discussion and having heard the Partnership Manager and the Service Manager, East Dunbartonshire Council in further explanation of the report and in answer to Members' questions, the Partnership agreed to note the contents of the report.

#### **RE-CONVICTION RATES 2013/2014**

A report was submitted by the Director of the Community Health and Care Partnership providing information on reconviction rates within the Partnership reported in 2013/14.

Following discussion and having heard the Partnership Manager in further explanation of the report, the Partnership agreed that the Partnership Manager continue to evaluate re-offending and reconviction rates using available information and to report annually to the Joint Committee.

#### **PUBLIC SOCIAL PARTNERSHIP AT HMP LOW MOSS: UPDATE REPORT**

A report was submitted by the Director of Community Health and Care Partnership providing an update in respect of progress to date of the Low Moss Public Social Partnership (PSP).

Following discussion and having heard the Partnership Manager and the Service Manager, East Dunbartonshire Council in further explanation of the report, the Partnership agreed:-

- (1) to note the progress of the Low Moss Public Social Partnership; and
- (2) that further reports would be provided on progress of and future plans for this project.

### **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND PARTNERSHIP TRAINING PLANS 2014-17: ANNUAL REPORT 2015**

A report was submitted by the Director of Community Health and Care Partnership providing an update on progress in respect of the Workforce Development and Partnership Training Plans 2014-2017.

Following discussion and having heard the Partnership Manager and the Service Manager, Argyll and Bute Council in further explanation of the report and in answer to Members' questions, the Partnership agreed:-

- (1) that an update would be provided to the June 2016 meeting of the Committee; and
- (2) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Having heard the Chair, Councillor Robertson, in further explanation of recent discussions at COSLA relating to review of the Community Justice (Scotland) Bill, it was agreed that, if not restricted, the recent COSLA report would be issued to members of the Partnership for information.

The meeting closed at 3.53 p.m.