

AUGUST PROJECT CHARTERS

Improvement Project Title:

Increasing the number of people referred to relevant services at the point of arrest

Executive Sponsor (Chair of Outcome Improvement Group):

Angela Scott, Chair of Community Justice Group

Project Lead:

Claire Duncan, Lead Social Work Officer, Health & Social Care Partnership

Aim statement (What? By how much? By when?):

Aim: 10% of individuals are referred to relevant services (services which help an individual to address underlying issues, such as drugs and alcohol) at the point of arrest (Kittybrewster Custody Suite) by end March 2018.

Link to Local Outcome Improvement Plan:

PEOPLE

People are resilient, included and supported when in need

Primary Drivers	Secondary Drivers	Improvement measures and aims	Baseline	17/18	20/21	26/27
We will effectively manage and support people involved in the adult Criminal Justice System in the community to reduce the likelihood of their reoffending and improve outcomes for these individuals, their families and communities	Clear identified pathways and information flows are put in place to divert people from prosecution, reducing the likelihood of their reoffending and enabling them to improve their life chances	Increase in individuals referred to relevant services at point of arrest	0	TBC	+15%	+40%

Business case (Links to the evidence that this intervention works):

Referring individuals to relevant services at point of arrest can contribute to reducing the likelihood of their reoffending and becoming further involved in the Justice System (and the consequential negative impacts on families, communities, costs to public services and the Justice System). A 2006 Scottish Executive [evaluation of Arrest Referral pilot schemes](#) (aimed at improving uptake of services among arrestees whose offending is linked to drug or alcohol use) found that professional stakeholders highlighted the potential significance of even relatively limited interventions at the point of arrest. The arrestees interviewed confirmed that the provision of harm reduction information brought immediate benefits in some cases and service information was a catalyst towards contacting services either immediately or at a later date. The evaluation found reasonable grounds for supposing that AR is successfully linking arrestees into services. *[In addition, evidence has shown that diverting young people away from the criminal justice system can be effective in reducing their reoffending and can have positive long-term impacts on people’s lives. There is less evidence on the effectiveness of diversion in reducing reoffending among adults, though some UK studies are currently underway. There is some international evidence that diversion to drug or mental health treatment can reduce reoffending among offenders that experience such problems. ([What Works to Reduce Reoffending: A Summary of the Evidence](#) (Scottish Govt 2015)).]* Referring individuals to relevant services can contribute to reducing the likelihood of their reoffending and becoming further involved in the Justice System (and the consequential negative impacts on families, communities, costs to public services and the Justice System).

Measures: (How will we know if a change is an improvement?)

- Increase in number of individuals seen by referral service
- Increase in number of individuals agreeing to be assessed by referral service
- Increase in number of individuals making an appointment to see the referral service (if appropriate – not sure if it will be a matter of making an appointment)
- Increase in total number of onward referrals to all services
- Increase in number of referrals to individual services
- Increase in numbers continuing to engage with individual services after initial referral/engagement
- Increase in number of feedbacks from individuals
- Increase in number of positive feedbacks from individuals
- Number of times an individual is re-arrested whilst engaged with the Referral Service
- Increase in intervals between arrests of an individual who has engaged with the Service
- Reduction in severity of offence for which the individual is arrested

Change ideas (What can we do that will result in improvement?)

- Establish Referral Service to engage, 'assess' and refer individuals at Custody Suite to services
- Develop assessment form to identify relevant services
- Method of engagement: i) direct approach by worker or ii) individual requests appointment having received info about referral service

Potential Barriers

- Recruitment of staff. Police requirements to 'vet' individual/services based in Custody Suite – issue of identifying staff willing to be vetted, to undertake trial. Need for night-time working.
- Individuals from areas other than Aberdeen are brought to Custody Suite

Project Team:

Claire Duncan (AHSCP)
Elaine Logue (Police Scotland)
Lorna Murray (AHSCP/CJSWS)
Mark Fleming (Police Scotland)
ACC Housing Service
ACC Children's Services
Susan Morrison (ACVO)
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Dr Dave Weardon (Principal Forensic Examiner)
Val Vertigans (Improvement adviser)
Client - to be confirmed

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