

**Community Justice Scotland**  
Ceartas Coimhearsnachd Alba

**Community Justice Outcome Activity Across Scotland**  
**Local Area Annual Return Template**  
**2020-21**

May 2021

## Background

The introduction of the [Community Justice \(Scotland\) Act 2016](#) (the Act) triggered the formal implementation of the new model of Community Justice in Scotland. A number of key documents are associated with the Act including the [National Strategy, Guidance for local partners in the new model for community justice](#), [Justice in Scotland: Vision & Priorities](#) and the [Framework for Outcomes, Performance and Improvement](#).

The Act places a duty on community justice statutory partners to produce a Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan (CJOIP) which outlines key local needs and priorities and the plans and actions to address these against a backdrop of the documents noted above. Beyond this, the partners are also tasked with reporting, on an annual basis, the community justice outcomes and improvements in their area, again with reference to the associated strategy, guidance and framework documents and, when complete, submit those annual reports to Community Justice Scotland (CJS)<sup>1</sup>.

CJS is committed to working in partnership with community justice partners and have designed the template and guidance to support local areas in reporting on their annual outcomes and improvements in a meaningful way that captures necessary data in an effective and efficient manner. It also supports areas in fulfilling their statutory obligations on annual reporting under section 23 and fulfils our requirement to consult on the preparation of an annual report on performance in relation to community justice outcomes under section 27(3).

CJS recognises that there are a set of circumstances at time of writing that make this process different from the three previous Annual Outcome Activity Returns; namely:

1. The Covid-19 pandemic which was present for the entirety of the 2020-21 reporting period and will continue to have implications for the work of community justice partners.

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<sup>1</sup> Guidance for statutory partners on this annual reporting process – to which community justice partners must have regard - is available at paragraphs 6.38-6.42 of the “Guidance for local partners in the new model for community justice” (linked to above).



2. The review of the Outcomes Performance and Improvement Framework (OPIF) which is running concurrently with the Outcome Activity Returns process. Until the review of the OPIF has concluded CJS recognises a transitional template (such as this one) is likely to be required.

To allow for both of these, CJS surveyed community justice partnerships in April 2021 seeking views on the completion of the annual report template covering the period 2020-21. The 2020-21 template takes into account the feedback from 17 completed surveys with the following changes:

1. The most substantial change is the focus on outcomes taking account of the indicators rather than asking partnerships to report on progress against each individual indicator.
2. We have created space for community justice partners to reflect on the collective achievement they are most proud of during the reporting period.
3. There is an opportunity to reflect the impact of the pandemic on community justice activity under each of the outcomes. There is a dedicated section to give partners the opportunity to reflect on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the partnership.

This template includes a new section to allow community justice partners to reflect on how they have, or intend to, implement activity in response to recommendations in the 2019-20 Annual Outcome Activity Return.

CJS would like to extend thanks to those community justice partners that took the time to complete the template survey, spoke to us as part of the OPIF review process and to those that sense-checked the guidance points in the draft template.



## 1. Statement of Assurance and Data Usage

The information submitted to Community Justice Scotland using this template is for the primary purpose of fulfilling the requirement under s27 of the Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 for Community Justice Scotland to produce a report on performance in relation to community justice outcomes across Scotland.

In line with provisions in the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), CJS will use appropriate data to ensure that there is continuous reporting, development and progress towards the national outcomes. By providing data to CJS you are consenting to its use by CJS as indicated. Community Justice Partnerships should be aware that any information held by Community Justice Scotland is subject to statutory Freedom of Information obligations.

## 2. General principles of the template

The template is designed to capture a range of important data in a way that allows local partners to highlight key aspects of community justice activities, outcomes and improvements over the specified period without it being onerous or time and resource demanding. CJS has made some changes to the template this year (as outlined on pages 2-3) to account for the ongoing OPIF review process and the Covid-19 pandemic.

Most of the template is self-explanatory and, where this is the case, there is little guidance required. In the sections that require more direction for completion, the text (in blue) will outline what is expected in terms of reporting.

### Template sections:

[Section 1 Community Justice Partnership / Group Details](#)

[Section 2 Template Sign-Off](#)

[Section 3 Governance Arrangements](#)



[Section 4 Progress from 2019-20 Recommendations](#) (new section for 2020-21)

[Section 5 Covid-19 Pandemic Impact](#) (new section for 2020-21)

[Section 6 Performance Reporting – National Outcomes](#)

[Section 7 Partnership Achievements](#)

[Section 8 Challenges](#) (unrelated to Covid-19 pandemic)

[Section 9 Additional Information](#)

It would be helpful if responses in each of the “evidence and data” boxes within section 6 of the template (“performance reporting”) is kept to a minimum by capturing the main points only. This allows for an efficient analysis by Community Justice Scotland on return. The use of bullet points in your answers is acceptable.

Where the template asks for evidence, a written response will suffice and there is no expectation that you send additional supporting documentation – if there are any aspects Community Justice Scotland is unclear on it will be our responsibility to request clarification where necessary.

If any response or evidence requires details about people with lived experience (e.g. evidence in respect of someone’s life story) please **DO NOT** include any personal or sensitive information (as outlined in Schedules 2 & 3 of the Data Protection Act 1998) as Community Justice Scotland does not require such information. If this is unavoidable then please ensure that the data is fully anonymised.

This is the fourth iteration of the template and guidance. If you have any queries about completing the template then please email [CJSImprovement@communityjustice.scot](mailto:CJSImprovement@communityjustice.scot).



### 3. Template Completion

1. Community Justice Partnership / Group Details	
Community Justice Partnership / Group	Scottish Borders Community Justice Board
Community Justice Partnership Group Chair	Stuart Easingwood, Director – Social Work & Practice
Community Justice Partnership / Group Coordinator	Graham Jones, Safer Communities & Community Justice Manager
Publication date of Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan (CJOIP)	March 2020 (Expires 2025)

2. Template Sign-off
The content of this annual report on community justice outcomes and improvements in our area has been agreed as accurate by the Community Justice Partnership / Group and has been shared with our Community Planning Partnership through our local accountability arrangements.



Signature of Community Justice Partnership / Group Chair:

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> September 2021



### 3. Governance Arrangements

Please outline below your current governance structure for the community justice arrangements in your area. This section is the same as previous templates so if there have been no changes in this respect, copying and pasting from previous template submissions is acceptable.

There have been no changes since the last annual return, the Community Plan is not due for renewal until after the next local elections.

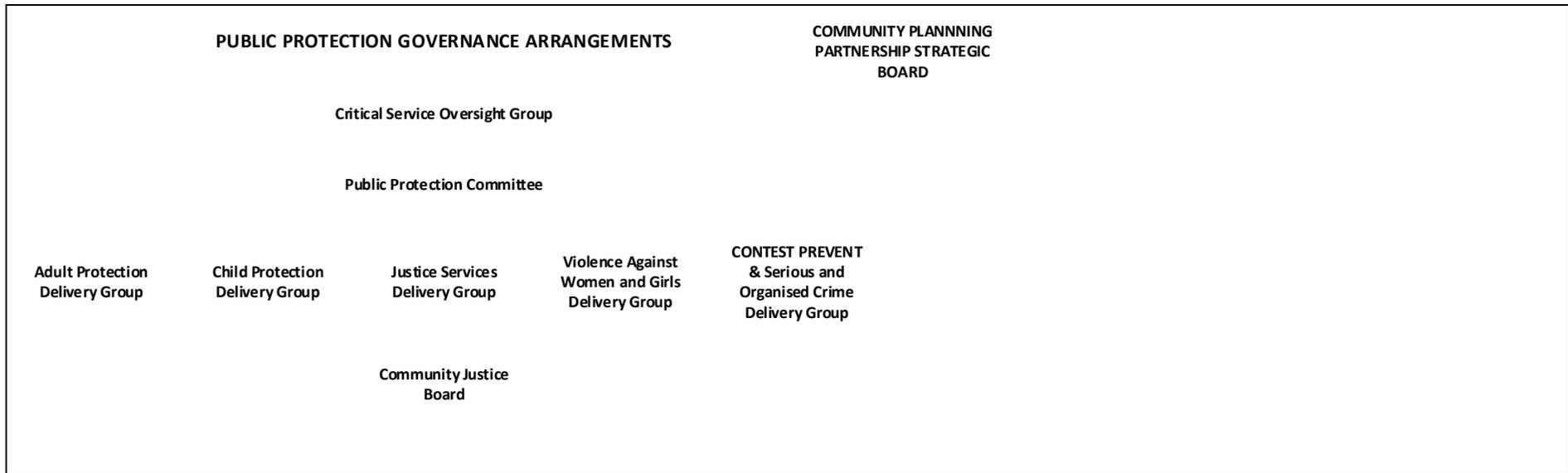
A copy is attached:



CommunityPlan\_MA  
Y18.pdf

The governance structure is as follows:





#### 4. Progress From 2019-20 Recommendations

To reduce the burden of reporting on progress from 2019-20 recommendations through an additional process please detail any work the partners have undertaken, or intend to undertake, in response to the following 2019-20 recommendations:

Recommendation for CJP's	Progress / Activity during 2020-21
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<p>That community justice partners establish mechanisms to identify and engage collectively with local third sector and victims organisations.</p>	<p>There are a number of organisations representing the Third Sector across the Borders. There is a Third Sector Interface (TSI), consisting of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Bridge</li> <li>• Berwickshire Association for Voluntary Services</li> <li>• Volunteer Centre Borders</li> <li>• Scottish Borders Social Enterprise Centre.</li> </ul> <p>The TSI create the connection between the Community Planning Partnership and Third Sector.</p> <p>There has already been dialogue with the Third Sector locally though it is recognised further opportunity exists. This remains an open improvement action within our new CJLOIP. The TSI, Justice Services and Community Justice are present in a number of different forums such as employability. There are already strong established links.</p> <p>Through our Antisocial Behaviour Unit we commission Victim Support Scotland. This is a long standing relationship and there are agreed reporting arrangements. Early in 2021 the contact was renewed. We had 49 case contacts supported during 2020/21. A representative attends the local Antisocial Behaviour Partnership Working Group.</p> <p>The Cyrenians, Quarriers, and Penumbra have all been commissioned by Community Justice partners to deliver relevant services. Details are outlined later in the report.</p> <p>While we have had dialogue with Families Outside we have not yet commissioned any services. Our intention is to undertake an exercise using lived experience before making a decision as to whether to proceed with commissioning local provision. The large geographic footprint of the Borders coupled with a relatively low number of people in the justice system can make commissioning and the achievement of outcomes difficult.</p>
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<p>That community justice partners meet statutory requirements for strategic planning. This includes being able to evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) a range of strategic needs and strengths assessment (SNSA) activity</li> <li>b) a published and up-to-date Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan (CJOIP) which includes a participation statement</li> <li>c) a published annual report assessing progress towards outcomes</li> </ul>	<p>In 2019/20 the Community Justice Board (CJB) completed a Strategic Needs and Strengths Assessment (SNSA) in preparation for the development of a new Community Justice Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (CJLOIP).</p> <p>Community Justice Scotland (CJS) provided feedback on the SNSA in May 20.</p> <p>Latterly CJS published a SNSA guidance document. The guidance document will be used in future assessment work.</p> <p>The partnership developed a new CJLOIP in April 2020 to replace the initial three year Plan, again CJS had sight of the draft Plan.</p> <p>Given the consequences of COVID in interrupting normal business the Plan did not receive sign off from the Community Planning Partnership until early in 2021. It has subsequently been published on the Council web site alongside the annual activity returns.</p> <p>It is the view of the Board that the requirements of the Act have been met.</p>
<p>Ensure community justice SNSA activity forms a crucial component of understanding the needs of the whole area population.</p>	<p>The Community Justice baseline assessment was accompanied by our locality profiles (5) and informed by a public consultation exercise and a specific contribution from people in prison from the Scottish Borders. Participation was high which was very encouraging.</p> <p>It is of note that the SNSA was a fairly significant exercise in terms of time and resource. The partnership would support any proposal for a national SNSA to be developed. This would help improve quality, consistency and engender a common approach led by CJS. This will be important to validate any national commissioning exercise.</p>



## 5. Covid-19 Pandemic Impact

This is a new section for 2020-21. It should be used to reflect some of the a) challenges/negative implications and b) opportunities/positive implications from the Covid-19 pandemic on the community justice partnership / group. There is an opportunity to reflect impact on community justice activity in Section 6 under each of the national outcomes so this section is to capture any impact on the partnership over and above this.

Area impacted	Challenges / Negatives	Positives / Opportunities
community justice partnership	<p>Since March 2020 the Safer Communities &amp; Community Justice Manager has taken a lead role for Scottish Borders Council in, firstly, those people Shielding and latterly Trace and Isolate. There has also been a responsibility associated with the provision of Gypsy/Traveller support during COVID. At times demand has been significant when compliance with Scottish Government guidance required. This also applies to a number of staff involved in Community Justice.</p> <p>The situation has impacted upon general consultations such as the alcohol drinking in public bye-law, and others relating to public attitudes. Messaging in relation to COVID has, at times, been difficult to follow and any requirements beyond that have been postponed.</p> <p>Skills Development Scotland (SDS) secured funding for Apex Scotland to deliver 6 full day sessions to S2/3 pupils in Eyemouth High School focusing on the consequences of criminality in the community. Individuals had been</p>	<p>Throughout the pandemic the Scottish Borders Community Justice Board has met on a bi-monthly basis using Microsoft Teams. Attendance has been good. The agenda has been adjusted to give it a thematic structure around those factors affecting offending behaviour alongside Scottish Government and CJS information and requests. This has enabled partners to feel more engaged with the content of the agenda.</p>



	<p>identified and a joint delivery programme agreed between Apex and SDS. The sessions have been postponed due to COVID.</p> <p>SDS were also in the later stages of planning with the council Whole Systems Approach Co-ordinator, to incorporate general offending lesson plans within SDS groupwork delivery for S2/3 pupils. A pilot was agreed in advance of a wider rollout following feedback though was cancelled due to COVID with no SDS groupwork having been delivered this year.</p> <p>Both projects are pending.</p> <p>Suspension of CPO Unpaid Work. As a result of COVID “lockdown” restrictions, resulted in delivery of unpaid work being suspended over 2 extended periods April 2020 and December 2020. This has resulted in an unprecedented number of unmet hours: at 31<sup>st</sup> March 20: 10,996.</p>	<p>Powers implemented by the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020 and the Coronavirus (Scotland) (No.2) Act 2020 legislated for the extension of pre-existing orders, allowing additional time for CPO order completion.</p> <p>The Community Orders (Scotland) Regulations 2021, that came into force 15 March 21, facilitated a 35% reduction to original CPO’s with Unpaid Work or Other Activity, excluding those imposed for domestic abuse, sexual offences or stalking, reducing the number of unmet hours in the Borders by 5,095.</p> <p>Recent data suggests that Diversion from Prosecution requests have almost doubled in the last 12 months (6 requests in 2019/20 to 14 2020/21 as of 20th May). It is possible that this is linked to COVID.</p>
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	<p>Limited access to neutral venues has impacted Youth Justice ability to complete planned offence focussed work and undertake Restorative Justice work especially when this needs to happen out of office hours.</p> <p>Early Intervention work was suspended during “lockdowns” and the programme integrity of the Offence Resolution Programme (ORP) remains compromised due to it not being possible to arrange Police Station visits.</p> <p>New staff to Youth Justice have had their learning opportunities limited through lack of face to face training opportunities and limited observational learning.</p> <p>Communication about under 18’s in custody has been inconsistent making it difficult to plan for and organise staff to provide Bail Support or Court Support to young people appearing in Court.</p> <p>The Bail Support Pilot has been hampered by delays to court proceeds.</p> <p>SPS continue to run a restricted regime because of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Family visits restarted in April. As before social distancing measures are in place and this reduces significantly the number of people who can attend in each session.</p>	<p>Prison numbers had reduced significantly since last year and particularly in the early stages of the pandemic.</p> <p>The pandemic has provided an opportunity to focus on pieces of work that may not have been taken forward as quickly otherwise. Virtual Visits have been introduced and have been a great success. Each prison has a number of visit stations and residents are able to see and speak to named individuals outside the prison via their mobile device or laptop. Picture and sound quality is very good and residents have reported being very emotional about seeing their loved ones at home, in the garden or a space with fond memories.</p> <p>Residents also now have mobile phones in-cell for keeping in touch with friends and family during the lockdown. Arrangements are in place to ensure devices are not misused, and there are limitations in functionality.</p> <p>Prisons are still focussed on essential work – laundry, kitchen, housekeeping, grounds, industrial cleaning and waste management. A Recovery Service has also been created and the first person leave the prison and get a place in a residential rehab facility. In line with the rest of the Scottish Prison Service (SPS) are now starting to look at ways of extending the regime whilst still maintaining safety standards.</p>
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	<p>The impacts on Police have been significant and varied, in particular understand and apply new COVID Legislation and Regulations, and manage public expectations. There have undoubtedly been new demands, not least in relation to Anti-Social behaviour, but in other areas too, in particular online offences. Through necessity, a requirement to alter the way community engagement and incident response was approached. The need to strike the balance between maximising visibility and limiting unnecessary direct public contact was essential. An increased the use of phone reporting and promoted the use of diary appointments was utilised.</p> <p>During lockdown, there were obvious issues for police with engaging and interacting with youth offenders as a result it was difficult to gain clarity and context of incidents from both offenders and victims. There were further issues in the delay for Locality Integration Officers (LIO) to undertake Restorative Justice Warnings (RJ) and for Education to assist with intervention/diversion for those young people who do not merit being reported to PF, SCRA, Youth Justice SW, etc.</p>	<p>Vaccinations have started in prisons for residents. Prisons will be following the same process as communities in delivering vaccinations in age order and also prioritising people with underlying health conditions.</p> <p>The police system in the Borders of engaging and reporting young people who commit crimes has worked well throughout COVID. The Juvenile Liaison officers has regular open dialogue with Youth Justice, and Social Work which permits a quick and responsive action to intervention/diversion to allow the behaviour to be addressed without undue delay.</p>
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## 6. Performance Reporting – National Outcomes

This section is designed to capture the evidence and data that has been used by your Partnership over the reporting period to assess progress against the national outcomes.

This year we are asking you to report on each outcome rather than against every indicator (as in previous years) but we ask that you report against the outcome **taking account** of the indicators. Please detail any specific impacts (positive and negative) the Covid-19 pandemic had on activity or progress under each of the outcomes.

We encourage you to **share life stories and practice examples** as part of your evidence and data – this enriches the final report and creates deeper understanding of community justice activity.

Please indicate where any particular factors have been a **hindrance in making progress** against a particular outcome.

### NATIONAL OUTCOME ONE

Communities improve their understanding and participation in community justice

#### Where applicable have regard to the following indicators:

- Activities carried out to engage with ‘communities’ as well as other relevant constituencies
- Consultation with communities as part of community justice planning and service provision
- Participation in community justice, such as co-production and joint delivery
- Level of community awareness of / satisfaction with work undertaken as part of a CPO
- Evidence from questions to be used in local surveys / citizens’ panels and so on
- Perceptions of the local crime data

	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
<b>Evidence and Data</b>	Staff from across the partnership have been deployed to COVID related roles. The council	The needs of people across the Scottish Borders were assessed and met, including those who were

	<p>Strategic Community Engagement officer has been redeployed into the COVID Community Assistance Hubs since March 2020. Given the level of COVID messaging and demand placed upon services no specific Community Justice engagement activity has taken place.</p> <p>All Community Justice Scotland campaign material has been distributed among the local Community Justice Board for use on their social media sites. It has been important not to conflict COVID messaging with other social media posts.</p> <p>A number of justice social work staff were redeployed during the initial and subsequent lockdown periods to support the community through the undertaking of shielding calls. Some social work staff were relocated to Community Assistance Hubs and local health centres to assist in the undertaking of ongoing communication and ensure support services were in place. Support was available to all parts of the community.</p> <p>The unpaid work service staff assisted with the delivery of food parcels, medication and other essential goods to those identified as requiring support through the Shielding calls, Hubs, and Out of Hours social work service.</p> <p>During 2020/21 no specific consultation have been undertaken. The Police, Fire and Safer Communities</p>	<p>subject to significant periods of self-isolation and were vulnerable due to health and lack of local family and other support networks. Food poverty was an area of significant concern and close liaison with Food Banks, other charities and volunteers helped to ensure individuals and families had sufficient resources irrespective of having contact with the justice system or not. Five Community Assistance Hubs were established across our localities supported by a network of volunteers.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1294 1267 1912 1374"> <thead> <tr> <th><b>Group 1 – 5</b></th> <th><b>19/20</b></th> <th><b>20/21</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Crimes</td> <td>3516</td> <td>3495</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detections</td> <td>56.2%</td> <td>55.2%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Group 1 – 5</b>	<b>19/20</b>	<b>20/21</b>	Crimes	3516	3495	Detections	56.2%	55.2%
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	<p>Board has continued to function on a quarterly basis and <b>crime data</b> explained and discussed. Violent crime rose; the majority took place behind closed doors, and where the victim and perpetrator were known to each other. Domestic and sexual violence remains underreported; police increased targeting repeat criminal behaviour by pro-active enforcement of bail conditions. Responding to community intelligence they increased attention to the supply of drugs, and focused to disrupting organised crime. Domestic and overall Housebreaking fell significantly, for reasons that are comparatively easy to understand.</p>	<p>Per 10,000 pop      304.4                      302.6</p> <p>Groups 1 – 3 have shown an increase while groups 3 and 4 are down. Increases in group 5 show an increase in bail and drug offences.</p> <p>ASB incidents are up as a consequence of alleged COVID related breaches.</p> <p> council-quarterly-bulletin-quarter-4-off</p>
<p><b>Other information relevant to National Outcome One</b></p>		
<p>Partners experienced challenges with communicating changes, internally to employees around working practices and COVID restriction compliance, and externally with partners, stakeholders and clients who needed to access services. The opportunity to consider and act to communicate on Community Justice was incompatible with the unfolding situation.</p>		



**NATIONAL OUTCOME TWO**

Partners plan and deliver services in a more strategic and collaborative way

**Where applicable have regard to the following indicators:**

- Services are planned for and delivered in a strategic and collaborative way
- Partners have leveraged resources for community justice
- Development of community justice workforce to work effectively across organisational/professional /geographical boundaries
- Partners illustrate effective engagement and collaborative partnership working with the authorities responsible for the delivery of MAPPA

	<b>Please describe the activity</b>	<b>Then describe the impact</b>
<b>Evidence and Data</b>	<p>Skills Development Scotland (SDS) have held staff continuous professional development sessions on Disclosure of Convictions Awareness facilitated by Apex Scotland following the recent legislation changes to Disclosures of Convictions in Scotland.</p> <p>A SDS Work Coach attends the EEI (Early and Effective Intervention) meetings which are held every four weeks. EII operates on a multiagency group basis with it being led by a Team Leader, Youth Justice, Throughcare &amp; Aftercare. In attendance are representatives from the Police, Quarriers, NHS Borders and SDS. The aim is to support young people who have been charged by the Police, helping to prevent future offences/charges being taken further. The agencies involved provide appropriate interventions which will support that young person's behaviour and well-being.</p>	Too early to assess impact.



	<p>The management of individuals subject to MAPPA, continued throughout the reporting year. Meetings initially delivered by phone conference were quickly transferred onto the Microsoft Teams platform. All Level 2 panel members were in a position to maintain engagement, resulting in uninterrupted management of risk.</p> <p>Risk Management Case Conferences, have been adapted for delivery via phone conference arrangements.</p> <p>Council domestic abuse services have been operational throughout the pandemic with no break in service. Incidents are assessed against the referrals to services being made to ensure all victims of domestic abuse are offered support, risk assessment and safety planning.</p> <p>The domestic abuse Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC), supporting victims of abuse,</p>	<p>Maintained oversight of Risk Management for individuals subject to MAPPA. Provided support and reassurance to staff from across agencies, that plans were robust and deliverable despite, the challenges of COVID restrictions.</p> <p>Risk Management Plans maintained the required level of review and scrutiny.</p> <p>Plans were managed and adapted in line with the local Justice Service RAG rating, ensuring priority contact for those assessed as High and Very High risk, and responding to the challenges of prison liberation, for those requiring to travel across Local Authorities in differing restriction tiers.</p> <p>While both methods of delivery meet the need to review levels of risk and management plans, they are often interrupted by technical issues and background distractions, not conducive to the nature of discussion.</p> <p>There were 1282 incidents reported to Police Scotland, 12.9% higher than 2019/20. Resulting in 453 referrals. While less than the previous year the difference can be explained by a restructure resulting in fewer separate components with different referral routes. 32.6% of clients supported by the service are re referred within 12 months of a case closure.</p> <p><b>MARAC</b></p>
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	<p>has functioned throughout the pandemic using Microsoft Teams. Attendance has been good and cases have increased by 20.6%.</p> <p>The data sharing agreement between the Scottish Prison Service and Scottish Borders Council is working well and information passed on a weekly basis.</p> <p>In addition to the Welfare Worker, the Community Justice Board agreed to the proposal to use transition funding to recruit a Community Justice coordinator to provide protected time to develop the agenda with the partners. This is expected to reach fruition during 2021/22.</p>	<p>2019/20 = 102 2020/21 = 123</p> <p>Council and prison staff are able to liaise over releases and make offers of support made on identified needs. We have health checked our own approach against that of another council and found similarity of process, adjusted to reflect local circumstances.</p>
<p><b>Other information relevant to National Outcome Two</b></p>		
<p>The Board received a presentation from Social Security Scotland (SSS) and the roadmap for change across the benefits system. In addition to regular Department of Work and Pensions representation at meetings this also provided a contact for members within SSS.</p>		



### NATIONAL OUTCOME THREE

People have better access to the services that they require, including welfare, health and wellbeing, housing and employability

**Where applicable have regard to the following indicators:**

- Partners have identified and are overcoming structural barriers for people accessing services
- Existence of joint-working arrangements such as processes / protocols to ensure access to services to address underlying needs
- Initiatives to facilitate access to services
- Speed of access to mental health services
- % of people released from a custodial sentence:
  - a) registered with a GP
  - b) have suitable accommodation
  - c) have had a benefits eligibility check
- Targeted interventions have been tailored for and with an individual and had a successful impact on their risk of further offending

	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
<p><b>Evidence and Data</b></p>	<p>Berwickshire Housing Association (BHA) represent the other Registered Social Landlords at the Community Justice Board.</p> <p>BHA are partnering with Penumbra on mental health and wellbeing links to tenancy sustainability are made. The financial inclusion team raised over 1M in eligible benefits during the period. Housing officers monitor tenancies and try to take action early when concerns are identified. The SHORE priority pass comes with a package of support though has been fairly dormant during the pandemic.</p>	<p>It is not always evident to the landlord who has been in custody or working with statutory justice services. Access to support in relation to benefits and wellbeing are available to all and housing officers maintain close contact with tenants facilitating access to services.</p>



	<p>Staff from the housing associations have maintained contact with their tenants during periods of lockdown and have close links to council and third sector support.</p> <p>During initial lockdown the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership (ADP) Assertive Engagement Service was able to support individuals to stay safe and sustain access to opiate substitution therapy (OST - e.g. methadone) while drop-in clinics were unable to be held due to social distancing requirements.</p> <p>Alcohol brief interventions take place in the Police Custody suite in Hawick and also in Justice Social Work while completing CJSW reports. Individuals can be referred on as required.</p> <p>A new Injecting Equipment Provision site was opened in Selkirk based on service user feedback.</p> <p>Provision of Take Home Naloxone was extended to Justice Social Work, mental health and housing. A Naloxone Peer Supply programme was started with the first anticipated drop in commencing June 2021.</p> <p>The Local Delivery Plan Standard (LDP) for alcohol and drugs waiting times is that 90% of individuals should start treatment within three weeks of referral. In Scottish Borders 99% of people started treatment</p>	<p>46% of individuals who started OST in the year started on the same day as the initial assessment and in quarter 4 2020-21 no one waited more than 8 calendar days to start. 51 people are now receiving Buprenorphine treatment (13% of case load).</p> <p>243 ABI's were carried out in the Custody Suite and 17 in Justice Social Work settings. These are both at lower levels than previous reporting years due to changes in practice while social distancing guidelines are in place.</p> <p>In 2020-21 there were 49 first supplies of Take Home Naloxone provided across Borders. A target had been set to supply 28 first supplies of THN in the year. Since the programme started in 2011 we have now provided 439 first supplies of take home Naloxone which is 86% of our estimated population of opiates/benzodiazepines drug users. 1602 total supplies have been distributed.</p> <p>Being in drug treatment is a protective factor against drug related deaths.</p> <p>In Quarter 4 2020-21 Borders saw 86% of people within this time frame compared to 80% in Scotland overall.</p>
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	<p>within three weeks; four people waited longer than three weeks and no one waited over six weeks.</p> <p>The referral to treatment times for psychological therapies is 18 weeks. A new primary care mental health service 'Renew' commenced in October 2020 ensuring smooth triage from primary care to appropriate mental health interventions across different tiers.</p> <p>The Children and Young People's Leadership Group commissions Quarriers Resilience for Wellbeing Service to provide a solution focussed time limited intervention for young people to improve mental health and emotional wellbeing. The team are based in each of the nine secondary schools in Borders. Service is delivered through one-to-one sessions, small and large bespoke groups and drop-in sessions when social distancing allows.</p> <p>The creation of a 2 year Wellbeing Officer post, generated through joint funding from the Joint Health Improvement Team and Scottish Borders Community Justice transition funding has progressed. The post was approved and prepared for advertisement at the point of initial lockdown. As a result the advertisement was put on hold. This will be taken forward in 2021 when conditions supporting recruitment have improved.</p>	<p>In 2020-21 the service received 614 referrals (568 in 2019-20). The majority of referrals are from schools but self, parent, GP and social work referrals also take place. The service uses a 'wellbeing web' to measure progress and figures show an increase across all wellbeing indicators. The indicators that show the greatest increase are 'healthy', 'achieving' and 'included'.</p> <p>The Wellbeing Officer post will seek to break down barriers of discrimination, health including physical, mental and oral hygiene and social isolation for those involved in the Justice System across the Scottish Borders. Enhancing opportunities for positive outcomes including reduced offending behaviour, social inclusion and enhanced healthy living.</p>
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	<p>Access to suitable housing is a key part of Community Justice. Rapid Rehousing is an element of a whole-system approach whereby the responsibility for tackling homelessness lies not just with Local Authorities but with housing providers, Health and Social Care Partnerships and the broad range of organisations that provide support. Housing First is a key component. Housing First provides general settled housing as a first response for people with complex needs, recognising that a safe and secure home is the best base for recovery, and offers personalised, open-ended, flexible support for people to end their experience of homelessness and address wider needs.</p> <p>The Scottish Borders Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan (RRTP) 2019/20- 2023/24 describes how Scottish Borders Council and its partners, Page 15 of 27 including the Borders Housing Alliance and the Health and Social Care Integration Strategic Planning Group, will reshape services in the Scottish Borders in the period to 2023/2024 so that homelessness is prevented wherever possible but where homelessness cannot be prevented a settled mainstream housing outcome will be secured as quickly as possible.</p>	<p>Following a successful tender process Cyrenians have been appointed to deliver a two year Housing First pilot within Scottish Borders. Support delivery is expected to commence in September 2021.</p> <p>Future RRTP actions directly relating to Community Justice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a SHORE working group to take forward the SHORE standards and embed them into operational practice within Scottish Borders by 30/06/2021</li> <li>• Review and evaluate the operation of SHORE implementation by 30/09/2021</li> <li>• Conclude the Duty to Cooperate protocol for homelessness applicants subject to MAPPA. Ensuring that it is aligned to the visions of RRTP. Include relevant elements of service development arising from the SHORE working group by 31/03/2022</li> <li>• Review the delivery of services, develop housing and support pathways for the following groups, with the aim of preventing or alleviating homelessness for; Individuals with an offending history by 31/03/2022</li> <li>• Consider the findings of the Housing First pilot in order to develop and implement a full Housing First model that meets the needs of people with multiple needs in the Scottish Borders and which, as far as is possible in a rural context, conforms with the 7 principles of Housing First by 31/03/2024</li> </ul>
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The Scottish Borders Council Homeless Service is the interface point for people leaving prison who have no fixed address.

Number of statutory applications where the last settled address is recorded as Prison:

2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
28	34	21

The SPS/Council information sharing protocol which was adopted in 2019/2020 and has improved the information sharing arrangements and has contributed to the aspirations of SHORE, allowing for earlier intervention both in terms of the prevention and resolution of homelessness.

A Scottish Borders Council Employability Operational Group work with partners on the delivery of existing and new employability schemes.

Outcomes of these statutory homeless presentations:

	2018/19	2019/20	2020/2021
RSL Tenancy	11	13	5
Custody	8	12	3
Lost Contact	6	4	3
Friends/Family	0	1	0
Returned to last settled	1	0	1
Deceased	0	0	1
Supported Accommodation	0	0	1
Withdrew application	1	2	0
Case that remain open at time of reporting (05.07.2021)	1	2	7
Case that remain open at time of reporting (05.07.2021)	1	2	7

These schemes are available to people who have been in the justice system, there is no requirement to disclose this is the case.



	<p>Existing schemes are; No One Left Behind; European Social Fund; Edinburgh City Regional Deal for Disadvantaged Families.</p> <p>New schemes; Kickstart; Youth Guarantee Fund and PACE.</p> <p>This links to the Borders Learning and Skills Employability Partnership – Adult Group.</p>	
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**Other information relevant to National Outcome Three**

Over the last year numbers of 16-19 year olds in custody (Skills Development Scotland target group) has fluctuated from 0-3, currently 1. Working with the Young Peoples Group work is developing on an interactive leaflet outlining support and options available for young people not in education, employment or training. When complete this should be suitable to share with the SPS as a signposting tool for those being released from Polmont and returning to Borders.

A system of youth warning letters has been introduced by police, this alert parents to negative behaviour their child may have been involved in, YTD 185 letters have been sent. Follow up contact is infrequent.



## NATIONAL OUTCOME FOUR

Effective interventions are delivered to prevent and reduce the risk of further offending

### Where applicable have regard to the following indicators:

- Use of 'other activities requirements' in CPOs
- Effective risk management for public protection
- Quality of CPOs and DTTOs
- Reduced use of custodial sentences and remand:
  - a) Balance between community sentences relative to short custodial sentences under one year
  - b) Proportion of people appearing from custody who are remanded
- The delivery of interventions targeted at problem drug and alcohol use [NHS Local Delivery Plan (LDP) Standard]
- Number of Police Recorded Warnings, police diversion, fiscal measures, fiscal diversion, supervised bail, community sentences (including CPOs, DTTOs and RLOs)
- Number of short-term sentences under one year

	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
<b>Evidence and Data</b>	<p>The Joint Health Improvement Team works with the Justice Service's team growing a range of produce at a greenhouse site in Galashiels. Produce is distributed back into community through service settings and activities that support children and families.</p> <p>Justice clients are provided with REHIS training and cookery classes</p> <p>Representatives from the Justice Delivery Group and Community Justice Board sit on the Public Protection Committee, ensuring the relevant and timeous sharing of information and multi-agency collaboration pertinent to the management of risk.</p>	<p>Galashiels Early ears Centre used the produce to top up 300 food parcels for children and families.</p> <p>Multi agency approach and solution focused outcomes for the management of risk. Identification and development of local early interventions.</p>



	<p>As a result of consistently low DTTO numbers a full review of service was initiated in early 2021. Though not complete, initial findings suggest that the introduction of CPO and evolving methodologies in therapeutic treatment and support are resulting in DTTO not meeting the needs of those presenting at court with offending behaviours linked to drug use, and are therefore not meeting the expectation of the Court.</p> <p>Throughout the COVID pandemic key focus has been placed on the management of risk. A RED: AMBER : GREEN, list was produced and reviewed weekly, identifying all those who were engaged with the service and who were assessed as presenting High or Very High risk of harm and or who were considered vulnerable e.g. due to mental health, domestic violence or erratic substance use. Those within the red category continued to be engaged with on a weekly, face to face basis at the office. Home visits were restricted and undertaken when assessed as necessary. Those on the amber and green lists were contacted via telephone and on a less frequent basis.</p> <p>Use of Other Activity: has been enhanced as per outcomes 5 &amp; 6.</p> <p>In April 2020, two members of the Youth Justice team facilitated a “one off” session at two different High Schools within the council area. The purpose of each</p>	<p>The review will identify barriers to DTTO delivery and allow us to adapt and strengthen service provision to those presenting with drug related offending behaviours. This will enhance the Courts confidence in utilising this disposal. Section 27 funding will be targeted at securing redefined service user outcomes. Partnership working with Addiction colleagues will be strengthened.</p> <p>Ensured effective and robust management of risk throughout the initial and subsequent lock down periods.</p> <p>Facilitated continued contact and support to those assessed as vulnerable, providing a degree on continuity and welfare support.</p> <p>Approximately 40 students in total participated in these sessions and at the time of writing, it is known that 1 young person has been charged with an</p>
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	<p>session was to have input with groups of young people who had been identified as at risk of/already engaging in criminality or anti-social behaviour.</p>	<p>offence and another is thought to have committed an offence but has not been charged.</p>
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**Other information relevant to National Outcome Four**

The figures below illustrate the prisoner population from the Borders at the start and end of the reporting period.

<b>Prison Population</b>	<b>04/21</b>	<b>04/20</b>
Prisoners Total	65	47
Female	2	3
Remand	25	10
6 Mths less than 2 years	10	7
2 – 4 years	6	4
4 years and over	22	24



## NATIONAL OUTCOME FIVE

Life chances are improved through needs, including health, financial inclusion, housing and safety, being addressed

### Have regard to the following indicator:

- Individuals have made progress against the outcome

	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
<b>Evidence and Data</b>	<p>Justice Social Work concluded the commissioning of employment and training support with the 3<sup>rd</sup> sector organisation Works+. Funding has been secured for 1 year.</p> <p>In common with other Registered Social Landlords Eildon Housing Association, undertake post-allocation visit between 6-8 weeks after tenant moves into tenancy to reinforce tenancy conditions – earlier if risk indicators present. One to one support is offered by the tenancy sustainment service when a tenancy under threat. Liaison with Justice Services and prison staff when a tenant is on remand to ensure the obligations of tenancy are met. Generally a tenancy remains live while a tenant is on remand awaiting sentencing essentially with an intention to return, and if sentence is longer than 52 weeks, they are supported to terminate the tenancy at that stage. Housing options advice is given when rehousing to a</p>	<p>Through the delivery of employability support, Works+ will assist individuals referred to them by justice social work with employability and or training support and guidance. The outcome of which will seek to overcome barriers into training and employment opportunities. The service will support people aged 18+ and aims to enhance desistance from further offending, improve employment outcomes for service users, and build safer communities across the Scottish Borders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Following a remand early in 2020 a family member emptied the property and returned the keys on the tenant's behalf when he was sentenced.</li><li>• A tenant awaiting a court hearing has been in contacted for advice about what will happen should there be a prison sentence. The landlord is awaiting details of the sentence and at that point with liaison with the prison.</li><li>• Following a drug seizure from a property, the tenancy is at risk regardless of prison sentence once convicted. As a breach of tenancy.</li></ul>

	<p>different location may help to reduce the risk of issues escalating</p> <p>Early and Effective Intervention (EEI) for 16/17 year olds.</p> <p>Diversion from Prosecution for u18's.</p> <p>A Bail Support Scheme (Pilot) was developed to run from January 2020 to December 2020 to offer support to those under 18 who were subject to Police or Court bail conditions to understand and comply with these and reduce the likelihood of them committing procedural offences.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A tenant who was imprisoned kept accruing arrears as his benefits stopped. Until sentenced wanted to keep the tenancy. This required close cooperation with the prison to try and provide appropriate advice and support around options.</li> </ul> <p>26 referrals were considered by EEI for Police Direct measures or diversion via Social Work or 3<sup>rd</sup> sector partners including Quarriers and SDS between 1<sup>st</sup> April 19 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 20.</p> <p>Between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 and 31<sup>th</sup> March 2021 16 referrals were considered through a formal EEI meeting.</p> <p>Between 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019 and 20<sup>th</sup> May 2020 6 requests for Diversion were made by the PF for Diversion assessments for under 18's. For the same period 2020-21, 14 requests were received by Youth Justice. Whilst three of these referrals were considered unsuitable, there is evidence of an upwards trend in diversion referrals during the period covering the COVID pandemic.</p> <p>Due to COVID-19 there have been very few young people appear in Court under 18 where this service could be offered and therefore the benefits measured. To try to evaluate whether such a service would be beneficial and effective, Youth Justice have extended this pilot to run until December 2021. To</p>
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	<p>Alternatives to Secure Care and Custody - Development of guidance and assessment procedure for Movement Restriction Conditions (MRC) as a direct alternative to use of secure care.</p> <p>The Housing Option Protocol (HOP) continues to provide a priority housing pathway for young people leaving care to avoid them entering homeless</p>	<p>date, two young people have been offered a service with one accepting support. This young person, has been supported to understand expectations of appearing at Court, to make contact with, and meet with a Solicitor prior to his Court date. There are no reports of procedural offences or noncompliance known.</p> <p>Following the Borders implementing MRC successfully in 2019/20 for the first time since the legislation was implemented, guidance for the use of MRC's and an assessment procedure was finalised in December 2020. Since this time, the Borders has had one further MRC case.</p> <p>Training has also been delivered to a cohort of around 40 Children's Panel members in September 2020 to raise awareness of the local guidance for Social Work practitioners, along with, input on good MRC practice.</p> <p>A local South East Scotland panel Chair feedback:</p> <p><i>“Thank you so much for the great input you gave to SES panel members. It was very informative. I hope this will have given panel members more to think about when considering cases involving young people who may meet this criteria”.</i></p> <p>HOP Panel meetings continue to take place monthly (where there are referrals) and young people considered for “Duty to Cooperate” referrals to RSL's.</p>
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	<p>accommodation upon leaving care and support tenancy sustainment.</p> <p>Albert Place Supported Accommodation provides four supported tenancies to care leavers and Training flat access is available to give opportunities for young people to “trial” independent living.</p> <p>Whole Systems Approach Report.</p>	<p>Tenancy sustainment figures indicate that care leaver tenancy sustainment is currently approximately 90%.</p> <p>Between April 2020 and March 2021 four young people have had tenancies at Albert Place. Training flat use has been compromised by COVID issues with periods of closure, however, between 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021, 10 different young people used the training flat totalling 191 overnight stays during this time.</p> <p>Following the recruitment of a short term WSA Co-Ordinator, through temporary funding by Scottish Government to consider ways to reinvigorate WSA, a findings report was completed in November 2020. This outlined achievements from the WSA work plan across 2019-20 and future suggestions to further reinvigorate WSA.</p>
<p><b>Other information relevant to National Outcome Five</b></p>		



## NATIONAL OUTCOME SIX

People develop positive relationships and more opportunities to participate and contribute through education, employment and leisure activities

### Have regard to the following indicator:

- Individuals have made progress against the outcome

	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
<b>Evidence and Data</b>  March 21 Adult Learning	<p>Justice Social Work completed the commissioning for a 2 year Adult Learning Service with The Community Learning and Development Service.</p> <p>Community Learning and Development Service will deliver learning to learners, referred by the Justice Social Work Service through a combination of virtual, postal and face to face platforms, as appropriate and as COVID restrictions allow.</p> <p>Providing a bespoke learning service to those aged 18 +, to access sustained engagement in learning, achieve self-identified goals through an Individual Learning Plan, gain SQA accreditation and progress to other learning opportunities (CLD service, Borders College, Open University, etc.)</p> <p>The Throughcare and Aftercare Team (TCAC) support the running of a 2 month Participation night for care experienced young people.</p>	<p>To build confidence, remove barriers, set realistic targets and reduce the risk of further offending behaviour for participants.</p> <p>To promote community integration and inclusion through supported learning and access to and engagement with local training resources.</p> <p>During the Pandemic young people have taken part via Teams/Zoom in online quizzes, games and a Christmas party to reduce feelings of isolation and loneliness.</p>

	<p>Improving Restorative Justice practice</p>	<p>Youth Justice organised Restorative Justice training, facilitated by CJS over 5 days in November/December 2020. This event was attended by Youth Justice, Throughcare and Aftercare (TCAC) Team, Justice Team and Duty Team staff. The aim being to upskill staff in the use of RJ with opportunities to offer an RJ service for victims being considered in TCAC.</p> <p>A victim feedback form has been developed to obtain victim's views on the effectiveness of the Offence Resolution Programme (ORP) which includes an RJ element.</p> <p>RJ modules have been developed both to support the understanding of the process for those responsible for harm and victims (where the victim is also a child)</p> <p><b>Case example of RJ Practice</b></p> <p>A recent good example of RJ practice in YJ relates to an incident where the victim received life changing injuries as a result of a violent incident. Shuttle dialogue process has been used between person harmed and responsible to establish the harm caused short/medium/long term and shared with the person responsible.</p> <p>Recent feedback from the person harmed family regarding the benefit of RJ is as follows:</p> <p><i>"It was incredibly supportive to hear our child speak with you in that way and as parents we had even more to reflect on when you left.</i></p>
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		<p><i>Very quickly you showed signs to our son that you acknowledged the nature, depth and breadth of his pain, fear, anger and sadness he is feeling. Our son warmed to you and you held his story with respect and empathy.”</i></p> <p>The feedback from the perpetrators family regarding the RJ is as follows:</p> <p><i>“It has certainly been a difficult week with a huge range of emotions for us all. Our son has struggled at times to be honest. Once he had calmed down after his initial response, we have had some really good discussions. I can see a shift in his general behaviour and more awareness.</i></p> <p><i>Although this is not a process I would have ever wanted for our son to have to participate in I do feel that it is proving useful for him and I hope the person harmed also.</i></p> <p><i>I would like to say thank you for your professional advice and help through not just the restorative justice but also the whole process we are currently going through. Your work with our son is very much appreciated.”</i></p>
<p><b>Other information relevant to National Outcome Six</b></p>		



## NATIONAL OUTCOME SEVEN

Individuals' resilience and capacity for change and self-management are enhanced

### Have regard to the following indicator:

- Individuals have made progress against the outcome

	Please describe the activity	Then describe the impact
<b>Evidence and Data</b>	<p>The ADP uses a tool called Star Outcomes to support recovery planning and assess distance travelled across a range of dimension.</p>	<p>Of clients who had a review of their star during 2020-21 16 identified as having a score of 6 or below in relation to the 'offending' dimension on their baseline star. An individual reporting no issues would score a 10, i.e. higher scores report a more positive situation. Of those 16 people the average score at first assessment was 4.1; at the most recent follow-up for those clients the average score was 6.3 No scores deteriorated between baseline and most recent review.</p> <p>Due to changes in service delivery during COVID-19 Borders Addiction Service was unable to undertake Star reviews.</p>
Trauma Informed Practice February 21	<p>The service delivered a follow up day to justice staff, who completed the initial 2 day specialist trauma training delivered by Epione; training and consultancy in 2019, as part of the Community Justice roll out of trauma informed and responsive Justice services across Scotland. In undertaking this training, justice social work staff are better placed to work with those who have experienced trauma, utilising trauma</p>	<p>Social Work staff are better equipped to engage with those who have experience of trauma, facilitating enhanced relationships, safer discussion, disclosure opportunities and appropriate partnership referrals. The culmination of which will be improved mental health through links into appropriate health services, and cognitive decision making by those affected by trauma who find themselves in the justice system.</p>



	informed models of engagement to support and enhance engagement, information sharing, case plan management and sign posting to other services.	
<b>Other information relevant to National Outcome Seven</b>		
<p>Accessing Community Mental Health services can be challenging, there are limited resources and increasing demands. Within Scottish Borders the availability of forensic mental health provision impacts on the undertaking of forensic assessment utilised to inform Risk Management Plans, including risks presented by those subject to MAPPAs. The Justice Social Work service welcomes the Barron Report, including recommendations for a National NHS Board, review of the definition and purpose of forensic mental health services: <i>including personality disorder</i>, improved service provision for women, expectations for multi-disciplinary teams, prison transfer, services for children and young people and the provision of forensic mental health expertise to external agencies, including MAPPAs. In the absence of a coherent, adequately resourced multi-agency service, the outcomes for those in the justice system and who experience poor mental health, including trauma and personality disorder will remain poor.</p>		



## 7. Partnership Achievement

The main achievement was in keeping the partnership functioning against a background of changing circumstance and individual organisational demand. Maintaining close contact with SPS through information sharing helped to retain synergy between services and the people they are supporting.

## 8. Challenges

While the Community Justice Board was able to function during the reporting year, COVID restrictions had an impact on staff time as a number had been deployed onto COVID related duties. Direct face to face contact was restricted and services delivered remotely.

## 9. Additional Information

