

Participation Statement

The Midlothian Community Safety and Justice Partnership (MCSJP) is committed to engage with people and empower them to contribute to our Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan (CJOIP) and actions across all priority areas.

In preparing the plan we carried out a number of engagement activities which were attended by a number of our strategic partners and wider stakeholders.

Stakeholder	Activity
Statutory Partners	<p>The Midlothian Community Safety and Justice Partnership Board was formed in December 2015. The Board has representation from all of the Community Justice statutory partners and a number of Third Sector organisations.</p> <p>The Midlothian Community Justice Working Group was formed in February 2016 and it was agreed that the remit of this group would include development of the CJOIP and reporting of progress to the Board towards achieving the Common Outcomes.</p> <p>The Working Group met on seven occasions in 2016/17 with a focus on development of the CJOIP. During 2016/17 the Board met on four occasions and provided guidance and scrutiny on the draft CJOIP. The Midlothian CJOIP was published on 31st March 2017.</p>
Public Sector	<p>The Community Justice Partnership Planning Officer has met with a number of local public sector partners including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Safety Violence Against Women and Girls Co-ordinator Mid and East Lothian Drugs Midlothian and East Lothian Drug & Alcohol Partnership Department for Work and Pensions Scottish Prison Service – HMP Edinburgh Lifelong Learning & Employability Children & Families Social Work Education Service Criminal Justice Social Work
Reporting	<p>Regular reports have been provided to the Midlothian Community Safety and Justice Partnership Board and the Midlothian Community Justice Working Group.</p>
Third Sector	<p>There is a strong third sector involvement with the MCSJP with Midlothian Voluntary Action, Victim Support Scotland, Women’s Aid East and Midlothian, Change, Grow, Live and Families Outside having places on either the Board or Working Group.</p> <p>Members of the Working Group represent a number of other third sector organisations such as SHINE, Pink Ladies and Willow.</p>
Public Engagement	<p>In July 2016 an Engagement and Consultation strategy was written. The 2016/17 summer Citizen’s Panel included questions regarding Community Justice to identify some of areas that the public thought</p>

	<p>should be priorities for the CJOIP.</p> <p>In September 2016 we issued a questionnaire to members of the public to gather the thoughts of the wider public on priorities of for the CJOIP. This questionnaire included the questions that were asked of the Citizen's Panel. An Easy Read version of the questionnaire was also produced and print copies were made available at doctor's surgeries, health centres, libraries, sport and leisure centres and council offices.</p> <p>The Community Justice Partnership Planning Officer attended meetings of: Esk Place Residents Association Cowan Court Residents Association The Federation of Midlothian Community Councils Women's Aid East and Midlothian Service User Group</p> <p>There was also a social media campaign using the Council's website, Facebook and Twitter.</p> <p>Further work needs to be carried out to increase engagement with the public.</p>
Victims and Witnesses	<p>Victim Support Scotland were unable to facilitate any focus groups. However, they did distribute our questionnaire on priorities to any clients that were from the Midlothian area.</p> <p>The Community Justice Partnership Planning Officer attended a meeting of the Women's Aid East and Midlothian Service User Group.</p> <p>Other organisations will be contacted as part of an on-going consultation and engagement including Families Outside.</p>
Service Users	<p>The views of people on Community Payback Orders are gathered on a routine basis on completion of the Order.</p>

Participation, engagement and consultation for the development of the Community Justice plan will be ongoing. We will ensure that there is continued liaison and communication between statutory partners, non-statutory partners, third sector organisations, people in communities, victims and witnesses of crime, people that have an offending history and families of people with an offending history to gather their views on how we can reduce offending and re-offending so that these can be reflected in our Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan for forthcoming years.