

Community Safety and Justice

Strategic Plan Engagement 2021

The Midlothian Health and Social Care Partnership is responsible for services that help people live well and get support when they need it. This includes all community health and social care services for adults in Midlothian and some acute hospital-based services.

To support the development of our strategic plan we speak with stakeholders, members of the public and people with lived experiences about their views on the services we deliver and what could be improved.

We would like to thank the **over 500 people** who we spoke with, and the community organisations and service providers we met with. We spoke to people for throughout 2019 and 2020.

Questionnaires completed (450)

- **Community Justice consultation** - including Midlothian residents who were incarcerated in HMP Edinburgh and HMP Cornton Vale and people who live and work in Midlothian. (May/June 2019)

Focus groups/1:1 interviews

- **Community Justice Outcomes and Improvement Plan workshop** with Community Payback service users (Feb 2020).
- **The Women's Service 'Spring' Annual consultation** with service users. (Nov 2020)
- **A focus group with women completing the Spring Service stepping stones project.** (Nov 2020)
- **Formal reviews, discussions on completion of the Order and six weekly focus groups** with people on Community Payback Orders. (Dec 2020)
- **CJOIP Workshop** - statutory partners; third sector organisations; service users with lived experience of the justice system; elected members and Board members. (Feb 2020)
- **Three briefing sessions with staff** who were moving into No. 11. (Summer 2019)
- **Consultation for a new men's service** with clients in the justice system (Feb 2021)

Other engagement

- Two weeks of public consultations at community centres (Nest; Pitcairn Centre; Pink Ladies; Grassy Riggs; Gorebridge Parish Church; Food banks; Leisure Centres x3; Libraries x3; Recovery Café; MELD; Mining Museum; GP surgeries; Orchard Centre; Parent and child groups held. (May – June 2019)
- Event for third sector organisations, service users and stakeholders. (80 people). (Nov 2019)
- **Community Planning Development Day** for statutory and non-statutory partners, members of the public and young people. (Nov 2019 & Nov 2020)
- **The citizen's panel.** (Winter 2020)

Key points



Just over half of respondents were aware of a service/support helping to prevent people from (re)offending in the local area.



Many people thought working with young people to reduce early anti-social behaviour was one of the highest priority areas to reduce reoffending.

People mentioned a need for more preventative work at an early age. Diversion and education from offending, enhanced policing and tougher penalties, reducing alcohol provision and enforcing the law around sale of alcohol to young people, and encouraging parental responsibility were also perceived factors in reducing (re)offending.



Some people thought supporting people to attend school and/or gain qualifications was important in reducing offending.

Suggestions included more active learning and vocational training, additional resources such as specialist provision and early intervention and parental support.



Some people thought supporting families and parents could reduce offending.

Suggestions included improving parental skills and parental education.



Some people thought supporting people with mental health issues could reduce offending.

Suggestions included the need for additional resource in mental health, and intervention in prisons.



There is work to do to raise awareness of organisations and services and their relevance to Community Justice.

In particular promotion of housing/homeless services, finance, and physical health services.



Some people noted a need for noticeable payback for communities and victims

Suggestions included improving local areas, helping more vulnerable members of the community, 'filling the gap' from council cutbacks, and restorative work with victims/survivors. There was support for Unpaid Work that helps to develop skills, work experience or otherwise improves future prospects.