

OUR COMMITMENTS PLAN

Beginnings, Belonging, Belief

A Community Justice Plan for Ayrshire, 2017-18



About this Commitments Plan

Our Community Justice Plan includes a total of 45 'Commitments' (or actions), describing what we will do to deliver the Plan. These sit within our three Ambitions of Beginnings, Belonging, Belief as follows:

- Beginning: 19 Commitments
- Belonging: 14 Commitments
- Belief: 12 Commitments.

These Commitments are for all of those affected by crime. That includes people involved in offending, their families, victims, communities and those working in the justice system.

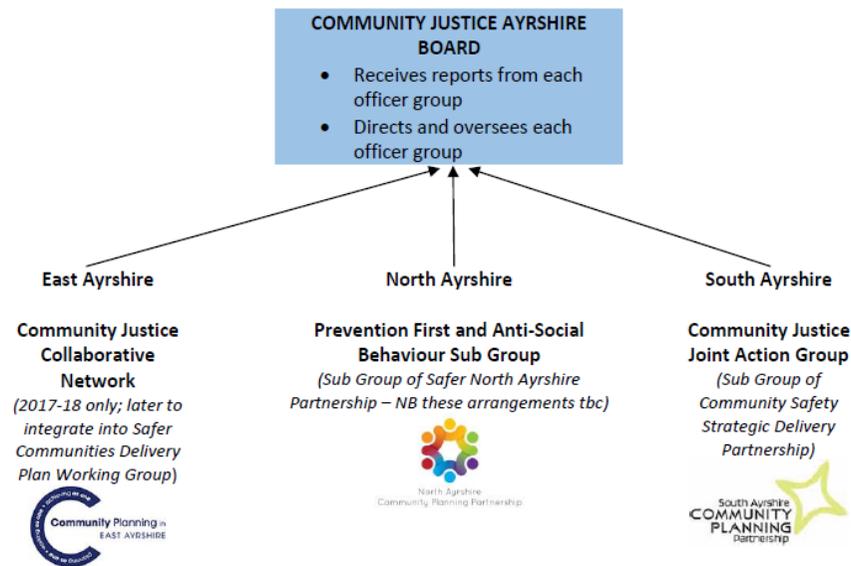
Our Commitments Plan gives more detail about who is leading delivery, contact details and the geographical area covered. Note that all of the Commitments will be delivered in 2017-18, within existing resources. Each year we will review our progress and update our list of Commitments, so we will publish a new 'Beginnings, Belonging, Belief' plan by April each year.

Who will deliver this Plan?

Each Commitment has a Lead Agency or Group, with one or more named contacts. This includes individual organisations and groups.

A number of the Commitments will be led by the new local community planning groups which report to the Community Justice Ayrshire Board. These are the East Ayrshire Community Justice Collaborative Network; the North Ayrshire Prevention First and Anti-Social Behaviour Sub-Group; and the South Ayrshire Community Justice Joint Action Group. These all sit within their local Community Planning Partnerships (see diagram on next page).

The Community Justice Ayrshire Board may establish further short-life working groups or themed groups to help deliver the Plan.



How will progress be monitored and reported?

The lead agency or group for each Commitment will be asked to provide quarterly updates to Community Justice Ayrshire. These reports will be collated by the CJ Ayrshire Support Team and summarised in quarterly performance reports to the Community Justice Ayrshire Board.

The Community Justice Ayrshire Board will submit six-monthly reports to the three Ayrshire Community Planning Partnerships.

Community Justice Ayrshire will also publish an Annual Report. This will include a report on progress against the Commitments Plan, as well reporting on other trends in reducing re-offending.

Beginnings

I know that the first step can be the hardest one. I would like the opportunity to build a new, positive life for myself. I want to move on from my past and to plan for a new future – one where anything is possible. I will take responsibility and use my skills and strengths to overcome the setbacks that life may throw at me. I hope that those around me will support me if I need more than one new beginning.

COMMITMENT			
LEAD AGENCY OR GROUP	CONTACT	AREA COVERED (EA/ NA/ SA)	LEAD AREA (IF APPROPRIATE)
Let's Start at the Very Beginning We know from our conversations and from research that there is a link between certain childhood events, childhood development and later offending. For example this includes early experiences of bereavement and loss; trauma; emotional and physical abuse and neglect; domestic abuse; mental health problems; parental imprisonment; exposure to parental drug and alcohol use; speech, language and communication difficulties; and exclusion from school. Such events are sometimes described as Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). We will develop an overview of what support is currently available for children experiencing ACEs. We will also raise awareness with people working with children and parents (including expectant parents) of the links between these experiences, children's development and behaviours, and later offending. This is one way we can promote prevention and early intervention. (Ayrshire)			
Community Justice Ayrshire Board	Alice Dillon adillon@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	Ayrshire	N/A
Whole System Approach for Women We know that the justice system should act as a 'whole system' where partners and services link together in a seamless way. We don't think it does act as a 'whole system' yet. We will develop a 'whole system' for women first to test out the best way to link everything together. (Ayrshire)			
Whole System Approach for Women Implementation Group (reporting to Community Justice Ayrshire Board)	Alice Dillon adillon@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	Ayrshire	N/A

COMMITMENT			
LEAD AGENCY OR GROUP	CONTACT	AREA COVERED (EA/ NA/ SA)	LEAD AREA (IF APPROPRIATE)
<p>Keep Out of the Justice System! We know that once people are involved in the formal justice system, it is very difficult to get back out, particularly if they get a criminal conviction. We will promote and champion all efforts to stop people being drawn into and escalated up through the formal justice system. This includes promoting arrest referral, Police and Procurator Fiscal direct measures, mental health triage, supporting people in distress, Prevention First, Early & Effective Intervention, Diversion from Prosecution and bail supervision – as appropriate. (Ayrshire)</p>			
Community Justice Ayrshire Board	Alice Dillon adillon@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	Ayrshire	N/A
<p>Recorded Police Warnings - Signposting Once a person has received three Recorded Police Warnings, the police will escalate their case to a more serious level. We will work with Police Scotland to encourage a referral to any support services people need as soon as they have had two Warnings. (Ayrshire)</p>			
Police Scotland	Tim Ross tim.ross@scotland.pnn.police.uk	Ayrshire	N/A
<p>A New Approach to ‘The Tag’ The Scottish Government is looking at new ways of electronic monitoring (‘tagging’). In this country it is generally used in a stand-alone way, without additional support or intervention. There is the opportunity to test out new ways of tagging, for example combining it with mentoring or other support. Evidence from other countries suggests this may be more successful in terms of reducing reoffending. We will work with the Scottish Government to deliver a local Electronic Monitoring Demonstration Project. (East Ayrshire)</p>			
East Ayrshire Community Justice Collaborative Network	Hilary Scott hilary.scott@east-ayrshire.gov.uk	East Ayrshire	N/A
<p>Recruit with Conviction We support the approach of ‘Recruit with Conviction’¹ which promotes the safe and sustainable employment of people with criminal convictions and promotes the business benefits of a diverse workforce. A number of our partners – especially in the third sector – already have a strong track record in this regard. This includes peer worker/ mentor roles which can inspire and motivate others to achieve. We will look at our own partners’ recruitment and procurement policies and practices as well as engaging with local employers. This includes offering work placements, volunteering, training and paid employment opportunities to people with a criminal conviction. (Ayrshire)</p>			
South Ayrshire Community Justice Joint Action Group	Faye Murfet faye.murfet@south-ayrshire.gov.uk	Ayrshire	Lead Area: South Ayrshire

¹ <http://recruitwithconviction.org.uk/>

COMMITMENT			
LEAD AGENCY OR GROUP	CONTACT	AREA COVERED (EA/ NA/ SA)	LEAD AREA (IF APPROPRIATE)
Community Justice Employability Initiative In North Ayrshire we will offer additional support within the unpaid work team to assess strengths and needs, and link service users into an employability pathway. This is supported through European and local authority funding. (North Ayrshire)			
North Ayrshire Council – Criminal Justice Social Work	Fiona Strachan fstrachan@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	North Ayrshire	N/A
Disclosure – why, what, when and how? When someone has a criminal conviction it is important to be clear on when and how much they need to disclose to employers about this. We will seek funding for a Disclosure Service to help with this. (Ayrshire)			
South Ayrshire Community Justice Joint Action Group	Faye Murfet faye.murfet@south-ayrshire.gov.uk Mhairi Ross mhairi.ross@apexscotland.org.uk	Ayrshire	Lead Area: South Ayrshire
Be Your Own Boss Not everybody wants to work for someone else. The justice system is full of enterprising people, but they don't always recognise their own skills and might need help to do this and stick with it. We will work with Catalyst, Centrestage Communities and Ayrshire College to support people to set up their own business. (Ayrshire)			
Centrestage Communities	Lorna Dalziel lorna.dalziel@centrestagecommunities.org.uk	Ayrshire	Lead Area: East Ayrshire
Creative Industries There are many talented artists engaging with creative learning programmes, unpaid work and community-based services. We will look for opportunities to promote their work to the wider public and develop opportunities for those who want to develop their artistic and creative talents into a sustainable career. (Ayrshire)			
Centrestage Communities	Lorna Dalziel lorna.dalziel@centrestagecommunities.org.uk	Ayrshire	Lead Area: East Ayrshire
Learning Pathways We will offer people involved in the justice system the opportunity to develop and gain qualifications in a range of vocational and essential skills in partnership with relevant organisations including Ayrshire College. (Ayrshire)			
Ayrshire College	Helen Canning helen.canning@ayrshire.ac.uk	Ayrshire	N/A

COMMITMENT			
LEAD AGENCY OR GROUP	CONTACT	AREA COVERED (EA/ NA/ SA)	LEAD AREA (IF APPROPRIATE)
<p>Mentoring works! Many people in the justice system now have a 'Mentor' who offers one-to-one help and support to achieve their goals. Sometimes this Mentor is a 'Peer Mentor' who has lived experience of the justice system themselves. Through mentoring support people can build a trusting relationship with someone who will be there for them and who can help with all of their issues. We will promote all of our local mentoring services and help them to find ongoing funding. (Ayrshire)</p>			
Community Justice Ayrshire Board	Alice Dillon adillon@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	Ayrshire	N/A
<p>Prisoner Support Pathway HMP Kilmarnock and Turning Point Scotland are working together to run a new Prisoner Support Pathway service for short term prisoners. This is funded by the Ayrshire Community Planning Partnerships. This service will make sure as much as possible is planned before release, so people are linked in with the support and services they need. Some prisoners will be recruited as Throughcare Champions/ Ambassadors (peer mentors) as part of this service to help promote throughcare, share information and offer support. We will continue this service in 2017-18. (Ayrshire)</p>			
HMP Kilmarnock Strategic Reference Group	Craig Maxwell Craig.Maxwell@serco.com Hilary Scott hilary.scott@east-ayrshire.gov.uk Kirstin Abercrombie kirstinabercrombie@tpsturnaround.co.uk	Ayrshire	Lead Area: East Ayrshire
<p>Support and Protection for Adults at Risk of Harm The Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007 facilitates the support and protection of adults in Scotland who meet the criteria. This does not apply to adults in prison. However we recognise that on release from prison an adult may be at risk of harm, meet the criteria and benefit from support and protection provided under the legislation. Adult Support and Protection (ASP) staff across Ayrshire are working to make sure that appropriate HMP Kilmarnock and Turning Point Scotland staff, and Prison Champions/Ambassadors, are able to take a proactive approach in determining if a prisoner to be released will be at risk of harm and an ASP referral is required. (Ayrshire)</p>			
HMP Kilmarnock Strategic Reference Group	Craig Maxwell Craig.Maxwell@serco.com Brenda Walker brendawalker@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	Ayrshire	Lead Area: North Ayrshire

COMMITMENT			
LEAD AGENCY OR GROUP	CONTACT	AREA COVERED (EA/ NA/ SA)	LEAD AREA (IF APPROPRIATE)
<p>Prepare for Liberation ... Some prisoners have said it would be helpful to have a pre-liberation course in prison, covering issues faced on the outside, e.g. life skills, accommodation, benefits and money, health, substance use etc. This would include linking to useful services. Some prisoners already access this support through services working in prisons, but this is not available for everyone. We will work with HMP Kilmarnock Health Promoting Prison Group and local services to review what is currently running and how this could be rolled out more. (Ayrshire)</p>			
HMP Kilmarnock Health Promoting Prison Group	Sharon Hardie Sharon.hardie@aapct.scot.nhs.uk Kevin Lyle kevin.lyle@aapct.scot.nhs.uk	Ayrshire	N/A
<p>Pack Your Bags We don't think it is acceptable that people who are leaving HMP Kilmarnock are given their belongings in a clear plastic bag. For example it can feel humiliating to be travelling on public transport with everyone knowing where you have been. We will work with the prison and partners to develop a 'Pack Your Bags' scheme which recycles sports holdalls and rucksacks to be used by prisoners to carry their belongings on release. (Ayrshire)</p>			
South Ayrshire Community Justice Joint Action Group	Faye Murfet faye.murfet@south-ayrshire.gov.uk	Ayrshire	Lead Area: South Ayrshire
<p>Welcome Home from Police Scotland Police Scotland has, in recent years, sent a standard letter to individuals released from prison where they have served a sentence for violent crime. The purpose of this letter was to advise these individuals of the consequences of re-offending. This practice has been suspended at present and, together with Police Scotland we believe that this message can be communicated differently, seeing prison liberation as an opportunity for a fresh start and emphasising individual responsibility. We will work with Police Scotland and other partners to review the content of this letter and agree the most effective and supportive means of communicating with persons leaving custody. (Ayrshire)</p>			
Police Scotland	Tim Ross tim.ross@scotland.pnn.police.uk	Ayrshire	N/A
<p>Home from Hospital to Home from Prison The Red Cross provides a service where volunteers take people home from hospital and resettle them at home – this is more than a taxi service and includes e.g. helping someone into their home, making them a cup of tea and settling them in. We will explore a similar model for people leaving prison. (South Ayrshire)</p>			
South Ayrshire Community Justice Joint Action Group	Faye Murfet faye.murfet@south-ayrshire.gov.uk	South Ayrshire	N/A

COMMITMENT			
LEAD AGENCY OR GROUP	CONTACT	AREA COVERED (EA/ NA/ SA)	LEAD AREA (IF APPROPRIATE)
24/7 not 9 to 5 We know that people in crisis often need help ‘out of hours’ not ‘office hours’. Yet very few services are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Many services seem to be designed to suit those <i>delivering</i> the service rather than those <i>using</i> the service. We will build a picture of local service provision and use this to campaign for better access to support – how, when and where people need it. (Ayrshire)			
Community Justice Ayrshire Board	Alice Dillon adillon@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	Ayrshire	N/A

Belonging

I live in a place where I feel I belong. I have somewhere I can call home – and it feels like home. I have people around me who understand me and who support me. They might be family, friends or workers. I feel part of my local community. I am not judged or labelled for my past decisions or actions – people just see me for who I am now, not who they think I am or who I was before.

COMMITMENT			
LEAD AGENCY OR GROUP	CONTACT	AREA COVERED (EA/ NA/ SA)	LEAD AREA (IF APPROPRIATE)
Support for Families We know that families can be a big support when people are trying to move on from offending. We also know it can be stressful having a family member involved in the justice system, and so the family may need support in its own right. We will work with HMP Kilmarnock’s Family Strategy Group and other partners to promote local information, support and services for families of people in the justice system. This includes understanding more about family conferences and other forms of involvement before liberation to help prisoners and their families prepare for release together (where this is appropriate). It also involves rolling out information materials for families such as court information posters and police contact cards. (Ayrshire)			
East Ayrshire Community Justice Collaborative Network	Hilary Scott hilary.scott@east-ayrshire.gov.uk	East Ayrshire	N/A
Safer North Ayrshire Partnership – Prevention and Anti Social Behaviour Group	Morna Rae mrae@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	North Ayrshire	N/A
South Ayrshire Community Justice Joint Action Group	Faye Murfet faye.murfet@south-ayrshire.gov.uk	South Ayrshire	N/A

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Out of the Shadows			
It is important that practitioners understand the impact of the justice system on children and families, the way this is often hidden, and the stigma they can feel. We will continue to support Families Outside to deliver a range of training opportunities for practitioners, including the 'Out of the Shadows' multi-agency practitioner training and in-prison Continuing Professional Development (CPD) training for teachers. We will also support local partners to implement the national Framework for the Support of Families Affected by the Justice System, originally developed in Lothian and Borders and endorsed by Scotland's Community Justice Authorities. ² (Ayrshire)			
East Ayrshire Community Justice Collaborative Network	Hilary Scott hilary.scott@east-ayrshire.gov.uk	East Ayrshire	N/A
Safer North Ayrshire Partnership – Prevention and Anti Social Behaviour Group	Morna Rae mrae@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	North Ayrshire	N/A
South Ayrshire Community Justice Joint Action Group	Faye Murfet faye.murfet@south-ayrshire.gov.uk	South Ayrshire	N/A
Positive Play in Prison			
East Ayrshire Council and HMP Kilmarnock are working with families to promote play as a way to improve relationships and resilience for prisoners and their families. Activities include weekly bonding sessions focusing on play; play activity visits; table top play packs; family bookshare; and larger scale seasonal family events. We will promote both this award-winning Positive Play in Prisons programme ³ and other play-based support for children and families.			
East Ayrshire Community Justice Collaborative Network	Hilary Scott hilary.scott@east-ayrshire.gov.uk	Ayrshire	Lead: East Ayrshire

² This Framework was developed by Lothian and Borders Community Justice Authority's Families Outcomes Group <http://www.familiesoutside.org.uk/support-services/tools-for-professionals/>

³ <https://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/SocialCareAndHealth/ChildcareAndFamilyCare/CareOutwithTermTimeOrSchoolHours/PositivePlay.aspx>

COMMITMENT			
LEAD AGENCY OR GROUP	CONTACT	AREA COVERED (EA/ NA/ SA)	LEAD AREA (IF APPROPRIATE)
<p>Housing First and First Home</p> <p>People involved in the justice system often have unstable housing situations. Many find themselves repeatedly homeless as they come and go from prison, and they can find it hard to keep their tenancy. East and South Ayrshire Councils will continue their joint Housing Advice Service at HMP Kilmarnock (at time of writing this was delivered by a third sector partner). North Ayrshire Council has introduced its own Housing Advice Officer at HMP Kilmarnock, with active links to other prisons. North Ayrshire Council will pilot a 'Housing First' service in 2017-18, supporting 6 people who are leaving prison and who are at risk of repeat homelessness. South Ayrshire Council will also expand its 'First Home' project to include people liberated from prison. This will link ex-prisoners into intensive support on release, alongside training courses to develop decorating and furniture-making skills to improve their own homes. We will learn from these services and also work with all local housing providers to map out an 'accommodation journey' so people returning to Ayrshire from prison can access appropriate housing on release. We will explore the development of more supported accommodation options for people leaving prison, and we will link into the new national 'Housing and Reintegration' developments led by the Scottish Prison Service. (East Ayrshire, North Ayrshire, South Ayrshire)</p>			
East Ayrshire Community Justice Collaborative Network	Hilary Scott hilary.scott@east-ayrshire.gov.uk Christine Renwick/ Billy McDill Christine.renwick@east-ayrshire.gov.uk Billy.mcdill@east-ayrshire.gov.uk	East Ayrshire	N/A
Safer North Ayrshire Partnership – Prevention and Anti Social Behaviour Group	Morna Rae mrae@north-ayrshire.gov.uk Shelagh Campbell shelaghcampbell@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	North Ayrshire	N/A
South Ayrshire Community Justice Joint Action Group	Faye Murfet faye.murfet@south-ayrshire.gov.uk Heather Anderson heather.anderson2@south-ayrshire.gov.uk	South Ayrshire	N/A
<p>Safe at Home</p> <p>The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service offer free Home Fire Safety Visits for anybody in the community. These visits can be carried out exclusively by SFRS employees or in partnership with community-based volunteers who have previously been service users and have undergone a robust selection criteria. We will work with Fire and Rescue to increase awareness of home fire safety issues for people on unpaid work and in custody, and we will link people in with Home Fire Safety Visits. We will also explore the development of further training, employment and volunteering and employment opportunities for people with criminal convictions. (Ayrshire)</p>			
Scottish Fire and Rescue	Gordon Harkins gordon.harkins@firescotland.gov.uk	Ayrshire	N/A

COMMITMENT			
LEAD AGENCY OR GROUP	CONTACT	AREA COVERED (EA/ NA/ SA)	LEAD AREA (IF APPROPRIATE)
<p>Let's Just Talk ... About Justice!</p> <p>We have been using a community conversations toolkit called 'Let's Just Talk' to help community groups discuss issues around justice. The toolkit helps people think about their own role in reducing reoffending and how they can support people to integrate into their own community. We will continue to use the toolkit whenever we can, and will offer training to people working in the community so they can deliver 'Let's Just Talk' sessions themselves. We will also look for opportunities to use the toolkit for staff training, to help reduce the stigma and prejudice some people with a criminal conviction experience when using frontline services. (Ayrshire)</p>			
Community Justice Ayrshire Board	Alice Dillon adillon@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	Ayrshire	N/A
<p>Community Justice Champions</p> <p>Community Justice Champions can be described as a network of designated people who can make the links between services/ support and community resources for prisoners, prison leavers and people on community sentences. They work within communities and influence communities. We will take the first steps in developing a network of local Community Justice Champions (South Ayrshire).</p>			
South Ayrshire Community Justice Joint Action Group	Faye Murfet faye.murfet@south-ayrshire.gov.uk	South Ayrshire	N/A
<p>Faith Communities</p> <p>We know that some local churches and faith communities already play a really important role in creating safer and stronger communities. We know they can help people to meet their spiritual needs and to feel part of their local community. We will support the chaplaincy at HMP Kilmarnock in its work to strengthen links with local churches and faith communities. (Ayrshire)</p>			
Community Justice Ayrshire Board	Alice Dillon adillon@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	Ayrshire	N/A
<p>Equally Safe in Ayrshire</p> <p>We support Equally Safe, Scotland's Strategy for preventing and eradicating violence against women and girls. This states that men desist from all forms of violence against women and girls, and perpetrators of such violence receive a robust and effective response. We will work with our local Violence Against Women Partnerships and the Equally Safe Ayrshire Partnership to make sure that perpetrators are identified early; are supported to change their behaviour; and are held to account. (Ayrshire)</p>			
Equally Safe Ayrshire	Hilary Scott hilary.scott@east-ayrshire.gov.uk	Ayrshire	N/A

COMMITMENT			
LEAD AGENCY OR GROUP	CONTACT	AREA COVERED (EA/ NA/ SA)	LEAD AREA (IF APPROPRIATE)
<p>Connecting Our Community of Services</p> <p>As well as our local communities, we also have a Community of Services who are all working to support people in the justice system. Many of these services already work together but we know there is a need to better connect everyone's activity. For example services could link together their separate training, volunteering or work experience opportunities for service users, or could improve referral pathways between each other. We will work with our Community of Services to help build new links and improve existing links. (Ayrshire)</p>			
Community Justice Ayrshire Board	Alice Dillon adillon@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	Ayrshire	N/A
<p>Police Stations and Courts as Hubs for Change</p> <p>Every day, hundreds of people come and go from our local police stations and courts. This includes people who have committed crimes, victims, families and people who work in the justice system. We think that police stations and courts could act as Hubs for Change. For example can we introduce mentoring services to people at this earlier stage, instead of waiting until they leave prison? Can we do more to make these justice institutions more part of our local communities? Can we share people's voices and lived experiences with each other to increase awareness, understanding and support? We will explore ways to use police stations and courts as hubs for change. (Ayrshire)</p>			
Community Justice Ayrshire Board	Alice Dillon adillon@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	Ayrshire	N/A
<p>Volunteering with Conviction</p> <p>As one of the participants in our Creative Justice events commented, 'Volunteering changed my life!' We will identify volunteering policies, practices and opportunities for people with a criminal record, and work with local organisations to develop their confidence and understanding of disclosure and rehabilitation. (Ayrshire)</p>			
South Ayrshire Community Justice Joint Action Group	Faye Murfet faye.murfet@south-ayrshire.gov.uk	Ayrshire	Lead Area: South Ayrshire
<p>Equalities for All!</p> <p>We know that people who are involved in the justice system face many inequalities. This includes inequalities linked to both offending and to being a victim of crime. We have agreed 'Shared Equality Outcomes' with other local organisations, so we are all working towards the same equality goals. We want people in Ayrshire to experience safe and inclusive communities; have equal opportunities to access and shape public services; have the opportunity to fulfil their potential throughout life; and for public bodies to be inclusive and diverse employers. We will work with partners to help deliver the shared equalities action plan, and we will develop specific actions relating to people in the justice system.</p>			
Community Justice Ayrshire Board	Alice Dillon adillon@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	Ayrshire	N/A

COMMITMENT			
LEAD AGENCY OR GROUP	CONTACT	AREA COVERED (EA/ NA/ SA)	LEAD AREA (IF APPROPRIATE)
You Are Not Alone Loneliness and social isolation are not only issues facing older people in our communities. People in the justice system may have lost contact with their family, frequently re-located, moved on from an old peer group of friends, and lack the confidence and self esteem to get involved in their local community. We will promote training for practitioners in coping with loneliness and social isolation. (Other actions in this plan will help people access activities and support in the community). (Ayrshire)			
East Ayrshire Community Justice Collaborative Network	Hilary Scott hilary.scott@east-ayrshire.gov.uk	East Ayrshire	N/A
Safer North Ayrshire Partnership – Prevention and Anti Social Behaviour Group	Morna Rae mrae@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	North Ayrshire	N/A
South Ayrshire Community Justice Joint Action Group	Faye Murfet faye.murfet@south-ayrshire.gov.uk	South Ayrshire	N/A

Belief

I have hopes and dreams for the future. I believe in myself. I can reflect on what I have done and the impact this has had on others. I accept I have made some mistakes but know that I am on a different path now. I believe I can lead a full and active life and can contribute to my local community. Other people believe this about me too – my family, friends and workers.

COMMITMENT			
LEAD AGENCY OR GROUP	CONTACT	AREA COVERED (EA/ NA/ SA)	LEAD AREA (IF APPROPRIATE)
User Engagement Project We know that people are the best experts in making changes to their own lives. Sometimes organisations and services don't listen to the people who are most affected by what they do. We are working with the University of Strathclyde on a User Engagement project for community justice. This is funded by the Ayrshire Community Planning Partnerships. This will help us to understand the best way to involve people in everything we do and to introduce new ways of working together with service users. We will continue this project in 2017-18. (Ayrshire)			
Safer North Ayrshire Partnership – Prevention and Anti Social Behaviour Group	Morna Rae mrae@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	Ayrshire	Lead Area: North Ayrshire

COMMITMENT			
LEAD AGENCY OR GROUP	CONTACT	AREA COVERED (EA/ NA/ SA)	LEAD AREA (IF APPROPRIATE)
<p>A Champions Board A number of areas have set up 'Champions Boards' for Looked After Children as part of their corporate parenting responsibilities. These Boards provide a platform for looked after children to engage with their 'corporate parent' and make their views and needs known. The Board is made up of senior staff, councillors, young people and their supporters. The agenda is set by the young people themselves, and focuses on informing change in culture, systems and practice. We will explore a similar model for community justice, linking in to the User Engagement Project above. (Ayrshire)</p>			
Safer North Ayrshire Partnership – Prevention and Anti Social Behaviour Group	Morna Rae mrae@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	Ayrshire	Lead Area: North Ayrshire
<p>Health Promoting Prisons Health and wellbeing should be embedded into the core business of every prison to benefit both prisoners and staff. We will work with the HMP Kilmarnock Health Promoting Prison Group to support the priorities within their action plan. (Ayrshire)</p>			
HMP Kilmarnock Health Promoting Prison Group	Sharon Hardie Sharon.hardie@aapct.scot.nhs.uk Kevin Lyle kevin.lyle@aapct.scot.nhs.uk	Ayrshire	N/A
<p>A Healthy Mind Many people in the justice system experience poor mental health. This includes for example anxiety, low mood and poor self esteem, as well as psychiatric conditions which may require specialist services. We will develop our understanding of current access to and experiences of local mental health support and services, including suicide prevention. We will use this information to develop specific Commitments around mental health. (Ayrshire)</p>			
Safer North Ayrshire Partnership – Prevention and Anti Social Behaviour Group	Morna Rae mrae@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	Ayrshire	Lead Area: North Ayrshire
<p>Trauma-Informed Practice Many people involved with the justice system have experienced multiple trauma as children and/ or as adults. This makes it difficult for people to believe in themselves. We will promote training for practitioners in trauma-informed practice, so that they understand why people sometimes act as they do, and to help services to respond appropriately. This includes linking to other local and national training opportunities. (Ayrshire)</p>			
Safer North Ayrshire Partnership – Prevention and Anti Social Behaviour Group	Morna Rae mrae@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	Ayrshire	Lead Area: North Ayrshire

COMMITMENT			
LEAD AGENCY OR GROUP	CONTACT	AREA COVERED (EA/ NA/ SA)	LEAD AREA (IF APPROPRIATE)
<p>Celebrating Good News</p> <p>It is important that the media reports on the impact of crime on individuals and communities so that people are aware of the harm caused and the actions being taken to support victims and tackle crime. However it is also important that we share positive stories and celebrate achievement where good progress has been made by people in the justice system (including people who committed crimes, victims and families). We will celebrate and share good news to show that change is possible, and that people can learn from their mistakes, lead a different life and contribute to their local community. (Ayrshire)</p>			
East Ayrshire Community Justice Collaborative Network	Hilary Scott hilary.scott@east-ayrshire.gov.uk	East Ayrshire	N/A
Safer North Ayrshire Partnership – Prevention and Anti Social Behaviour Group	Morna Rae mrae@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	North Ayrshire	N/A
South Ayrshire Community Justice Joint Action Group	Faye Murfet faye.murfet@south-ayrshire.gov.uk	South Ayrshire	N/A
<p>Creative Justice</p> <p>In preparing this Plan we held two Creative Justice events in partnership with Centrestage Communities, bringing together all those involved in the justice system to discuss issues and solutions. 100 people attended these events, around a third of whom were prisoners and service users. We will build on this model of working together and hold further events in 2017-18. (Ayrshire)</p>			
Community Justice Ayrshire Board	Alice Dillon adillon@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	Ayrshire	N/A
<p>Take a Walk in My Shoes</p> <p>It is important that we all understand what it is like to be involved in the justice system – as someone who has committed crimes, as a victim of crime or as a family member. We will help the voices of people with lived experience of the justice system to be heard and will promote experiential learning opportunities to help raise awareness and understanding. This includes work with schools, young people, communities and practitioners. This also includes our film and drama based workshops – The Ripple Effect and Leaves on the Track. (Ayrshire)</p>			
Community Justice Ayrshire Board	Alice Dillon adillon@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	Ayrshire	N/A

COMMITMENT			
LEAD AGENCY OR GROUP	CONTACT	AREA COVERED (EA/ NA/ SA)	LEAD AREA (IF APPROPRIATE)
<p>Hearing the Voice of Victims</p> <p>We know that victims of crime can feel invisible in the justice system and that their needs and experiences are overlooked. We want to make sure that victims' voices are heard and are championed at local and national level. This includes understanding that some people involved in offending have also been victims of crime – not just children, young people and women, but men too. We will promote the new national statutory guidance on Restorative Justice⁴ to help those who have caused harm and those who have been harmed to communicate about what happened and find a positive way forward. We will also continue to deliver our Ripple Effect training to practitioners to raise their awareness of the impact of crime on victims. (Ayrshire)</p>			
East Ayrshire Community Justice Collaborative Network	Hilary Scott hilary.scott@east-ayrshire.gov.uk	East Ayrshire	N/A
Safer North Ayrshire Partnership – Prevention and Anti Social Behaviour Group	Morna Rae mrae@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	North Ayrshire	N/A
South Ayrshire Community Justice Joint Action Group	Faye Murfet faye.murfet@south-ayrshire.gov.uk	South Ayrshire	N/A
<p>Yes In My Backyard!</p> <p>The Scottish Government and Scottish Prison Service are working together to develop five new Community Custody Units for women in Scotland. These would operate as open prisons for lower risk female prisoners, with each housing around 20 women. This model will enable women to be held closer to their families and communities. Ayrshire is an area with a high number of women in custody, so it may be an appropriate site for one of these new Units. If we have this opportunity, we will use this development as a focus for our conversations on community justice with local communities. (Ayrshire)</p>			
Whole System Approach for Women Implementation Group (<i>reporting to Community Justice Ayrshire Board</i>)	Alice Dillon adillon@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	Ayrshire	N/A

⁴ It is anticipated that this will be published in 2017-18.

COMMITMENT			
LEAD AGENCY OR GROUP	CONTACT	AREA COVERED (EA/ NA/ SA)	LEAD AREA (IF APPROPRIATE)
<p>Our Recovery Communities</p> <p>Ayrshire has a number of very active Recovery Communities for people recovering from drug and alcohol misuse. They offer for example hope and aspiration for the future, companionship and a sense of community, a broad programme of activities to help people structure their day, as well as peer training, volunteering and work opportunities. We will build stronger links with our local Recovery Communities, including delivering SMART recovery at HMP Kilmarnock in partnership with North Ayrshire Alcohol and Drugs Partnership.⁵ (Ayrshire)</p>			
Community Justice Ayrshire Board working with:	Alice Dillon adillon@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	Ayrshire	N/A
East Ayrshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership	Liam Wells liam.wells@east-ayrshire.gov.uk	East Ayrshire	N/A
North Ayrshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership	Mark Gallagher markgallagher@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	North Ayrshire	N/A
South Ayrshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership	Faye Murfet faye.murfet@south-ayrshire.gov.uk	South Ayrshire	N/A
<p>I Believe in You</p> <p>Everyone has hopes and dreams. We don't hope and dream of a life of offending, but some people end up there. Through all of our engagement with prisoners and service users we will communicate the message that we believe in people and we have hope and aspiration for their future. We will also communicate this message in our work with other organisations and partnerships. (Ayrshire)</p>			
Community Justice Ayrshire Board	Alice Dillon adillon@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	Ayrshire	N/A
East Ayrshire Community Justice Collaborative Network	Hilary Scott hilary.scott@east-ayrshire.gov.uk	East Ayrshire	N/A
Safer North Ayrshire Partnership – Prevention and Anti Social Behaviour Group	Morna Rae mrae@north-ayrshire.gov.uk	North Ayrshire	N/A
South Ayrshire Community Justice Joint Action Group	Faye Murfet faye.murfet@south-ayrshire.gov.uk	South Ayrshire	N/A

⁵ SMART (Self-Management and Recovery Training) is a model which helps people recover from addictive behaviour using motivational, behavioural and cognitive methods. For more see <https://www.smartrecovery.org.uk/>

Contact Us

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