



# THE EDINBURGH PARTNERSHIP

## Community Justice Annual Activity Return 2022/23

### 1. Executive Summary

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- 1.1 Edinburgh's Community Safety and Justice Partnership (CSJP) is responsible for developing and implementing Edinburgh's Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan (CJOIP) on behalf of the Edinburgh Partnership (community planning). The completed Local Area Annual Return Template attached at Appendix 1 contains examples of partner's individual and collective community justice activity in 2022/23.

### 2. Recommendations

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- 2.1 The Board is recommended to:
- i. Consider and approve Edinburgh's Community Justice Local Area Annual Return for 2022/23; a link to the document is provided at Appendix 1.

### 3. Main Report

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- 3.1 Community planning partnerships are required to report annually to Community Justice Scotland (CJS), the national agency responsible for promoting good practice in community justice across Scotland, on community justice activity carried out in their area. CJS provides a template for completion and guidance underpinned by the national [Community Justice Outcomes, Performance and Improvement Framework](#) (OPI Framework). A link to the completed template for the Edinburgh CSJP is provided at Appendix 1.
- 3.2 CJS considers each local authority's community justice activity and provides feedback, including recommendations for future activity returns.
- 3.3 Activity detailed in Edinburgh's Local Area Annual Return supports the Scottish Government's vision for community justice set out in the revised [National Strategy for Community Justice](#) (published in June 2022) which sets out two long term outcomes:
- Ensuring justice services embed person centred and trauma informed practices
  - Working across public services to improve outcomes for individuals focussing on prevention and early intervention

Activity carried out in 2022/23 included:

- Assertive outreach - justice services commissioned an assertive outreach recovery co-ordinator to work within the existing Edinburgh and Midlothian Offending Recovery and Support Service (EMORSS) delivered by Third Sector provider Change Grow Live (CGL). The co-ordinator manages all referrals received via the arrest referral route (when someone is in custody after being arrested) at St Leonard's police station and assertively engages with those who are hard to reach and at higher risk of drug related harm to engage them in supports to address their needs.
- Unpaid work opportunities - options offered to people completing the unpaid work part of a Community Payback Order (CPO) were extended through the commissioning of a garden maintenance project managed by Third Sector provider Cyrenians. The project teaches participants garden planning, maintenance, herb growing plant care, hard landscaping and safe use of garden tools and equipment. The project also focuses on supports for mental health and wellbeing.

### 3.5 Challenges in 2022/23 included:

- Planning and delivering sustainable services within the significant budgetary constraints placed on justice services and within the context of short-term funding allocation. Time limited annual allocation of funding causes difficulties in relation to initiating projects within the time frames allowed for the spend and attracting /retaining staff on short term contracts. Recruitment and procurement costs eat into the funding available which does not support best use of resources.
- Recruitment difficulties in some areas have impacted on the ability of partners to deliver a fully joined up service for people on remand. For example, NHS Lothian has been unable to recruit a prescriber to work alongside EMORSS in HMP Edinburgh to provide continuity of care in prescribing for people moving between prison and community; this is especially relevant for the remand population who may be moved or liberated at short notice. NHS Lothian is exploring other options to try to secure a staff member to support the prison treatment service.

3.6 The CSJP agreed Edinburgh's Local Area Annual Return for 2022/23 on 21 September 2023. Once approved by the Edinburgh Partnership, it will be submitted to CJS.

## 4. Contact

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Appendices:

Appendix 1; [Community Justice Local Area Annual Return 2022/23](#)



