

ANGUS COUNCIL

FAMILY, EDUCATION AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE – 15 AUGUST 2024

**ANGUS COMMUNITY JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP (ACJP) LOCAL AREA REPORT
APRIL 2022 - MARCH 2023**

REPORT BY KATHYRN LINDSAY, CHIEF EXECUTIVE ANGUS COUNCIL

1. ABSTRACT

This report presents the Angus Community Justice Partnership (ACJP) Local Area Report for March 2022 to April 2023. The report is intended to provide an overview of the work of the ACJP and brief members on the priority areas moving into the next year. The [Angus Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan \(ACJOIP\) 2020-23](#) has been extended for a further year until 31 March 2024 with work currently underway to conclude the plan 2024 – 2027 ensuring that alignment is made with other Protecting People Partnerships and Committees within Angus.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICIES

The Angus Community Plan 2022-30:

Reducing inequalities in all our communities

Create more opportunities for people to live well and achieve their personal goals.

The Council Plan 2023-2028:

Support children, young people and adults to access appropriate opportunities which allow them to progress in their learning protect those in our communities who are at risk of or have experienced significant harm.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that the Family, Education and Justice Committee:

- (i) Considers and acknowledges the Angus Community Justice Partnership (ACJP) Annual Report 2022 to 2023 (appended to the report);
- (ii) Considers and acknowledges the key trends and areas for development emerging from the report; and
- (iii) Acknowledges the Council's cross departmental responsibilities in relation to Community Justice.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The ACJP is a strategic group of public agencies and the Third Sector established in the context of the Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016. Partners work together to reduce re-offending, tackle antisocial behaviour, and improve the lives and life chances of people in the justice system and those being supported (from point of arrest), to successfully rehabilitate into their local communities.
- 4.2 The ACJP completes a national return annually. In addition, each local area also completes and publishes a Local Area Report, providing an outline of partnership activity.
- 4.3 This Local Area Report of ACJP for the period April 2022 to March 2023 presents the work undertaken across Angus to deliver national, Tayside-wide, and local Community Justice outcomes to improve the lives of those living and working within the Angus community.
- 4.4 The Annual Report was approved by Community Justice Partnership on 21 November 2023 and the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) on 18 January 2024.

- 4.5 The ACJP is chaired by Kathryn Baker, Chief Executive Officer Tayside Council on Alcohol, who offers leadership, direction, scrutiny and challenge to all members of the ACJP. The ACJP meets minimally 4 times per year with an expectation that ACJP members ensure a high level of attendance either personally by each agencies nominated representative or by an appropriate delegated member. Membership is monitored with proactive work to engage partners. There are no current risks highlighted in respect of partnership engagement.
- 4.6 Support for the ACJP is now provided by the Angus Protecting People Team which enables a more consistent level of support to the Chair and the partnership and improve engagement and reporting into the Community Planning Partnership. Work has taken place in this reporting period to take stock of the work of the partnership and identify areas for improvement. Partners are grateful to Ms Baker for taking the role of Chair and working to the conclusion of the current Plan and engage partners in a shared approach to developing the next plan 2024 – 2027.
- 4.7 The ACJP maintain a risk register highlighting strategic risks. There are no exceptional or unmanaged risks highlighted in the local area report.

5. CURRENT POSITION

- 5.1 ACJP have continued to work together to improve community justice multi-agency working and practice in Angus throughout the reporting period.
- 5.2 Of note during the reporting period are:
- The ACJP saw significant changes to membership. This included a new Chairperson (as noted above), Co-ordinator and becoming further embedded within the Protecting People team and benefitting from the support of their Development Officers. A further benefit to this approach is the aim of all our partnerships to 'think family'. Bringing ACJP alongside our Protecting People Angus Strategic Committee ensures greater collaboration and reduction in duplication of work.
 - The Care and Risk Management (CARM) approach to support young people aged 12 – 18 who present a risk of serious harm to themselves or others, was developed with the establishment of a multi-agency steering group and 2-year improvement plan funded through a successful bid to the Corra Foundation.
 - Gender specific approaches to Justice have continued to be prioritised and developed with both Glen Isla and Glen Clova and various multi-agency initiatives for unpaid work and to promote health and wellbeing.
 - A proactive process is in place for continuity of care when those involved with justice services return to their communities. This includes support with housing, health care and employment support.
 - A Housing strategy is in place which ensures the needs of the people engaged with justice services are met.
 - A collaborative approach to Arrest Referral, ensuring individualised support is being offered.
- 5.3 Key trends from the statistical part of the Local Area Report demonstrate a continued demand across community justice services, these include:
- The average number of people open to Social Work Justice Services at one time is 400.
 - 85% of individuals are managed in the community.
 - 15,593 hours of unpaid work were carried out in the Angus community during the reporting period.
 - 1140 scheduled court appearances during the reporting period.
- 5.4 The Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 places a statutory requirement on the community justice partners for the area of a local authority to publish a plan (CJOIP).

The ACJP [Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan \(CJOIP\) 2020-2023](#) (extended to 2024) is based around the core business functions of a Community Justice Partnership and remains flexible and regularly updated to include any emerging national or local priorities.

5.5 Areas for development and progression:

- Further align with other Protecting People Committees to ensure that there is a whole family approach and less duplication of work.
- New and existing members of the ACJP to continue to build on and grow their collective knowledge together as a multi-agency collective.
- Development of the 2024-2027 Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan (CJOIP) for Angus.
- Continue to roll out the Care and Risk Management (CARM) process, supporting youth justice.

6. PROPOSALS

It is proposed that the Family, Education and Justice Committee:

- 6.1 Considers and acknowledges the Angus Community Justice Partnership (ACJP) Annual Report 2022 to 2023 (appended to the report);
- 6.2 Considers and acknowledges the key trends and areas for development emerging from the report; and
- 6.3 Acknowledges the Council's cross departmental responsibilities in relation to Community Justice

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 8.1 There are no risks arising directly from this report.

9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

10. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT, HUMAN RIGHTS AND FAIRER SCOTLAND DUTY

- 10.1 A screening assessment has been undertaken and a full Equality Impact Assessment is not required for the following reason: - no full EIA is required as this is a report for information and scrutiny.

11. CONSULTATION

Director of Finance, Director of Legal and Democratic Services, Chief Social Work Officer have been consulted in preparation of this report.

NOTE: No background papers, as detailed by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above report.

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List of Appendices:

Appendix 1 ACJP Local Area Report 2022-23